



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC PARTNERS
WITH WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO
TO BE HELD DECEMBER 3-12, 2009
AT THE COX PAVILION IN LAS VEGAS

* * * * *

***HEIDI NEWFIELD TO OPEN AND JOE NICHOLS TO CLOSE THE ACADEMY
OF COUNTRY MUSIC STAGE***

LAS VEGAS – November 19, 2009 – For the fourth consecutive year, the Academy of Country Music will host the **Academy of Country Music Stage** at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (NFR) held in Las Vegas from Thursday, December 3rd through Saturday, December 12th. New country artists will take the Academy of Country Music Stage in the Cowboy Corral, a special area created by Las Vegas Events, to entertain NFR fans inside the Cox Pavilion at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas. The event is free to NFR fans and open to all ticket holders.

The Academy of Country Music Stage will include performances from **Ash Bowers, Easton Corbin, Halfway to Hazard, LoCash Cowboys, Sean Patrick McGraw, David Nail, Heidi Newfield, Joe Nichols, Sunny Sweeney, and Josh Thompson**. Doors will open at the Cowboy Corral at 5:00 PM/PST expect on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 when they open at 4:00 PM/PST. Music performances on the Academy of Country Music Stage begin at 5:45 PM/PST expect on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 when they begin at 4:45 PM/PST. Rodeo performances begin at 6:45 PM/PST expect on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 when they start at 5:45PM/PST.

“The Academy of Country Music is excited to kick off the 10 nights of music with ACM award winner, Heidi Newfield and close with ACM award winner Joe Nichols.” said **Michelle Goble**, Director, Membership and Events for the Academy of Country Music. “NFR is a great stage to showcase a wide variety of acts which include Texas touring bands, newcomers and established artists.”

The Academy of Country Music Stage artist line-up is as follows:

- Thursday, December 3, 2009 – **Heidi Newfield**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Friday, December 4, 2009 – **David Nail** 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Saturday, December 5, 2009 – **Sunny Sweeney**, 4:45pm & 8:00pm
- Sunday, December 6, 2009 – **Easton Corbin**, 4:45pm & 8:00pm
- Monday, December 7, 2009 – **Josh Thompson**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Tuesday, December 8, 2009 – **Halfway to Hazard**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Wednesday, December 9, 2009 – **LoCash Cowboys**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Thursday, December 10, 2009 – **Ash Bowers**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Friday, December 11, 2009 – **Sean Patrick McGraw**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm
- Saturday, December 12, 2009 – **Joe Nichols**, 5:45pm & 9:00pm

-more-

Specific dates and times on additional entertainers during the Wrangler NFR can be found at www.NFRexperience.com. Additional information about Las Vegas can be found at www.visitlasvegas.com.

About the Academy of Country Music

Founded in 1964, the **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC** is an artist and industry-driven organization, providing the financial resources to ensure the on-going philanthropic work of **ACM Lifting Lives**, the charitable arm of the Academy which works to improve lives through music. The Academy is comprised of more than 3,800 professional members and more than 180,000 associate members and is headquartered in Encino, Calif. For more information, log onto www.acmliftinglives.org or www.acmcountry.com.

About Las Vegas Events

Founded in 1983, Las Vegas Events, Inc. has grown with Las Vegas as the city has emerged as one of the world's top special event and resort destinations. A private, not-for-profit organization, LVE is funded by hotel room tax and serves as the exclusive major special events agency for the city. Since 1991, Las Vegas Events has produced, presented or supported more than 500 events. www.lasvegasevents.com

About the Wrangler NFR

The Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (NFR), considered the world's premier rodeo, features 10 straight days of the best in rodeo competition, with a total of 120 contestants competing every night in seven events. Each December, the top 15 contestants, based on the 2009 PRCA World Standings, in bareback riding, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, tie-down roping, barrel racing, and bull riding qualify to compete at the Wrangler NFR. www.prorodeo.com

###

Press Contacts:

Brooke Primero
Academy Of Country Music
Brooke@acmcountry.com
818-788-8000 Ext. 213

Katie Jo Sheek
Academy of Country Music
katiejo@acmcountry.com
818-788-8000 Ext. 220

Michael Mack
Las Vegas Events
michael@lasvegasevents.com
(702) 260-8605
(702) 349-0023 (cellular)