

# RUTH ECKERD HALL

RICHARD B. BAUMGARDNER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Katie Pedretty 727.712.2774  
[Kpedretty@rutherfordhall.net](mailto:Kpedretty@rutherfordhall.net)

## COME ONE, COME ALL!

**The Saturday Night Rebel Rockers Traveling Circus & Medicine Show  
starring Counting Crows, Michael Franti & Spearhead, Augustana  
plus special guests –**

**Come see a musical spectacle under the big top at  
Ruth Eckerd Hall on Monday, August 17 at 7 pm**

**Tickets on sale now**

---

**June 2, 2009, Clearwater, FL** – Multi-platinum artists **Counting Crows** announce plans for a summer tour, THE SATURDAY NIGHT REBEL ROCKERS TRAVELING CIRCUS & MEDICINE SHOW with special guests Michael Franti & Spearhead and Augustana, with one stop in the Tampa Bay area, performing at Ruth Eckerd Hall on Monday, August 17 at 7 pm. The show will be an original format where the three bands (and some special guests along the way) will combine to play together in addition to playing their own sets. Tickets are on sale now.

"We want to give fans a completely different concert experience this summer than they've been getting," says Counting Crows front man, Adam Duritz. "We're turning your normal concert experience on its head. We're going to go out on the road with a bunch of our friends and we're all going to play shows together. Make sure you come out early, because when the curtain rises on the MEDICINE SHOW this summer and the lights come up, Counting Crows, Michael Franti & Spearhead, and Augustana are all going to be right there together on that stage, along with any other friends and special guests happen to be in town and feel like joining the circus for a night. We won't know what we're going to do until we do it but we're gonna try and make a glorious noise. One way or another, by the time me and my pals walk off that stage, we're gonna make sure you remember that the Circus came to town."

**Counting Crows** hail from the San Francisco Bay area and consist of Adam Duritz (vocals), David Bryson (guitar), Charles Gillingham (keyboards), Dan Vickrey (guitar), Jim Bogios (drums), David Immergluck (guitar) and touring bassist Millard Powers. With more than 20 million albums sold worldwide, Eight Top 5 singles, and four records having broken the Top 5 on the Billboard 200, Counting Crows success dates back to their 1993 debut release *August And Everything After* and the hit single *Mr. Jones*. In 2004, the band released their first ever "Best Of" set *Films About Ghosts* which featured songs from every phase of the Counting Crow's recording career and in 2006 a live record was released, *New Amsterdam: Live at Heineken Music Hall 2003*. Their most recent record, the double album *Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings* was released to critical and popular acclaim in March 2008. Produced by Gil Norton & Brian Deck, the album presents a duality in form and content: *Saturday Nights* tracks a dissolution and disintegration into madness and *Sunday Mornings* shows the attempt at redemption that follows.

Michael Franti is the creator and lead singer of **Michael Franti & Spearhead**. The Bay Area born Franti has been bringing our world exceptionally powerful, deeply felt music under a variety of names and in a wide range of genres for twenty years. From the intense punk rock of the Beatnigs, to the deeply political rap he made with the Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy to his joyful and meaningful modern soul music with Spearhead, and now as Michael Franti & Spearhead, this still young man has released an impressive series of recordings that have vividly reflected his status as a musical citizen of this world. His latest album *All Rebel Rockers* was produced by superduo Sly and Robbie and rock veteran Matt Wallace, the album has been praised as his "most ambitious and musically stimulating record to date." Franti's latest single *Say Hey (I Love You)* is quickly becoming one of the biggest hits of his career.

**Augustana** is a San Diego, CA based quintet consisting of Dan Layus (vocals, guitar, piano), Jared Palomar (bass, vocals), Justin South (drums), Chris Sachtleben (lead guitar, mandolin, lap steel) and John Vincent Fredericks (piano, Hammond b2, vocals). The band's latest release, *Can't Love, Can't Hurt*, entered Billboard's Top 200 at #21 and debuted in the Top 5 at iTunes. It is the follow-up to the band's 2005 debut record, *All the Stars and Boulevards*, which reached #1 on the *Billboard* Heatseekers Chart and featured the RIAA-certified digital platinum hit single, *Boston*. Augustana have made appearances on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* and *The Today Show* and have toured with such artists as Snow Patrol, the Stereophonics and Dashboard Confessional.

Reserved tickets priced at \$102.50 and \$72.50 are available at the Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office located at 1111 McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater, by calling 727.791.7400 or by logging onto [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). The Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office is open Monday through Saturday, from 12 noon to 6 pm and one hour prior to showtime.

For additional tour dates and more information about the Counting Crows, please visit [www.countingcrows.com](http://www.countingcrows.com).

*Designed by the prestigious Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, Ruth Eckerd Hall celebrates its 26<sup>th</sup> season as the number six ranked venue in the world, according to the entertainment industry trade publication Billboard Magazine. Known for its 2,180-seat acoustically perfect auditorium, artists from America and around the world, ranging from classical, rock, opera, Broadway, Jazz, pop and more are included in the stellar lineup of more than 200 performances a year.*

*Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Ruth Eckerd Hall Foundation are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations.*

####