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# ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING ARTIST JOHN LEGEND TO BE FEATURED ALONGSIDE CIRQUE DU SOLEIL IN ONE NIGHT FOR ONE DROP MARCH 20

MGM Resorts International presents Third Annual Global Philanthropy Event Imagined by Cirque du Soleil

**Click to tweet:** Oscar winner @JohnLegend gives exclusive performance @cirque #1Night1Drop in #Vegas on 3/20! #DoGoodInVegas Tix/Info: <u>http://cirk.me/1nPludK</u>

LAS VEGAS – <u>One Night for ONE DROP</u> imagined by Cirque du Soleil welcomes R&B recording artist <u>John</u> Legend for an exclusive performance at The Mirage Hotel & Casino Friday, March 20. The Academy Award-winning musician will celebrate World Water Day alongside more than 100 Cirque du Soleil artists in an original, one-night only production created by Mukhtar O.S. Mukhtar.

"We are honored to have award-winning musician John Legend featured in *One Night for ONE DROP*," said Mukhtar O.S. Mukhtar, creator/director of *One Night for ONE DROP*. "I admire his innovative approach to music, and his ability to combine different styles and genres seamlessly. His performance will be a huge asset to this unique, once in a lifetime performance."

Legend first broke into the music scene with his debut album <u>Get Lifted</u>, which went platinum and earned him three GRAMMY Awards for Best R&B Album, Best R&B Male Vocal Performance and Best New Artist. Following the album's success, the R&B icon continued to produce countless hits including "Heaven" and "Green Light." He has collaborated with a wide array of artists including Lauryn Hill, Alicia Keys, Twista, Janet Jackson and Kanye West. Recently, Legend accepted a Golden Globe as well as an Oscar for Best Original Song, with fellow musician Common, for their smash hit "Glory" from the movie *Selma*.

**One Night for ONE DROP** is an annual celebration to raise funds and awareness for water issues worldwide. All proceeds will benefit ONE DROP's global initiatives, along with innovative educational programming in Nevada through a partnership with the Las Vegas Springs Preserve. Individual, tax-deductible VIP tickets which include the post-party extravaganza are available for \$1500 with show-only

tickets starting at \$100. For more information on sponsorship packages or to purchase individual tickets for **One Night for ONE DROP** visit <u>onedrop.org/onenight</u> or call **1-844-33-WATER**.

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### About ONE DROP

ONE DROP—a non-profit organization established by Guy Laliberté, Founder of Cirque du Soleil—strives to ensure that water is accessible to all, today and forever by developing integrated water-access and management projects around the world. In the U.S., ONE DROP is a public charity that undertakes innovative activities in which water plays a central role as a creative force to generate positive, sustainable change worldwide. To learn more about ONE DROP, visit <u>www.ONEDROP.org</u>. Be a part of the conversation on Twitter by following <u>@onedrop</u>.

### About John Legend:

Ohio-born John Legend is a critically acclaimed, multi-award winning, platinum-selling singersongwriter. His work has garnered him nine Grammy Awards, an Academy Award, a Golden Globe Award, the BET Award for Best New Artist and the special Starlight Award from the Songwriters Hall of Fame, among others. A graduate of University of Pennsylvania where he studied English and African-American literature, Legend participated in a wide range of musical activities while in college. During the same period, Legend was introduced to Lauryn Hill, who hired him to play piano on her track "Everything Is Everything," and shortly thereafter he began to play shows around the Philadelphia area, eventually expanding his audience base to New York, Boston, Atlanta and Washington D.C. After college, Legend was introduced to then up-and-coming hip-hop artist Kanye West, who quickly signed Legend to his G.O.O.D. Music imprint and hired him to sing vocal hooks on some of his music. Legend started gaining momentum through a series of similar collaborations with established artists, adding vocals to an impressive list of chart-topping hits including West's "All of the Lights," Jay-Z's "Encore" and back-up vocals on Alicia Keys' 2003 song, "You Don't Know My Name." Legend's debut album, Get Lifted, was released in December of 2004 through Columbia Records. The critically acclaimed album spawned the artist's first hit single, "Ordinary People," and scored Legend multiple Grammy Awards in 2006, including Best R&B Album, Best New Artist and Best Male R&B Vocal Performance. The follow up was 2006's platinum-selling Once Again, which brought Legend another Grammy, Best Male R&B Performance, for his single "Heaven," and included collaborations with Kanye West, will.i.am and Raphael Saadiq. Legend's next release was 2008's Evolver, led by the hit single "Green Light" featuring Andre 3000. His 2010 collaboration with the Roots, *Wake Up*, won the Grammy for Best R&B Album a year later. Legend's highly acclaimed fourth and most current studio album Love In the Future, features "All of Me," Legend's highest selling and charting song to date, reaching #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart and #1 on both Mainstream Top 40 and Rhythmic charts. Most recently, Legend won his first Academy Award, first Golden Globe Award, and won the 2015 Critic's Choice Award for his song "Glory," that he wrote and performed with Common, for the film SELMA.

Throughout his career, Legend has worked to make a difference in the lives of others. In 2007, he launched the Show Me Campaign (ShowMeCampaign.org), an initiative that focuses on education as a key to break the cycle of poverty. The 2010 BET Humanitarian of the Year award, the 2009 CARE Humanitarian Award for Global Change, the 2009 Bishop John T. Walker Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award from Africare and the 2011 Harvard Foundation Artist of the Year Award recognize Legend's efforts and leadership in this arena. John sits on the boards of The Education Equality Project, Teach for America, Stand for Children and the Harlem Village Academies and co-chairs the Harlem Village Academies' National Leadership Board. Additionally, Legend supports LRNG, a movement

dedicated to inspiring innovation in the learning process to one that better reflects the world we live in today. Legend also serves as one of the principles for Get Lifted Film Co., a film and television production company based in Los Angeles. Collectively Get Lifted Co. has produced 4 independent feature length films, some of which include: *The Human Contract*, written and directed by Jada Pinkett Smith and starring Idris Elba, Paz Vega and Jason Clarke. *The Human Contract* made it's premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, it was released by Sony Pictures; *The Lather Effect*, starring Connie Britton, Peter Facinelli, and Eric Stoltz; which was released by Anchor Bay in 2009; and the teenage dramatic thriller *Triple Dog*, starring Scout Taylor-Compton (The new Halloween franchise), Britt Robertson (Secret Circle), and Janel Parrish (Pretty Little Liars). Coming out this year will be the film *Southern Rights* on HBO in May. *www.johnlegend.com* 

## About The Mirage Hotel & Casino:

Ideally located, The Mirage is *the* place to stay and play. From the iconic Volcano to the lush tropical pool, guests experience an exotic world-class destination unlike any other. The resort features contemporary AAA Four Diamond accommodations; dynamic entertainment including *The Beatles* LOVE by *Cirque du Soleil*, Terry Fator: The Voice of Entertainment, Boyz II Men and the Aces of Comedy series; tantalizing restaurants created by the world's most renowned chefs including Tom Colicchio's Heritage Steak and Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto's Morimoto Las Vegas (Opening 2014); a luxurious spa and salon; and Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat. The Mirage is a wholly owned subsidiary of MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM).

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