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2017 SoCal Harvest | Musician Bios

LEVI LUSKO, SOCAL HARVEST EMCEE:

Levi Lusko is the author of the bestselling book *Through the Eyes of a Lion*, pastor of Fresh Life Church (a multisite church in Montana and Utah that he and his wife pioneered in 2007), and the founder of Skull Church and the O2 Experience. Levi travels around the world speaking about Jesus. He takes pleasure in small things, such as black coffee, new shoes, fast Internet, and falling asleep in the sun. He and his wife, Jennie, have four daughters: Alivia, Daisy, Clover, and Lenya, who is in heaven—and are expecting their first boy this year. Levi's new book, *Swipe Right*, released in February 2017.

DAVID CROWDER:

David Crowder began his music career by leading worship at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. After many successful years of producing and performing God-honoring music in a group setting, The David Crowder band finished their final tour and the release of their sixth album in 2012. Since then Crowder has continued to glorify God through music as a solo artist. His solo single "I Am" rose to No. 3 on the Christian Songs chart, and his song "Come as You Are" received a Grammy nomination in 2015. His second solo album, *American Prodigal*, was released last year and Crowder continues to please fans nationwide with his unique style.

LECRAE:

Lecrae, a Christian hip hop artist, songwriter, record producer and actor, began his music ministry performing at a juvenile detention center. It was there that he realized his desire to bring hope and encouragement through music. Since 2005, Lecrae has risen to become one of the top Christian music artists, receiving recognition on the Billboard 200 for his latest album *Anomaly*, which debuted at No. 1. He is the president, co-owner and co-founder of the independent record label Reach Records, and the co-founder and president of the non-profit organization ReachLife Ministries, which provides ministry leaders with resources to carry the message of the gospel to urban communities and the hip hop culture. Throughout his career, Lecrae has remained faithful to his calling to bring a message of hope and inspiration to all who hear his music.

JEREMY CAMP:

With 32 number-one radio singles, four gold albums, five Dove awards, and multiple nominations ranging from Favorite Artist to Album of the Year, Jeremy Camp is no stranger to accolades. But more impressive than his achievements is his faithful commitment to glorifying God through his music and lyrics. Jeremy describes himself as "a minister who happens to play music as a way to minister." Hope and healing despite personal tragedy is the theme of not only several of his songs, but of his autobiographical book, *I Still Believe*, and a film made in collaboration with Greg Laurie and Nick Vujcic, *Hope for Hurting Hearts*. His most recent album, *I Will Follow*, was composed from his commitment to follow God wholeheartedly.

JORDIN SPARKS:

Jordin Sparks' rise to fame kicked off in 2007 at age 17, when she won the sixth season of *American Idol*, and became the youngest winner in the series' history. Her self-titled debut studio album released later that year, was certified platinum, and has sold over two million copies worldwide. Sparks' second studio album, *Battlefield* (2009), debuted at Number 7 on the Billboard 200 chart. Throughout her career, Sparks has won numerous awards, including an NAACP Image Award, a BET Award, an American Music Award, a People's Choice Award, and two Teen Choice Awards. Her third studio album, *Right Here Right Now*,

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was released in August 2015. Though she remembers accepting Christ at an early age, Sparks admits that Jesus “was not the center, like He should have been....I wasn’t seeking Him like I should have been, I was only leaning on Him when times got tough....I was relying on my own strength.” But at an Easter service in 2016, she recommitted her life to Jesus, and now says, “Jesus does His best work when you’re broken, and He puts the pieces back together.”

ANDY MINEO:

He gave his life to Christ in junior high school, but it wasn’t until his freshman year in college that Andy Mineo got serious about his faith. Lending his voice and talents to projects by hip-hop artists such as Lecrae and Tedashii, Mineo started producing mixtapes at a young age, and in 2011, signed on with Reach Records. His two albums *Heroes for Sale* and *Uncomfortable* highlight his unique style, colorful storytelling, and cohesive lyrics. *Uncomfortable* became the Number 1 Independent record in the country and delivered a Number 3 and Number 10 position on Billboard’s Hip-Hop and Top 200 album charts, respectively. He also created a three-season web series on YouTube called “Saturday Morning Car-Tunez” which garnered over one million views and gave fans a glimpse into his creative process and personal life.

DANNY GOKEY:

Once a truck driver from Milwaukee, Danny Gokey married his high school sweetheart, Sophia, only to lose her—a victim of surgery gone bad—just a month before auditioning for the hit talent show, *American Idol*. By the time Gokey finished season 8 of the show in third place, he had won America’s heart. His four albums have earned several Dove Award nominations, and a win for Christmas Album of the Year in 2016. Gokey’s music—including his well-known songs “Hope in Front of Me” and “Tell Your Heart to Beat Again”—is filled with reminders of hope, strength, and healing.

BRENNLEY BROWN:

At age 15, Brennley Brown has surprised America with her incredible voice and delightful personality as a contestant in *The Voice Season 12*, where her strong performance pleased the judges and she made it to the final eight. The sheer purity, power, and control of her voice, combined with her emotive performances leave a lasting impression on all who hear her. Brown sees her opportunities to sing publicly as a chance to let her light shine and share God’s love with others. Specializing in country music, Brown hails from Apple Valley, California.

PHIL WICKHAM:

Singer, songwriter, and worship leader Phil Wickham is no stranger to Harvest Crusades. Having grown up in Southern California, Phil attended this annual event held at Anaheim Stadium for many years. Phil began writing songs and leading worship when he was 12 years old. His song “This Is the Day” serves as the intro track for Greg Laurie’s radio broadcast, *A New Beginning*, as well as his television program, *GregLaurie.tv*. Phil’s single “This Is Amazing Grace” topped charts for weeks on end, took top honor of Song of the Year at the 2015 BMI Christian Music Awards, and continues to inspire spontaneous worship in hearts all over the globe.

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