



Los Angeles Convention Center

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**THE LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER IS AT THE CENTER OF
THE 2009 GRAMMY WEEK GLITZ AND GLAMOUR**

*Music's biggest stars and their invited guests convened for a weekend of recognition,
electrifying performances, and VIP parties*

February 6-8, 2009 (LOS ANGELES, CA) –For the 4th consecutive year, LACC rolled out the red carpet for the Recording Academy's annual MusicCares gala dinner and concert—a star-studded benefit that this year, honored music legend Neil Diamond as Person of the Year for his artistic achievements and philanthropic work on Feb. 6, 2009 in the West Hall.

The evening began with a silent auction that featured luxurious items, VIP packages and exclusive celebrity memorabilia, with all proceeds going towards helping musicians in times of financial, medical and personal needs. It was followed by an exquisite gala dinner, an award presentation and a tribute concert. Special guests who performed their own take of Neil Diamond classics included Coldplay, Josh Groban, Jennifer Hudson, Jonas Brothers, Kid Rock, Adele, Foo Fighters, Tim McGraw, Faith Hill and many more. The honoree himself did not disappoint as he had the crowd cheering and on its feet throughout his five-song performance.

Two days later, LACC was once again buzzing with excitement, glamour and glitz, as media representatives, celebrities and invited guests were gathered for Music's Biggest Night. Hours before the live telecast of the 51st Annual GRAMMY Awards at neighboring Staples Center, thousands of people packed the West Hall of the Los Angeles Convention Center for a Pre-Telecast that honored musicians in nearly 99 categories and featured live performances by Latin GRAMMY-winning folk/jazz singer Lila Downs, GRAMMY-winning classical artist Hilary Hahn and GRAMMY nominee Heavy D.

Over 5,000 attendees returned to LACC immediately after the GRAMMY awards for the official invitation-only Grammy Celebration after-party. As stars and their guests stepped through the doors of LACC, they found themselves being magically transported a few decades back in time. The "Flower Power" 60's-themed party was inspired by the 40th anniversary of Woodstock and came complete with roaming hippies, a décor of rainbows and daisies, and flashing neon images of peace signs and happy faces being illuminated from the ceilings.

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The guests found satisfaction from the delectable buffet tables catered by celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck and crew. Menu items included Carved prime rib eye with Armagnac peppercorn sauce, Miso-glazed salmon with orange sesame aioli, Chili lime shrimp, red velvet cupcakes, and raspberry cheesecake mousse tarts. In addition to an electrifying performance by award-winning singer Robin Thicke, guests were mesmerized by aerialists from the dance troupe Lucent Dossier, as they dangled in mid air over a pond and performed funky dance moves to groovy tunes on mini podiums overlooking the crowds.

“The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) once again joined our other partners in the Sports & Entertainment District at the center of all the glitz and glamour during this year’s weeklong GRAMMY festivities. There proved to be no shortage of star power, stretch limousines, fancy evening attire, great food, good company, memorable moments and World-Class Service.” said Pouria Abbassi, P.E., Los Angeles Convention Center General Manager & CEO.

About the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC)

The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) is one of the most technologically advanced convention and exhibition centers in the world. LACC attracts over 2.5 million annual visitors and is renowned internationally as a prime site for conventions, trade shows and exhibitions. With its towering emerald architectural design, the LACC is a well recognized Los Angeles landmark. An integral economic component to the Southern California area, total sales from client secondary spending tops \$1.1 billion annually, generating and sustaining over 12,000 local jobs. LACC is a model environmental-friendly facility. Its solar panels are capable of meeting the electricity needs of an estimated 100 homes, and it’s recycling, energy efficiency, and water conservation programs help to conserve the environment. LACC is enrolled in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s (LADWP) Green Power Program (environmentally-friendly renewable energy resources such as hydroelectric, geothermal, solar, biomass, and wind energy) at a level of 30% of the facilities consumption. The Los Angeles Convention Center is registered with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) as a member of the Los Angeles and National Chapter and holds the prestigious USGBC LEED certification for existing buildings. LACC is also a proud recipient of prestigious environmental and industry awards including several Planner’s Choice Awards presented by Meeting News magazine, multiple Prime Site Awards from the Facilities and Destinations magazine, recognition for model emergency care programs, and was invited to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency’s National earth conscious WasteWise Program. For more information about the Los Angeles Convention Center, please call (213) 741-1151, ext. 5319 or visit www.lacclink.com.

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