



Media Release

For Immediate Release | June 20, 2008

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A New Exciting Theme for 2009 Global Country's "Stars of Tomorrow"

On Monday, June 16, 2008, Global Country marked the 10th Anniversary of the highly acclaimed Festival of the Stars at the Winspear Centre in Edmonton. Five finalists in the 2008 Country Star Search competition performed with a live band before a packed audience, who voted by secret ballot to determine the winner. It was a tough choice for the Winspear audience, as the performers all had enormous potential, but in the end, **Stan Hitchcock** from St. Albert, AB, blew the audience away with his rendition of the George Jones hit, "He Stopped Loving Her Today". As soon as Stan started performing you could read it on the faces of the audience that he had them in the palm of his hand.

Stan Hitchcock has been singing since he was 12 years of age. Born in Westlock, AB, he was heavily influenced by the classic country stylings of George Jones, Merle Haggard, Conway Twitty, and Waylon Jennings. In 2001 he won the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame singing competition in Calgary. In 2002 he moved to the Toronto area where he formed a band and spent two and a half years performing around southern Ontario as Stan Hitchcock and Laredo. In 2006 he returned to his Alberta roots, locating in St. Albert. Once again he was back on the road performing around the northern Alberta and British Columbia bar circuit, this time as Stan Hitchcock and Freightrain. Besides being a dynamic performer in the classic country style, Stan is also becoming an accomplished songwriter, having penned and performed much of his own material.

The other talented finalists were:

Brian Haywood... The oldest of three boys, born and raised in Edmonton by a single mother, he has been a singer as long as he can remember. Brian loves to write songs in all different genres (from Country to Rock, Rage to Rap & Christian music). Self employed as a horse trainer and farrier, he dreams of a full-time career in the music industry.

Amber Heyday... Born in Peace River Alberta, Amber started singing at age five. Always encouraged to sing by family and friends, pursuing it professionally seemed inevitable. The family moved around quite a bit while she was young, but settled in Stony Plain, the place Amber still calls home. Now age twenty-one, Amber maintains, "My passion is singing... There is nothing more fulfilling to me than the power of song." This engaging new Alberta singer has her feet on the ground, her eyes on the stars, and her heart in her music.

Kasha... From a young age, Kasha has been experimenting with music. She began by singing with her sister and father at senior homes. Now, at age of 22, this up and coming artist possesses head turning qualities with her long red hair, dimples, and a contagious smile. Kasha's personality shines as she mixes her life's passions with her absolute love for music. She has come a long way and is very dedicated to growing as an artist. Kasha's past performances include the Rainmaker Rodeo, Daines Rodeo, City Hall, and The Westin Gala dinner for the Alzheimer's Society.

Tyson Goodvin... Music runs through Tyson's veins. Like most in his musical family, he learned how to play guitar at a very young age. At the age 14, Tyson decided to enter a local singing competition and was pleasantly surprised to place second. He has always had a passion for music. He believes that he has a chance now to do what he had dreamed of his whole life. He hopes in the future to become a songwriter as he enjoys writing (by himself and co-writing with others). This young man's musical journey has just begun!

“Stars of Tomorrow” is the new, exciting theme for 2009!

“Global Country’s Stars of Tomorrow” will incorporate Artist Management, Country Star Search, and the Annual Concert at the Winspear Centre. Next year’s concert has been confirmed for Monday, June 15, 2009. The concert will feature artists under the newly formed Global Country Artist Management, five Country Star Search Finalists, where the audience will continue to select the winner by ballot voting, and a yet-to-be-determined major Headliner. Global Country is currently working on finding a headliner for next year.

Maryanne Gibson, President and CEO of Global Country, said, “We are looking forward to this new direction. It has always been exciting for me to mentor new artists and give them a taste of what it is like to perform in first class venue such as the Winspear Centre. Sometimes it is almost like starting at the top. The five Country Star Search finalists have a perfect opportunity to perform with a top- notch band. This means so much to them even if they are not the final winner. I just don’t want to give that opportunity away yet. We are looking forward to next year”. Mark your calendars for June 15, 2009.”

Global Country’s “Stars of Tomorrow”

Monday, June 16, 2009

7:30 pm

Winspear Centre

#4 Sir Winston Churchill Sq., Edmonton, AB

www.globalcountry.ca

Country Star Search is already accepting applications from potential “Stars of Tomorrow” for the 2009 Preliminaries. The preliminaries will run through the month of May, 2009, with the Semi Finals taking place the first week of June. As in the previous two years, the five finalists will perform at the Winspear Centre, where the audience will once again select the winner.

Watch for upcoming concerts and events, and plan to join Global Country next June 15th at the first annual “Stars Of Tomorrow” concert.

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