



June 5-9, 2024  
It's A Barnyard Mardi Gras

35th District Agricultural Association



# The Whispers

## FREE Table Mountain Concert Series Presented by Coors Light

A Saturday filled with soul, disco and blues happens on June 8 as the legendary Whispers take over the stage for the FREE Table Mountain Concert Series presented by Coors Light at 2024 Merced County Fair presented by Valley Children's Healthcare! The show starts at 8:30 p.m. and is free with your paid Fair admission.

In the R&B history archives, the Whispers have earned a solid and memorable position as one of the world's longest-running vocal groups. Celebrating over 55 years in the industry, the group's embellishing, smooth ballads and upbeat dance favorites are the cream of soul. As one of the premier soul groups to ever grace the stage, their musical success can be attributed to an ingenious balance of soul, jazz, pop, disco and blues to delight of millions of fans. They have had 33 Top 10 hits and 20 Billboard charted albums over a span of five decades.

The Whispers began their legendary career in 1964 when they first organized at Jordan High School in Watts, California, producing a string of hits continuing over the last five decades such as "It Seems Like I Gotta Do Wrong," "And the Beat Goes On," "Rock Steady," "It's a Love Thing," and "A Song for Donny." They have emerged as the leading romantic singers of their generation, racking up one gold album after another, and charting 46 Billboard hits.

The Whispers were the first group to be signed to Soul Train Records, but earned most of their greatest hits with Solar Records. Their music has been sampled over 131 times and highlighted in over 600 compilations. Movies have featured their songs in *Waiting to Exhale*; *Madea's Family Reunion*; *Diary of a Mad Black Woman*; and sang the title track on Jay Leno's movie soundtrack, *Collision Course*, to name a few. The group has not made any personnel changes since 1973 when Leaveil Degree replaced Gorday Harmon when his larynx was injured in an accident. After the passing of Nicholas Caldwell in 2016, they still consist of Walter Scott, Wallace "Scotty" Scott, and Leaveil Degree. They are one of only a few old school groups that can boast of having a worldwide fan base, while maintaining their vocal dominance and original members. In 2022, the three remaining Whispers began re-recording their music catalog so they can own their masters.

The Whispers have always been at the forefront of promoting and inspiring social change and human kindness with such hits as "Seems Like I Gotta Do Wrong," "Help Them See The Light," "Olivia," and in 2021 "How Long." Their five decades of accomplishments have earned them multiple recognitions, such as Vocal Group Hall of Fame inductees, presentation of the Governor's Award by the San Francisco Chapter of Grammy Awards, NAACP Image Award, induction into the Bay Area Blues Society Hall of Fame, Rhythm and Blues Hall of Fame, Soul Track Magazine's People's Choice Lifetime Achievement Award, amongst a multitude of others. As of recent, The Whispers re-released a few of their most popular singles such as "And the Beat Goes On," "Rock Steady," "Olivia (Lost and Turned Out)," and "Maybe the Fire Isn't Out" to name a few. Don't miss the chance to see this legendary group!

### The Whispers Highlights

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- 1964 | The Whispers began their career at Jordan High School in Watts, California.



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Saturday, June 8 @ 8:30 p.m.  
FREE with Paid Fair Admission  
[www.TheLegendaryWhispers.com](http://www.TheLegendaryWhispers.com)