

**T.J. Martell Foundation**  
*Music's Promise for Curing Cancer*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**T.J. Martell Foundation to Host its 9th Annual LA Family Day on October 6, 2018 at The Grove with Performances by “American Idol” Winner Maddie Poppe, Disney Channel’s Asher Angel and More**

**Festivities Kick Off with Spirit of Excellence Dinner at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel on October 2**

**Both Events to Honor:**

**Jack Sussman, Executive Vice President, Specials, Music & Live Events at CBS Entertainment**

**Dr. Alan Wayne, Director of the Children’s Center For Cancer & Blood Diseases, CHLA**

**Steven Vincent, Vice President of Music & Soundtracks for The Disney Channel Worldwide**

**Erika Ender, Latin GRAMMY 2018 Song of the Year winner for “Despacito”**



Performer- Maddie Poppe



Performer - Asher Angel



Honoree- Dr. Alan Wayne



Honoree - Erika Ender



Honoree- Jack Sussman



Honoree- Steven Vincent

**LOS ANGELES (Sept. 10, 2018)** -- The T.J. Martell Foundation is proud to announce its 9th Annual Los Angeles Family Day to be held at The Grove for the third consecutive year on Saturday, October 6, 2018, from 12p.m. - 4p.m. PT. ABC's American Idol Season 16 winner Maddie Poppe is scheduled to perform as well as Asher Angel from Disney Channel's Andi Mack along other top music artists. Families will enjoy delicious food, a live auction, live musical performances, games, prizes and other activities while raising funds for cancer research. Tickets and sponsorship packages are available now and can be purchased at [www.lafamilyday.org](http://www.lafamilyday.org).

Every year, the T.J. Martell Foundation honors outstanding members of the music and medical communities who dedicate their time and efforts in support of cancer research. This year, the LA Family Day honorees include:

- Dr. Alan Wayne, Director of the Children's Center For Cancer & Blood Diseases, Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

- Erika Ender, composer, singer, actress, philanthropist and Latin GRAMMY 2018 Song of the Year winner for “Despacito”
- Jack Sussman, Executive Vice President, Specials, Music and Live Events, CBS Entertainment
- Steven Vincent, Vice President of Music & Soundtracks for The Disney Channel Worldwide

Prior to Family Day, the foundation will host its [Spirit of Excellence Awards](#) Dinner on Tuesday, October 2 at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel. The fundraising event will include an elegant dinner, silent and live auctions, and live musical performances. **CITI® cardmembers** have exclusive access to purchase tickets for *LA Family Day and Spirit of Excellence Dinner*. For complete details on presale and preferred tickets for CITI cardmembers, visit [www.citiprivatepass.com](http://www.citiprivatepass.com).

LA Family Day and the Spirit of Excellence Dinner are Co-chaired by **Ron Broitman**, Executive Vice President and Head of Synchronization, Warner/Chappell & Warner Music Group and **David Kovach**, Senior Vice President, Global Entertainment, CITI. Last year’s honorees, **Amy Howe**, Chief Operating Officer, Ticketmaster North America and **Greg Thompson**, President, Maverick were named as Honorary Co-Chairs, and **Ken Bunt**, President of Disney Music Group and a Co-chair of last year’s events will lead the committee in assisting with performances and entertainment.

For more information on the T.J. Martell Foundation, LA Family Day and the Spirit of Excellence Dinner visit [www.tjmartell.org](http://www.tjmartell.org).

Stay connected with T.J. Martell Foundation at:

[www.facebook.com/tjmartellfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/tjmartellfoundation)

[www.twitter.com/tjmartell](http://www.twitter.com/tjmartell)

[www.pinterest.com/tjmartellfndn](http://www.pinterest.com/tjmartellfndn)

[www.instagram.com/tjmartellfoundation](http://www.instagram.com/tjmartellfoundation)

###

**About T.J. Martell Foundation:**

*The T.J. Martell Foundation is the music industry’s leading foundation dedicated to funding innovative medical research focused on finding treatments and cures for cancer. The Foundation 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 \$280 million for research at eight flagship hospitals in the United States. For more information on the T.J. Martell Foundation visit [www.tjmartell.org](http://www.tjmartell.org).*

**About Dr. Alan Wayne:**

*Alan S. Wayne, M.D., is the Director of the Children's Center for Cancer & Blood Diseases at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), and the Head of the Division of Hematology, Oncology and Blood & Marrow Transplantation in the Department of Pediatrics, the Associate Director for the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center (NCCC), and Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. In these roles, he oversees all research, treatment, prevention and education programs in pediatric hematology, oncology and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation at NCCC and CHLA.*

*Prior to joining USC in 2013, Dr. Wayne served as senior clinician and clinical director of the Pediatric Oncology Branch, head of the Hematologic Diseases section and deputy director for Medical Affairs of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the National Institutes of Health. Board-certified in pediatric hematology-oncology, Dr. Wayne attended medical school at Northwestern University and served his internship, residency and chief residency at Boston Children's Hospital prior to completing his pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship at the Children's Hospital and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.*

*Dr. Wayne's primary research efforts are directed towards the development of new treatment approaches for leukemias and lymphomas, with a primary focus on acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). He develops and conducts collaborative laboratory, translational, and clinical investigations, with a focus on targeted, immune-based and cellular therapies, investigator-initiated clinical trials, and industry-sponsored studies. He was responsible for the bench-to-bedside development of anti-CD22 recombinant immunotoxin for the treatment of ALL and has an ongoing lead role in the development of genetically modified chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cells as a novel therapy for ALL. Dr. Wayne serves as the Medical Director of the Therapeutic Advances in Childhood Leukemia/Lymphoma (TACL) Consortium, which is a multinational clinical trials group. Additionally, he plays a leadership role in international efforts in the area of post-transplant relapse of hematologic malignancies, the primary aim of which is to study the biology, prevention and treatment of relapse after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.*

**About Jack Sussman- Executive Vice President, Specials, Music and Live Events, CBS Entertainment**

*Jack Sussman has been serving as the Executive Vice President, Specials, Music and Live Events, CBS Entertainment since March 2006. In his position, Sussman, serves as the Network's chief liaison to the music industry, working with managers, recording artists, record labels and music suppliers to identify new and established performers whose music or personal appearances can be integrated into the Network's primetime series, movies, specials and live events. Sussman also works with CBS' interactive division to identify music-related content for wireless and the Internet. He oversees the Network's blue chip events and specials, such as "The Grammy Awards," "The Tony Awards" and "The Kennedy Center Honors," as well as CBS' annual presentations of the "Victoria's Secret Fashion Show," "Academy of Country Music Awards" and "A Home for the Holidays."*

*While at CBS, Sussman has spearheaded successful specials featuring some of contemporary music's top stars in their first network television special, including Celine Dion, Shania Twain, Ricky Martin, Faith Hill, Garth Brooks, Elton John, Tina Turner, "The Beatles: The Night That Changed America," "Stevie Wonder: Songs in the Key of Life—An All-Star Tribute," "Stayin' Alive: A Grammy Salute to the Music of the Bee Gees," and most recently "Bruno Mars: 24K Magic Live at the Apollo."*

*He has also been responsible for some of CBS' highest rated and most critically acclaimed specials, including "The Carol Burnett Show: Show Stoppers," which was seen by more than 30 million viewers, "Michael Jackson: 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special," "I Love Lucy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special," "CBS At 75" and the recent "Carol Burnett 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special." He has also supervised the editing and colorization of newly colorized classic episodes of "I Love Lucy" and "The Dick Van Dyke Show."*

**About Steven Vincent-Vice President, Music and Soundtracks, Disney Channel Worldwide**

*Steven Vincent is Vice President, Music and Soundtracks, Disney Channel, a role he was promoted to in November 2007. He is responsible for supervising the music used in original programming for kids and tweens seen on Disney Channel and Disney XD. His job duties have also included programming on ABC Family that, like Disney Channel and Disney XD, is part of Disney ABC Television Group.*

*He shepherded the creative team's development of soundtrack and music that exceeded sales of 50 million units including the quadruple-Platinum "High School Musical" (the #1 selling album of 2006, the first TV movie soundtrack to reach #1 on the Billboard 200 album chart and to enter the Billboard Hot 100 chart with nine songs) and "High School Musical 2" (debuted at #1 on the Billboard charts and was the best-selling album in 2007) as well as the soundtrack to the Disney motion picture "High School Musical 3: Senior Year."*

*His other projects include #1 debut album "Descendants" in 2015 certified Gold, and it's sequel, "Descendants 2" also certified gold, "Teen Beach Movie" certified Gold, and its 2015 sequel "Teen Beach 2," "Camp Rock" (spent 10 weeks in the Top 10 on the Billboard 200, certified Platinum in the U.S. and eight other countries and Gold in 12 countries) and its multiple-Platinum sequel) and many others.*

*On the series side, the Disney Channel comedy "Hannah Montana" spawned two #1 triple-Platinum albums – "Hannah Montana 2/Meet Miley Cyrus" and "Hannah Montana." The third soundtrack, "Hannah Montana 3," debuted at #2 on the Billboard Top 200 chart. Other music driven franchises include the Jonas Bros series, Austin & Ally and Shake It Up.*

*On the talent side, he supervised the TV music careers of Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Jonas Bros, Zendaya, Dove Cameron, Bridgit Mendler, Ross Lynch, Laura Marano, Zac Efron & Vanessa Hudgens.*

#### **About Erika Ender-Latin GRAMMY 2018 Song of the Year winner for "Despacito"**

*Erika Ender has broken all records as a female composer in music history. She is one of the most prolific and renowned composers in the music world, as well as, an established and successful singer-songwriter, TV celebrity, producer, and actress.*

*More than 160 CD's have been released with her songs and more than 40 top singles, including the unprecedented and historical worldwide hit "Despacito".*

*She is the youngest person ever inducted into the Latin Songwriter's Hall of Fame and has received multiple awards and honors such as Latin Grammys, Billboards, ASCAP, Monitor Latino, several Sesac prizes, including the GLOBAL ICON AWARD, Leading Lady of the Latin Recording Academy of Arts & Sciences as well as several Con-decorations and recognitions such as the keys to Miami & Panama.*

*Erika is only Latina ever nominated to a major category in the Grammys, and the only one with a Spanish #1 song on Billboard's Top 100. She is as well, on the list of the most powerful women according to Billboard, Hollywood Reporter, Forbes & People En Español Magazines.*

*Her versatility includes being an established singer-songwriter and show-woman with top rankings on radio in several countries; a renown television personality & producer of successful shows, a spokesperson for several national & international brands and campaigns and an actress; besides her amazing work as a worldwide hits composer.*

*In 2009, she founded Fundación Puertas Abiertas. Her Foundation uses music and education to positively influence children and teenagers. It started offering musical workshops and opening classrooms where music and dance were taught to children living in shelters. Now a day, its biggest project, TalenPro (Talent with a Purpose), is a unique Talent Competition, created and developed by Erika that offers a nationwide platform to express different ways of art for teenagers. Through the competition the participants have the opportunity of showing their talents on stage, but behind the scenes, they become leaders of their own schools and communities and get to restore 12 schools a year that are in a vulnerable situation, benefiting thousands of children. Besides that, winners get scholarships to study in Panama or abroad, with their University completely covered. Erika also supports multiple foundations of different causes, and has being invited to speak about her advocacy at the Women's World Forum & the Social Good Summit of the United Nations Foundation, among many other events.*

**About Maddie Poppe:**

*Maddie Poppe is a twenty-year-old singer-songwriter from Clarksville, Iowa. After performing a duet with her sister at a school variety show in the sixth grade, Maddie fell in love with music and learned to play guitar, ukulele and piano. In 2016, Maddie released her debut album, "Songs From The Basement," which she wrote, produced and recorded alongside her father, Trent. Maddie had been performing locally in Iowa for over five years when she decided to audition for American Idol which she calls her "saving grace." As she continued through the competition, she ultimately stole America's hearts and was crowned the winner, giving the audience an emotional, overjoyed, and tear stained performance of her single, "Going Going Gone." Since her Idol victory, she has been in high demand and gone on to appear and perform on multiple TV shows including Jimmy Kimmel Live, Live! with Kelly & Ryan, the 2018 Radio Disney Music Awards, and performances at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles and the 2018 CMA Fest in Nashville. Maddie will embark on the American Idol Live tour this July, continuing through mid-September.*

**About Asher Angel:**

*As a 15-year-old actor appearing in one of the most anticipated international films of 2019, Asher Angel is prepped and ready for stardom. Next April, Asher will be seen starring in the Warner Bros feature SHAZAM!, a superhero film based on the DC Comics character of the same name. Directed by David Sandberg, Asher plays Billy Batson, a teenage boy who can transform via the magic word 'shazam' into an adult superhero, played by Zachary Levi. The cast debuted the trailer at the 2018 San Diego Comic Convention which was embraced with global excitement.*

*In addition to SHAZAM!, Asher stars on the hit Disney Channel series "Andi Mack," playing Jonah Beck – the cutest guy at school. The series is currently in production in Utah on its third season.*

*Asher's first acting role came in 2008 starring alongside Jessica Chastain in JOLENE, which was also the actress' first film. He continued acting in Arizona doing countless theatre productions before coming to Los Angeles in 2015 where he quickly began work on shows such as CBS's "Criminal Minds" and Nickelodeon's "Nicky, Ricky, Dicky and Dawn."*

*In addition to film and television, Asher writes music, plays guitar and sings. He is working on his first EP and has already released two singles. The first was "Snow Globe Wonderland" which was released in conjunction with the Disney Channel's Holiday Celebration Special in 2017. Then in early 2018, Asher released his second single, "Getaway." Asher's third single, "Chemistry," is scheduled for a late July 2018 release.*

*Asher currently resides between Arizona, Utah and California.*

**Media Contact:**

Christina Garvin

Sundari PR

805.350.0408

Christina@sundaripr.com