

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Boyz II Men Join Celebrity Line Up For Upcoming Telethon

Boyz II Men along with many of the nation's best-known performers and celebrities joined Lou Rawls on Jan. 7 to celebrate the 15th annual "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon to benefit the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). This premier television special was broadcast nationally, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. to generate funds for UNCF's 41 private, historically Black colleges and universities.

Soulful crooners Boyz II Men, whose recent pop single "I'll Make Love to You" made Billboard chart history, was featured performer on the Parade of Stars. Their song held the No. 1 spot on the Hot 100 Chart for 14 consecutive weeks, tying the record held by Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You."

Boyz II Men once held the record for 13 weeks with "End of the Road" before the Houston hit.

This Grammy-winning quartet wrote and co-produced several of the songs on their new album simply titled "II," which demonstrates a number of vocal styles sure to have broad appeal. Their second smash hit, "On Bended Knee," is now rising to the top of the charts.

Other chart-climbing artists that join the Parade of Stars included three of music's most critically acclaimed and well-respected female vocalists, Patti LaBelle, Anita Baker and Patti Austin.

This year, the program featured two separate segments which showcased some of today's most popular jazz musicians and gospel singers.



Boyz II Men with Lou Rawls (center)

Jazz artists George Duke, Sheila E., Everette Harp, Art Porter and Norman Brown, Ndugu Chancellor, Bryon Miller and Brian Simpson shared the stage and brought together their multi-faceted abilities into one rare and dazzling musical performance.

The telethon's gospel extravaganza also electrified and move audiences nationwide. Headlining this segment was the Grammy-winning

brother/sister duo BeBe and CeCe Winans and nationally renowned Andrae Crouch, along with newcomers Kirk Franklin and The Family.

Franklin has been called one of gospel's hottest new sensations and his self-titled album held the No. 1 position on the Billboard Gospel Charts for 18 weeks. His debut release also recently hit the Contemporary Christian Charts and Billboard Pop Charts.

Former Portland D.J. Is TV Voice

Announcer Burton Richardson, the voice of The New Price Is Right has handily made the transition to game show personality from his acclaimed role as "The Arsenio Hall Show" announcer for the past five seasons.

"Transition is the name of the game," says Richardson as his distinctively soothing, resonant voice sets him apart from the vast reservoir of Hollywood voice talent.

According to Richardson, "the average life expectancy of a radio jock is anywhere from six months to two

years so I guess going into my sixth season on TV has been a blessing career-wise. My New Price Is Right family at Paramount have been equally important to me as my own family who help me sustain my identity in this crazy, always-changing town."

"Prior to my Hollywood gig - if you will - I got my start in radio at a small rock 'n' roll station KGAR-AM in my hometown of Portland. After honing my skills there, I was hired at the larger KISN-AM and became a 'KISSIN' Good Guy.' It was here that I was brought

to the attention of Los Angeles KGFJ-AM," Richardson said.

Accordingly, his "Kissin' Days" served as the springboard he needed to import his talents over the Hollywood transmitters.

Since his arrival in Los Angeles (over two decades ago), Richardson smiles, "I have continually kept the airwaves of LA buzzing with excitement from spinning platters at KPOL-AM, KGIL-AM, KMPC-AM to loading tape cartridges at KJOI-FM, where I worked from 1978 to 1991 when I left to do Arsenio full-time."

Even though the video game maybe considered in its infancy in its 14 years of existence it has grown by quantum leaps. Nintendo has reintroduced a popular character from the video arcade Donkey Kong Country from Donkey Kong.

Gameboy the hand held miniature system has been astoundingly successful have sold 40 million since its

introduction into the market in 1989. In 1991 Nintendo presented yet another advancement with super Nintendo Entertainment System, a 16 bit hard drive which marketed for \$129.

DR. GORDON DOSS, Author and Professor of History at Portland State University will present "New Light on the Lewis & Clark Expedition" as his topic as featured speaker of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers history series. The program will be Thursday, Jan. 19, 1995. Coffee at 10:00 a.m.; Program follows at 10:30 a.m. in the Madison Room of the Oregon Historical Society, 1200 S.W. Park, downtown Portland. Non-members please get tag at admission desk for free admission to this series (courtesy of OHS - these SDOP programs only). There is no charge for SDOP or OHS members). Public welcomed!

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