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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grand Concert Series on the downtown riverfront kicks off on June 14th

Lansing, Michigan – June 12, 2018 – The Lansing City Market and Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority are bringing concerts back to the City Market’s riverfront again this summer, for the 4th year in a row. Originally featuring only jazz and blues, the series now includes pop, rock, classical, and soul.

The concerts will take place on Thursdays, once in June, twice in July and August, and once in September, all starting at 6:30 pm. Admission is free due to generous sponsorship from LAFCU, Wolverine Development, the Lansing State Journal, and WKAR.

New this year, will be The Grand Experience coinciding with the first four dates. The Grand Experience is an initiative of LEAP, Michigan Realtors, the Community Foundation, Lansing Rotary, and other organizations, to bring vitality to the riverfront. Weekdays throughout the summer, food trucks, live music, yoga, and other activities will be scheduled during lunch and dinner hours. Three food trucks are scheduled for Thursday evenings through August, which will allow concert goers to enjoy dinner and the live music all in one place.

Lansing City Market | 325 City Market Drive, Lansing , MI 48912 | LansingCityMarket.com | T 517.483.7460



The headliner for the June 14th kickoff will be international saxophonist, Yancyy, who has opened up for acts such as Stevie Wonder and Ramsey Lewis. He has performed with R&B music giants Wyclef Jean and Jill Scott, just to name a few. He has made appearances at festivals across the country and internationally, during a European tour. Yancyy was afforded the opportunity to not only perform for numerous military bases, but also has been contracted for performances with General Motors Corporation, Ford Motor Company, McDonald Foundation. A native of Detroit, and graduate of The University of Michigan School of Music, Yancyy has performed on multiple occasions in his hometown to sold out venues such as Chene Park and The Fox Theater.

One of the largest draws of previous years' series, MSU Professors of Jazz, returns on September 6th. The "hard-bop" band was established in 2000 under artistic director, Rodney Whitaker, the director of the Jazz Studies program at Michigan State University. The MSU Professors of Jazz are members of the jazz faculty in the university's College of Music. The seven-piece ensemble features Etienne Charles on trumpet, Randy Gelispie on drums, Diego Rivera on tenor saxophone, Xavier Davis on piano, Randy Napoleon on jazz guitar, Michael Dease on trombone, and Rodney Whitaker on bass. The band performs music from the jazz canon, including standards, jazz classics, and original compositions.

The headliners for the remaining Grand Concert Series dates include soul/pop/vocal group, Tell Yo Mama, whose lead singer had great success on TV's The Voice; classical/pop/soul violinist, Rodney Page; blues/vocal group, Kathleen Murray Band; and rock/vocal group, The 89th Key, who recently won the Q106 Homegrown Throwdown battle of the bands contest.

"We are proud to announce the continuation of the Grand Concert Series, this time with more genres of music," said LEPFA president and CEO, Scott Keith. "The annual series provides continued opportunities for residents and visitors to experience free concerts in a scenic environment – along the river in downtown Lansing. These great artists performing all summer long not only provide entertainment, but experiences in the arts for the children who attend."

Limited seating will be available; attendees are encouraged to bring camp chairs. Weather permitting, attendees may also rent a kayak from River Town

Adventures and listen to the concerts from the river. In the event of rain, the concert will be moved inside the Market.

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About the Lansing City Market *Lansing City Market was established in 1909. The urban market is home to a variety of merchants offering artisan cheese, specialty foods, gifts, flowers, jewelry, kayaking, biking, and a full bar and restaurant experience on the riverfront. Hours for the year-round market are: Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 6 pm.; Saturday 9 am – 5 pm. For more information, visit the Lansing City Market website.*