

Winter Jam 2018 Rolls with Top Rockers Skillet to Grand Rapids Popular Christian Music Tour to Play SMG-managed Van Andel Arena® January 7

Grand Rapids — GRAMMY®-nominated, Platinum-selling and *Billboard* Music Award-winning rockers **Skillet** will headline the Winter Jam 2018 Tour Spectacular, it was revealed during the tour's launch celebration at Nashville's Hard Rock Café. Among the biggest annual tours in the world, Winter Jam is once again set to showcase a lineup of some of the best and brightest names in Christian music.

"We are so excited to be back on Winter Jam in 2018," said Skillet's John Cooper. "I'm looking forward to playing with great artists, talking about faith with great friends, and playing for the legendary crowds that attend Winter Jam!"

Presented by Holt International, Winter Jam's 46-city Eastern U.S. tour will also feature GRAMMY®-nominated recording artist and internationally-renowned worship leader **Kari Jobe** (featuring **Cody Carnes**); GRAMMY®-nominated pop hitmakers **Building 429**; popular comedian and viral sensation **John Crist**; critically-acclaimed breakout hip-hop recording artist **KB**; GRAMMY®-nominated tour creators and hosts, **NewSong**; Dove Award-winning chart-topper **Jordan Feliz**; and a message from author, speaker and evangelist **Nick Hall**. In addition, the Pre-Jam Party will feature award-winning worship artist **Dan Bremnes** and lauded Curb Records singer/songwriter **Mallory Hope**, along with new Baby Syndrome Records artist **Westover**.



Kari Jobe



John Crist

Kicking-off January 5 at the Charleston Civic Center in Charleston, West Virginia, the tour will visit numerous major venues across the country, including **Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids, MI on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at 6:00 PM**. Doors will open for the Pre-Jam Party at 5:00 PM. A suggested donation of \$15 will be collected at the door for entry.

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"I can't wait to see what God is going to do on Winter Jam 2018," said tour creator and NewSong co-founder, Eddie Carswell. "Every year He amazes us with His presence and the people He draws to each venue to hear the Gospel. We hope everyone can make it out this year. It's going to be a show to remember."

Winter Jam is produced by Premier Productions and sponsored in part by Liberty University; Samaritan Ministries; Together (presenting the Winter Jam Youth Leader Reception); the upcoming film "I Can Only Imagine"; Premier Vacations & Events; Camp Electric; Texas TransEastern and Xtreme Conferences.

Created and hosted by one of Christian music's most iconic bands, NewSong, Winter Jam exploded from a single show in 1995 to become the genre's benchmark tour. Throughout two decades, Winter Jam has helped provide a powerful platform for the Gospel in major arenas nationwide, consistently showcasing Christian music's top artists.

Earlier this year Winter Jam was again ranked among the biggest first quarter tours in the world, landing at #4 on *Pollstar's* "1Q YTD Worldwide 2017 Ticket Sales Top 100 Tours" chart. The tour's annual West Coast leg is set to launch November 9 in Los Angeles with GRAMMY®, Dove, *Billboard* Music Award and BET Award-winning hip-hop trailblazer Lecrae at the helm.

For further information, visit jamtour.com or turningpointpr.com. Follow Winter Jam on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/winterjam), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/winterjam) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/winterjam).

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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