



June 7-11, 2023
 Everyone Come Celebrate
 35th District Agricultural Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Merced County Fair Announces 2023 Entertainment Line-Up

Great Musical Entertainment and Action-Packed Grandstand Shows Kick-Off Summer at the Fair!

MERCED, CALIFORNIA, April 18, 2023...The Merced County Fair is thrilled to announce its line-up for the 2023 FREE Outdoor Theatre Concert Series presented by Coors Light, as well as its action-packed Grandstand Entertainment presented by Coors Light, Save Mart and O'Reilly Auto Parts. The 2023 Merced County Fair presented by Valley Children's Healthcare will take place June 7-11. Tickets go on sale May 1st.

"Get your calendars out and be sure to mark down all the days you want to be at the 2023 Merced County Fair," said Teresa Burrola, CEO Merced County Fair. "We've got five nights of concerts and shows, plus your favorite fair foods, carnival rides, exhibits, livestock, community performances, the beloved tractor parade and so much more! We look forward to seeing our community out at their Merced County Fair, June 7-11!"

FREE Outdoor Theatre Concert Series presented by Coors Light – 8:30 p.m. Nightly

DATE:	SHOW:	ARTIST WEBSITE:
Wednesday, June 7	George Michael Reborn	www.georgemichaelreborn.com
Thursday, June 8	Smash Mouth	www.smashmouth.com
Friday, June 9	Lonestar	www.lonestarnow.com
Saturday, June 10	The Purple Madness – A Tribute to Prince	www.thepurplemadness.com
Sunday, June 11	Banda Machos	www.facebook.com/BandaMachos

Concerts start at 8:30 p.m. and are free with your paid fair admission. Be sure to get your admission in advance for \$10, price at the gate is \$15. Children 12 and under are free. Savings details can be found at www.mercedcountyfair.com/discounts.

Fair Management expects big crowds for five nights of action-packed Grandstand shows, proudly sponsored by Coors Light, Save Mart and O'Reilly Auto Parts. All Grandstand shows begin at 7 p.m. and admission is \$5, except for June 7 (Auto Racing) and June 8 (Go-Kart Racing), which are FREE with your paid fair admission. Children 5 years or younger can watch Grandstand shows for free with a paid adult ticket.



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Grandstand Entertainment – 7:00 p.m. Nightly

DATE:	SHOW:	EVENT PROMOTER:
Wednesday, June 7	Merced Speedway Auto Racing (FREE w/paid fair admission)	Merced Speedway www.mercedspeedway.net/schedule
Thursday, June 8	Merced Speedway Go-Kart Racing (FREE w/paid fair admission)	Merced Speedway www.mercedspeedway.net/schedule
Friday, June 9	Valley Tractor Pullers' Tractor Pull	Valley Tractor Pullers http://vtpapullers.org/
Saturday, June 10	Destruction Derby	Merced Speedway www.mercedspeedway.net/schedule
Sunday, June 11	Humpz & Hornz Gran Jaripeo (Bull Riding, Dancing Horses, Banda Music & more!)	Humpz & Hornz www.hnhnews.com

There's also plenty of other free entertainment for the family to enjoy once inside the gates of the Merced County Fair such as the Coors Light Stage and Dignity Health – Mercy Medical Center Stage (formerly Bear Creek Plaza). Fairgoers can also enjoy the daily Tractor Parade, Discovering Science Exhibit, the Library Bookmobile as part of the Early Childhood Literacy Partnership, Petting Zoo and more! More details on entertainment and attractions will be available on the fair's website soon.

RESOURCE LINK:

Fair Logo, Concert Photos, Grandstand Photos | <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/Ud2wzXqn5v>

MORE INFORMATION ON OUTDOOR THEATRE ARTISTS:

George Michael Reborn

George Michael Reborn, the incredible tribute to the late, great George Michael and WHAM! is a must see on opening day of the 2023 Merced County Fair! With his live vocals, Robert Bartko exudes the energy and passion of George in the 80's and 90's, getting the crowd going on the dance floor with hit songs like "Wake me Up Before You Go-Go" and prompting standing ovations for his performance of "Careless Whisper." Robert's spot-on looks, vocal range, dance moves, crowd interaction and charisma will leave you cheering for an encore.

Smash Mouth

Like a fine Napa Valley wine, this internationally loved and wildly successful San Jose pop-rock group seems to only get better with time. Formed in 1994, Smash Mouth almost immediately began recording demos and showcasing in San Jose and Hollywood. In June of 1997, Smash Mouth signed to Interscope Records after only one spin of their song "Walking on The Sun" which aired on L.A.'s monumentally influential radio station, KROQ. Smash Mouth's major label debut album *Fush Yu Mang* went Double-Platinum and set the table for what most consider their masterpiece, *Astrolounge*. With three top ten hits coming from the album such as "All-Star," "Then the Morning Comes," and "Can't Get Enough of You Baby" *Astrolounge* surpassed their debut album by nearly quadrupling the Platinum status. Now nearly two decades later, Smash Mouth continues to release several new tracks penned by bassist and hit songwriter, Paul DeLisle, alongside his band members, Randy Cooke (drums, vocals), Zach Goode (lead vocals), Sean Hurwitz (guitar, vocals) and Michael "Hippy" Klooster (keyboards, vocals).



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Lonestar

Award-winning country band, Lonestar, first formed in 1996 and have recorded top hits like “No News,” “Come Cryin’ to Me” and “Everything’s Changed.” The band’s Quadruple-Platinum 1999 album *Lonely Grill* spawned four No. 1 hits, including the beloved global smash “Amazed” and established Lonestar as music’s preeminent pop country band – a status they’d maintain through the 2000s and beyond. Now, over 25 years later, the band is taking a fresh look at all 10 of their chart-topping country songs with their latest record, *Ten to 1*. Lonestar’s hits have garnered the band many winnings in the music industry including receiving awards in the Academy of Country Music awards for New Vocal Group (1996), Single and Song of the Year (2000), Country Music Association’s Vocal Group of the Year (2001), International Artist Achievement award (2001), and Humanitarian of the Year (2002). All told, Lonestar have sold more than 10.5 million records since their formation.

The Purple Madness – A Tribute to Prince

The Purple Madness – A Tribute to Prince is the ultimate celebration of the most widely beloved entertainer and profoundly influential artist of all-time. Bobby Miller, the front-man of The Purple Madness, presents an electrifying and high-energy performance that you won’t want to miss! The Purple Madness portrays some of Prince’s most memorable concert moments, including a production team that consists of some of the most talented dancers and musicians in the U.S. and abroad. Collectively, the team consists of over 100 years of music experience.

Banda Machos

Forming in 1990 from Jalisco, Mexico, Banda Machos never could have imagined how popular, and controversial, they would become in the music scene. Known for being brash, infectious and eventually inescapable, Banda Machos updated and modernized the traditional Sinaloan banda style. The band electrified and augmented the genre’s big, brassy sound with amplified instruments, flashy keyboard flourishes and their longtime battle cry “Arre Macho!” Banda Machos’ 1992 breakthrough album, *Sangre de Indio*, included the radio hit “El Gato y el Raton” and helped launch the Quebradita sound. In 1993, Banda Machos was crowned “La Reina de la Bandas” at the Viva México festival in Chicago. The group achieved even wider exposure in 2008, when they released their first YouTube video in conjunction with the album, *Proximo Tonto*, filming clips that have been viewed millions of times from viewers all over. Following the release of “La Huella de Mis Besos” in 2018, Banda Machos was acknowledged by the International Human Rights Commission for its commitment to fighting music piracy.

About The Merced County Fair:

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35th District Agricultural Association. The fair’s mission statement outlines that it “*promises to meet the needs of our community by providing a fun, safe venue to celebrate our area’s agricultural heritage, discover new technology and be entertained.*” This year marks the 131st year of operation for the Merced County Fair. The Merced County Fair annually welcomes nearly 70,000 people from throughout Merced County and beyond to attend the five-day fair each June. Members of the Board of Directors include: President, Vicky Banaga; First Vice President, Luis Lara; Second Vice President, Mark Erreca; Lori Rossi Gallo; Emily Haden; Mark N. Pazin; Kim Rogina; and Carol Sartori-Silva. Teresa Burrola heads up the daily operations in her role as CEO. The 2023 Merced County Fair will return to kick off the summer, June 7 - 11. For more information about the Merced County Fair, please visit www.MercedCountyFair.com. Connect with the Fair on Facebook ([@mercedfair](https://www.facebook.com/mercedfair)), Twitter ([@Merced_CA_Fair](https://twitter.com/Merced_CA_Fair)), Instagram ([@mercedcountyfair](https://www.instagram.com/mercedcountyfair)) and Tik Tok ([@mercedcountyfair](https://www.tiktok.com/@mercedcountyfair)).