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Rascal Flatts to Perform at Muhammad Ali's Celebrity Fight Night XVIII

Additional Entertainers Include Reba McEntire, Lionel Richie, Miley Cyrus and Jackie Evancho

PHOENIX (Jan. 18, 2012) – Celebrity Fight Night, one of the nation's most significant charity events, today announced multiplatinum selling trio, Rascal Flatts, will kick-off the entertainment portion of the evening on Saturday, March 24 at JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Phoenix.

"We're looking forward to another great year of musical entertainment and successful fundraising for the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center," said Sean Currie, executive director of Celebrity Fight Night.

In addition to **Rascal Flatts** and featured guest, **Muhammad Ali**, the star-studded gala will include Grammy Award-winning leading lady of country music, **Reba McEntire** returning as the evening's emcee for her seventh consecutive year as well as 16-time Grammy Award-winning songwriter and producer, **David Foster** who will serve as Musical Director for his 13th year. Also performing will be Grammy winner **Lionel Richie**. Guests will also enjoy performances by **Miley Cyrus**, **Jackie Evancho**, **John Corbett**, **Rita Wilson** and **Sinbad**.

"This year is extra special since we'll be celebrating Muhammad Ali's 70th birthday as well," said Jimmy Walker, founder of Celebrity Fight Night and close friend of Ali.

Celebrity Fight Night premiered in the Valley in 1994 when local celebrities donned oversized boxing gloves for a comedic fight in the ring before 400 attendees. Today, more than 1,200 guests attend the event to accompany Muhammad Ali and other A-List celebrities. Celebrity Fight Night no longer features celebrity boxing, but by attending the event and bidding on live and silent auction items, each guest does their part to join Ali in the fight against Parkinson's disease.

Over the past 17 years, Celebrity Fight Night has raised more than \$70 million for the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center and other charities. Celebrities and professional athletes from around the U.S. join Muhammad Ali each year for this celebrity-filled night complete with live auction items and musical performances by many of today's brightest stars. Previous guests include Halle Berry, Billy Crystal, Kevin Costner, Matchbox Twenty, Kelly Clarkson, Jon Bon Jovi, Robin Williams, Jim Carrey, Donald Trump, Celine Dion, Faith Hill, Whitney Houston, Randy Jackson, Sharon Stone, Rod Stewart, Michael Buble, Josh Groban, Diana Ross, John Mellencamp, Chris Tucker, Forest Whitaker, Larry King, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jack Nicklaus, American Idol's 2011 Top 11 Finalists and many more.

Individual tickets range from \$1,500 to \$5,000 each. For reservations, please call 602-956-1121.

About Celebrity Fight Night

Celebrity Fight Night Foundation is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1994 by Jimmy Walker to support the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center at Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, as well as numerous other charities. Sponsors of this year's event include CA Technologies, USA Today, Moet and AirSprint. For more information, visit www.celebrityfightnight.org.

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