

T.J. Martell Foundation's
39th Annual *New York*
HONORS GALA

For Immediate Release:

THE BAND PERRY, ROBBIE “DRACO” ROSA AND BEN FOLDS TO PERFORM AT THE T.J. MARTELL FOUNDATION 39TH NEW YORK HONORS GALA

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 – Cipriani New York

New York, New York – (September 29, 2014) – The T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS Research has announced **The Band Perry, Robbie “Draco” Rosa** and **Ben Folds** as performers at this year’s highly anticipated **T.J. Martell Foundation 39th New York Honors Gala** to be held at Cipriani in New York on Tuesday, October 21, 2014. The foundation has also announced that **Regina Spektor** will present **Marsha Vlasic** with the Spirit of Music Award.

In addition to Vlasic being honored, The T.J. Martell Foundation Honors Gala will honor **John Paul DeJoria** who will receive the Lifetime Humanitarian Award, **Hamish Dodds** who will accept the Spirit of Excellence Award on behalf of **Hard Rock International**, **Will Botwin** who will receive the Visionary Leadership Award and **Afo Verde** who will receive the Lifetime Music Industry Achievement Award. Yoko Ono was recently named the presenter for the Spirit of Excellence Award which will be accepted by Hamish Dodds of Hard Rock International. The annual New York Honors Gala brings together hundreds of music and entertainment leaders, top business executives and celebrities. It is one of the most sought-after tickets in the industry and is one of the most important events for the T.J. Martell Foundation, allowing the organization to continue its work in Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS research.



Since releasing their debut album in 2010, **The Band Perry** has skyrocketed into the mainstream. Fronted by Kimberly Perry and rounded out by her younger brothers Reid and Neil, the band has notched a string of hit singles from their self-titled platinum debut and their gold sophomore release, *PIONEER*, including: the quintuple-platinum crossover hit “If I Die Young,” “You Lie,” “All Your Life,” “Better Dig Two,” and “DONE.” They’ve also enjoyed sold-out shows, embarked on a successful world headline tour and received a showering of honors – including multiple ACM, CMA, and CMT Music awards, as well as Grammy, Teen Choice, AMA, ACA, and Billboard Music award nominations – all of which have cemented

the sibling trio as one of the hottest acts around. Their most recent accolades include being named the 2014 ACM “Vocal Group of The Year” and receiving the 2014 CMT “Group Video of the Year” award. They are currently nominated for “Vocal Group of The Year” for the 2014 CMA Awards, which will broadcast on ABC Television on November 5th.

Multi-platinum selling singer/songwriter/producer **Ben Folds** first found success with the Ben Folds Five. He’s gone on to have a successful solo career, writing, recording and performing pop hits as well as a recent new concerto for piano and orchestra. Folds has also achieved critical acclaim for his insight as a judge on NBC’s a cappella competition program “The Sing-Off” which aired for five seasons. Over the past year he has also made cameo appearances in film and TV, including a role on Comedy Central’s “Community.”

He’s also written and recorded several songs for film and television. Folds who serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Nashville Symphony, has composed a highly acclaimed concerto for piano and orchestra. He premiered the concerto in Nashville and has been performing select movements of it and other orchestrations of his pop hits with major symphonies before sold out crowds across the nation. He also plans to tour Europe, the Pacific Rim and Australia this year. In addition to his self-described love of making music for “humans,” Folds is also an avid photographer.



He is an advocate for music education and music therapy as a member of American for the Arts. Folds, a Nashville resident, owns and operates the legendary RCA Studio A, once managed by Chet Atkins and home to thousands of legendary recording sessions in every genre of music.



Multi-GRAMMY™ Award winning Latin artist Robbie "Draco" Rosa will bring an exuberant sense of Latin energy when he performs at this year's gala but also a story of his own personal battle with cancer. The Latin Grammy Award winning musician was diagnosed with cancer a second time while on the road celebrating his cancer-free diagnosis after battling the disease earlier on. Draco was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Diffuse B Cell cancer in 2013. Since that time he has dedicated himself to winning the fight and will now appear at the Honors Gala where he will perform.

Originally known as the lead member of the widely successful boy band "Menudo" in the 1980s, Rosa has since gone on to have a very successful solo career. After leaving Menudo, he moved to Brazil and released two albums which achieved mainstream success. He has composed multiple songs for Ednita Nazario, Julio Iglesias and former Menudo bandmate Ricky Martin. He has also been featured on VH1's Behind the Music.

ABOUT THE T.J. MARTELL FOUNDATION:

The T.J. Martell Foundation is the music industry's largest foundation that funds innovative medical research focused on finding cures for leukemia, cancer and AIDS. The Foundation, headquartered in New York, is a national 501(c)3 non-profit organization that was founded in 1975 by music industry executive Tony Martell and his colleagues in loving memory of his son T.J., who died of leukemia. The Foundation has provided more than \$260 million dollars for research that supports top hospitals in the United States. For more information log on to www.tjmartell.org, www.facebook.com/tjmartellfoundation, www.twitter.com/tjmartell, www.pinterest.com/tjmartellfndn,

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