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JOHN LEGEND!

Multi-award winning, platinum-selling singer-songwriter to headline

Variety's Dinner with the Stars

St. Louis (Feb. 6) – Variety is pleased to announce that master of musical styles and platinum-selling performer **John Legend** will headline Dinner with the Stars, Variety's pinnacle event to top off Variety Week! The dinner and concert will be held at the Peabody Opera House on April 28, and, for the seventh time, will be underwritten by The Steward Family Foundation, Centene Charitable Foundation, and World Wide Technology so that all funds raised will go directly to local Variety Kids. Variety Week is the pillar fundraising and awareness campaign for the charity.

Dinner with the Stars has been Variety St. Louis' premier black tie gala for more than 50 years. This event, chaired for the 22nd consecutive year by the incomparable Marilyn Fox, brings together some of St. Louis' most esteemed, philanthropic citizens to celebrate Variety, and experience a performance from an iconic, critically acclaimed entertainer.

Multi-award winning, platinum-selling singer-songwriter John Legend has garnered ten Grammy Awards, an Academy Award and a Golden Globe, among others. Legend recently released his fifth studio album "DARKNESS AND LIGHT," featuring his current hit "Love Me Now," to rave reviews. The multi-talented Legend also serves as one of the principles for Get Lifted Film Co., a film and television production company that serves as Executive Producers on well known works, including the HBO documentary "Southern Rites," WGN America's series "Underground" and films such as "La La Land."



St. Louis native actor, comedian, and movie producer Joe Torry will host the evening's program alongside some Variety kids. The program will feature a performance by the inclusive Variety Children's Chorus and celebration of Variety's 2018 Man and Woman of the Year Louis. B. "L.B." Eckelkamp, Jr. and Cheri Fromm.

For more information, and to reserve tables or tickets for this year's event, visit varietystl.org/dinner-with-the-stars.

Dinner with the Stars caps off a full week of Variety events:

- Variety Week starts Saturday, April 21, at St. Louis Union Station with **Runway Lights Fashion Show**, where Variety will feature the collection from Ralph Lauren in a New York-style runway show. Ralph Lauren designers will create three custom dresses and a vest for Variety Kids who will model while using their Ameren Power Wheelchairs.
- The Week continues on Tuesday, April 24, with the **Fox 2/News 11 Variety in the Morning**.
- Wednesday, April 25 will be **Imo's for Kids Day**. Imo's Pizza will offer at least 10 percent of profits of all sales of the Square Beyond Compare on this day to Variety. This annual event traditionally raises six figures for the children's charity.
- **Dinner with the Stars** will be held April 28. This year marks Marilyn Fox's 22nd year as Dinner with the Stars Chair. Last year's Dinner with the Stars, featuring singer James Taylor, performed to a sold-out audience.

About Variety the Children's Charity of St. Louis

Variety empowers children with physical and developmental disabilities, also referred to as children with special needs, and improves their quality of life. Our programs highlight ability rather than disability. This holistic approach gives access to critical medical equipment and therapies, along with innovative Camp and Performing Arts programs, which provide opportunities for recreation, socialization, and artistic expression. Children gain or maintain independence, boost socialization among their friends and family, demonstrate belief in themselves, and increase skills they need to engage their world as fully as possible. www.varietystl.org

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