

## THE MARTY STUART SHOW COMES TO PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI

Five-time Grammy Award winner and platinum recording artist, Grand Ole Opry member and country music icon, Neshoba County native **Marty Stuart** is bringing his RFD-TV program, “The Marty Stuart Show” to his hometown. In a special concert and TV taping at the historic Ellis Theatre in downtown Philadelphia, MS on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at 8pm, the concert/taping will represent the final episode of the popular TV show’s 5<sup>th</sup> season. The Philadelphia and Neshoba County Arts Council and RFD-TV are co-hosting the event. Along with the concert at the Ellis Theatre on June 28<sup>th</sup>, film crews will be working around the city and county earlier in the week to capture local folks and local flavor.

Appearing on the bill with Stuart and his band The Fabulous Superlatives are regular guest stars from the TV show series: Stuart’s wife, Country Music Hall of Fame member, Connie Smith; steel guitar legend Gary Carter; banjo virtuoso and humorist Leroy Troy; and Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be noted WSM-AM dj and Grand Ole Opry announcer Eddie Stubbs. Philadelphia’s own legend, Peggy Webb of Peggy’s Restaurant fame, will be honored on the show as well.

“RFD-TV showcases the lifestyle and culture of rural America in a wonderful way,” says Stuart. “The network’s founder, Patrick Gottsch and I both share a love for small town America and its people. That’s where you’ll find the purest quality of life. I recently asked Patrick if we could end the season by taking the cast, crew and RFD-TV’s presence to my hometown. Patrick loved the idea and I couldn’t be happier. This will be the first time I’ve ever produced one of the shows outside of the TV studio in Nashville and I’m excited about bringing it all back home and introducing the world to some of the people and places I’ve been bragging about.”

Stuart has long played the role of ambassador, educator and host on behalf of his state and his town but has a special platform with the TV series. “My home state and my hometown are unparalleled when it comes to the arts, music and genuine hospitality. I have talked about the Blues and Country Music Trails, the museums, the legendary and the ordinary people and places on every single episode for five years now. There are literally scores of people who have seen our broadcasts and have traveled from all over the world to experience and share in the Mississippi story.”

The Marty Stuart Show on RFD-TV is sponsored by Mississippi's Tourism division, Neshoba County Tourism and the Pearl River Resort and Casino. The show has been the #1 rated program on RFD-TV's entire network for five consecutive seasons. The current season can be seen on RFD-TV owned Rural TV on Saturday nights and will repeat on cable's FamilyNet which enjoys an estimated viewership of ten million people per week.

When Stuart formed his band, The Fabulous Superlatives in 2001, one of the group's original mission statements was to help out and lend their presence whenever needed to small towns across the nation who were renovating their vintage theatres or making efforts to re-energize their town squares.

David Vowell, President Community Development Partnership : "We are thankful for what Marty and Connie continue to do for their hometown. The RFD-TV network and the Marty Stuart Show continue to promote the state of Mississippi and Philadelphia. This will be another opportunity to let people from all over the country know more about Philadelphia, Choctaw, and Neshoba County."

Tim Moore, President Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council: "The Arts Council (historical Ellis Theatre) is really proud of Marty and Connie and their accomplishments. We are excited about the filming of Marty's RFD-TV Show in our city."

Tickets are \$ 50 and are available at The Depot, 256 W. Beacon Street (601-656-1000 or toll free 877-752-2643).

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