

For Immediate Release
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**Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith announce 2017 Christmas Tour featuring
Jordan Smith, winner of 'The Voice,' full symphony orchestra
Popular holiday tour comes to SMG-managed Van Andel Arena® December 10**

Grand Rapids—Multi-platinum, GRAMMY® winners [Amy Grant](#) and [Michael W. Smith](#) co-bill their popular Christmas tour this holiday season, which will be joined for the second consecutive year by Republic recording artist [Jordan Smith](#), Season 9 winner of NBC's "The Voice." Incorporating a **full symphony orchestra** at each performance under the direction of Musical Director and Conductor **David Hamilton**, this seasonal crowd-pleaser is being presented by Balsam Hill®. The tour makes a stop in Grand Rapids at [Van Andel Arena](#) on **Sunday, December 10 at 7:30 PM**.

With multiple sellout crowds celebrating the season with them last year, Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith joint Christmas tours have become some of the most anticipated holiday events of the season. Combining for a vast collection of critically-acclaimed holiday albums between them, the 2017 Christmas tour will showcase selections spanning the artists' expansive Christmas repertoires, including their most recent releases, Grant's ***Tennessee Christmas***, Michael W. Smith's ***The Spirit of Christmas*** and Jordan Smith's ***'Tis The Season***.

Tickets go on sale to the general public beginning Tuesday, July 25 at 10:00 AM. Ticket prices are \$39.50, \$59.50, \$89.50, and \$127.50. Tickets will be available at the Van Andel Arena and DeVos Place® box offices, online at [Ticketmaster.com](#), and charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000. Prices are subject to change.

"I started looking forward to this year's tour after the final encore of last year's tour!" exclaims Michael W. Smith. "Performing with Amy and Jordan – in front of a full Symphony Orchestra – is about as good as it gets for me!"

"Michael, Jordan and I have been looking forward to touring together again all year!" confirms Grant. "We had so much fun together last year and it felt like our creative gifts complimented one another in a unique way."

"As we started to plan the show, it was our goal to enhance people's experience of the Christmas season by providing them a night of exquisite music and a message of hope," continues Grant. "We are especially thrilled to be partnering with Balsam Hill this year and incorporating some of their beautiful pieces into our production. Creativity happens on many different levels and similarly to the music Michael, Jordan and I have recorded for the holidays, Balsam Hill's products exists to add beauty and magic to the Christmas season."

"I'm so looking forward to hitting the road again this year with Michael and Amy!" adds Jordan Smith. "It is always an honor to share the stage with these two legendary performers who are also such special people. This show has become one of my favorite Christmas traditions!"

In addition to the performance, and in support of their longstanding relationship with Compassion International, Michael and Amy are exclusively meeting with as many as 200 people in each city who sponsor a child through the organization prior to the concert and through the website <http://www.meetamyandmichael.com>. This "Compassion Meet & Greet" is an opportunity to learn more about the Compassion International's child sponsorship experience and will include a photo opportunity with the artists. (Tickets to each concert must be purchased separately.)

"Amy and I have both sponsored children through Compassion International literally for decades," reflects Michael. "So, I'm especially excited that we are using our time before the show to meet people who sponsor Compassion children. It seems like such a great opportunity – especially this time of year."

"Amy has a song that says, 'It's Going To Be A Christmas To Remember.' That's our goal with this night," continues Michael. "I hope we create a memory for everyone that attends and, at the same time, we impact the lives of some very special children all over the world." Recently inducted into the Music City Walk of Fame in recognition of her significant contributions to Nashville and its musical heritage, Grant released ***Tennessee Christmas*** last year, marking her first all-new holiday album in nearly 20 years. With over six million Christmas records sold, her latest holiday offering includes a blend of heartfelt originals and Grant's own spin on popular Yuletide classics, seamlessly weaving together the joy, love, laughter and even grief this season brings.

With critical praise from *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *Huffington Post*, *Country Weekly* and more, Michael W. Smith's ***Michael W. Smith & Friends: The Spirit of Christmas*** features collaborations with Vince Gill, Lady Antebellum, Little Big Town, Martina McBride, Carrie Underwood, Jennifer Nettles, Bono, Michael McDonald and Grant.

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Jordan Smith released his first-ever Christmas album, *'Tis The Season*, last year following his debut album *Something Beautiful*, which reached No. 2 on the Billboard 200, the highest ranking on the chart by any winner of a television singing competition in almost five years, making Smith the bestselling artist in the history of "The Voice."

About Amy Grant:

Amy Grant's career spans more than 30 years and stretches from her roots in gospel into becoming an iconic pop star, songwriter, television personality and philanthropist. With three multi-platinum albums, six platinum albums and four gold albums, her total career album sales have exceeded 30 million. Grant's chart success has been consistent throughout her career with six No. 1 hits, 10 Top 40 pop singles, 17 Top 40 Adult Contemporary tracks and multiple Contemporary Christian chart-toppers. In addition to her six GRAMMY® Awards, Grant has earned 26 Dove Awards (including four Artist of the Year Awards) and has been awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Conventional wisdom has it that Grant put Contemporary Christian Music on the map becoming the first Contemporary Christian artist to have a platinum record, the first to hit No. 1 on the Pop charts and the first to perform at the GRAMMY® Awards. With that, her legacy as one of the most influential artists of the past four decades is assured. In April 2015, Grant celebrated the 25th anniversary of her iconic hit "Baby Baby" with a worldwide release of the song featuring pop sensation Tori Kelly and released *Tennessee Christmas* in 2016, marking her first all-new holiday album in nearly 20 years.

About Michael W. Smith:

Michael W. Smith is an acclaimed singer, songwriter and musician who has sold more than 15 million albums, achieved 32 No. 1 songs, received 2x RIAA Multi-Platinum, 6 Platinum and 16 Gold certified albums, earned three GRAMMY® Awards, one American Music Award and 45 Dove Awards. Amassing an in-depth catalog of achievements, Smith was honored at ASCAP's 100th Anniversary for his groundbreaking career and significant influence in music. He performed at Former First Lady Barbara Bush's 90th birthday celebration, had the privilege to join Former President Clinton, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and others in remembering victims in the 20th Anniversary of the Oklahoma City attacks, was appointed by the White House as Vice Chair for the President's Council on service and civic participation and was the featured performer at the 2015 USO Gala where he was recognized as a USO veteran. In addition to the international impact he has had through multiple global tours, he has written and composed various scored film projects, has authored 12 books, has acted in assorted motion pictures and has been featured by numerous national media outlets. He founded, and actively supports, the teen club Rocketown – a nonprofit outreach for teens, providing opportunities in arts, music, sports and mentoring programs. This year also marks the 26th anniversary in partnership with Compassion International, seeing more than seventy thousand families' and children's lives changed, around the world.

About Jordan Smith:

Jordan Smith's much anticipated debut album, *Something Beautiful* [LightWorkers Media/Republic Records], is available now everywhere. Throughout the album, his undeniable delivery and instantly recognizable range drives both original songs and cover tracks produced by legends such as GRAMMY® Award winning producer David Foster [Céline Dion, Michael Bublé, Josh Groban] and modern hit maker Stephan Moccio [The Weeknd, Ellie Goulding, Miley Cyrus]. The 23-year-old from Harlan, KY, Jordan Smith stands out as the highest-selling artist to ever emerge from NBC's EMMY AWARD®-winning "The Voice." In less than six months, he sold over 1 million singles and made Voice history by landing eight songs in the iTunes Top 10— the first artist from any season to hit the iTunes Top 10 every single week of the Live Rounds. Of the eight songs that went Top 10 on iTunes, six hit Top 3, and three captured No. 1 on iTunes, all of which knocked Adele off the top spot! His first holiday album, *'Tis The Season*, is available now.

About SMG

Celebrating its 40th anniversary and founded in 1977, SMG provides management services to more than 230 public assembly facilities including convention and exhibition centers, arenas, stadiums, theaters, performing arts centers, amphitheaters, equestrian facilities, science centers and a variety of other venues. With facilities across the globe, SMG manages more than 15 million square feet of exhibition space and more than 1.5 million sports and entertainment seats. As the recognized global industry leader, SMG provides venue management, sales, marketing, event booking and programming; construction and design consulting; and pre-opening services for such landmark facilities as McCormick Place & Soldier Field in Chicago, Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, Houston's NRG Park and the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans. SMG also offers food and beverage operations through its concessions and catering companies, currently serving more than 140 accounts worldwide. For more information visit www.smgworld.com.



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