

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Gospel by the Sea 2009 Benefit Concert - A Weekend of Praise Headlined by Yolanda Adams and James Fortune

Galveston, Texas – The eighth annual Gospel by the Sea benefit concert returns Saturday June 13 at 6:00pm to the Moody Gardens Convention Center. The event, which will benefit St. Vincent's House, will feature uplifting performances by acclaimed gospel artists Yolanda Adams and James Fortune.

Grammy-winning Gospel/Adult Contemporary artist Yolanda Adams headlines this year's concert. Born and raised in Houston, Adams cites a wide array of musical influences ranging from Jazz icon Nancy Wilson to R&B great Stevie Wonder. With one of the most persuasive and popular voices in contemporary gospel, Adams is renowned for her live performances, which have been described as joyful, uplifting, inspiring and playful all at the same time. Working with some of the biggest names in pop, R&B, hip-hop, and gospel, Yolanda Adams' career has been marked by a string of hugely successful albums, sold-out tours, standout TV appearances, and a desire to incorporate into her music a multitude of genres and influences.

Gospel's newest sensation James Fortune & FIYA, best known for his historic chart-topping single "I Trust You," which reigns as the longest running No. 1 single of any musical genre, will open the evening. Acclaimed for his fiery presence and a wide-reaching message of hope and salvation set to uplifting urban contemporary music, Fortune has shared the stage with renowned artists Stevie Wonder, John P. Kee, Kim Burrell, Fred Hammond and many others, and also has been nominated four years in a row for the Texas Gospel Youth & Young Adult Choir of the Year.

KTRK-TV's Melanie Lawson will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies for the Gospel by the Sea 2009 Benefit Concert. The event will also feature a performance by The Seeds of Tomorrow Children's Choir and a special appearance by "Mama Randolph," the world's oldest Gospel singer.

Concert tickets are \$75 for VIP, \$55 for Reserved, and \$30 for General Admission. Tickets can be purchased online at www.moodytickets.com or by phone at 409-683-4186 through the Moody Gardens Special Event hotline. Tickets go on sale on Wednesday May 6, 2009.

On Sunday June 14th, Moody Gardens Hotel will host the Gospel by the Sea Brunch in the Frances Anne Moody Ballroom. The brunch will be held from 11am to 2pm, and will feature an encore performance by James Fortune, plus an artistic dance performance by David's Baby Steps, and a special Sunday sermon by Reverend William L. Randall of Greater St. Matthews Baptist Church in Hitchcock, TX. Brunch tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children ages 12 and under. To make a brunch reservation, please call 409-683-4186.

The Moody Gardens Hotel is also offering special “Gospel by the Sea” hotel packages. The packages include deluxe overnight accommodations in the Moody Gardens Hotel, two tickets to the Saturday night concert, two tickets to the Sunday Gospel Brunch, and one night of valet parking. To reserve a package, please call 888-388-8484. For more information on concert package offerings, visit www.moodygardenshotel.com.

About St. Vincent’s House

St. Vincent’s House is a non-profit social service agency providing comprehensive social services and community outreach programs for the entire family. Located on Galveston Island, St. Vincent’s House serves the disadvantaged, underserved and working poor population of the greater Galveston community with essential programs and services to enhance their mental, physical and spiritual well being. St. Vincent’s services are designed to meet the real and immediate needs for food, shelter, healthcare and childcare.

For more information about St. Vincent’s House, visit www.stvhope.org.

Quick Facts

Date: Saturday June 13, 2009

Event: Gospel by the Sea Benefit Concert featuring Yolanda Adams and James Fortune

Time: 6pm

Location: Moody Gardens Convention Center

Admission: Tickets are \$75 VIP, \$55 for Reserved, and \$30 for General Admission. Tickets can be purchased online at www.moodytickets.com or by phone at 409-683-4186. Tickets on sale beginning May 6, 2009.

Date: Sunday June 14, 2009

Event: Gospel by the Sea Brunch

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Moody Gardens Hotel- Frances Anne Moody Ballroom

Admission: \$25 for Adults, \$20 for Children 12 and under. For brunch reservations, please call 409-683-4186.

For Gospel by the Sea Hotel Packages, call 888-388-8484 or visit www.moodygardenshotel.com.