

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 7, 2008

**MCDONALD'S® FAMILY TRIBUTE ON ICE STARRING NICK LACHEY  
BRINGS TOGETHER TOP YOUNG FIGURE SKATERS FOR A NIGHT WHERE  
SKATING ROCKS L.A!**

*HOSTED BY "DANCING WITH THE STARS" CHAMPION KRISTI YAMAGUCHI*

**Los Angeles, CA** - An electric night of skating performance and music will culminate under the lights of the Galen Center on the University of Southern California Campus in Los Angeles. This one-time only event is in celebration of the performers' families, as the featured artists give a heartfelt dedication to their loved ones for the care and devotion that shaped their lives and athletic careers. This live show takes place on Friday, October 3, 2008, and will be nationally televised on NBC November 16, 2008, shortly before World Children's Day® at McDonald's, an annual global fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®) and other children's causes.

Pop star, **Nick Lachey**, previously the lead singer of boy band *98 Degrees* and TV personality, will perform live at this special Disson Skating music & skating production and will be promoted in Los Angeles by acclaimed global concert producer, Danny O'Donovan. The world class cast of skaters includes Olympic Silver medalist **Sasha Cohen**, 2008-2007 U.S. Champion **Evan Lysacek**, 2008 U.S. Champion **Mirai Nagasu**, 2006 World Champion and 2007 U.S. Champion **Kimmie Meissner**, 2008 World Champion **Jeffrey Buttle**, two-time U.S. National Pairs Champions **Rena Inoue** and **John Baldwin**, and 2008-2004 five-time U.S. Ice Dancing Champions **Tanith Belbin** and **Ben Agosto**.

Lachey's super-stardom as pop singer and TV personality began as the writer and front-man of the boy band *98 Degrees*, selling 10 million albums worldwide and charting several top-forty hits. His solo album "What's Left of Me" was certified gold and topped the Billboard 200 charts at 200. His on-screen endeavors include the TV series "Newlyweds: Nick and Jessica," with then wife, pop star Jessica Simpson, as well as directing the Cincinnati Choir that won the NBC reality competition "Clash of the Choirs." He currently hosts the ABC reality show, "High School Musical."

Lachey will lend the power and grace of his voice as these top figure skaters perform their routines with athletic prowess and skillful mastery. Included in this musical line-up are special guests **Almost Amy**, consisting of two professional dancers from the hit TV series, "*Dancing with the Stars*" **Mark Ballas** and **Derek Hough**. Ballas won the 2008 "*Dancing with the Stars*" with partner **Kristi Yamaguchi**.

Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter and actor, **Mario**, will bring a little R&B to the ice, with his popular, hip-hop inspired music. In 2002, at age 15, Mario released his debut album leading to 700,000 copies in sales. His lead single, "Just A Friend (2002)" helped propel the album to success

while setting the scene for the 2005 release of his second album, "Turning Point." The album sold more than 2 million copies and the song "Let Me Love You" is one of the highest selling ringtones to date, with 1.6 million downloads. Mario has been honored with 2005's Billboard R&B/Hip-Hop Award for Top R&B/Hip-Hop Single, a Billboard Music Award for Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Single of the Year and many more nominations from the Grammys, BET Awards, Vibe Awards, MOBO Awards and the Soul Train Music Awards. Like host Kristi Yamaguchi, Mark Ballas and Derek Hough, Mario appeared this past season on the hit TV series, "*Dancing with the Stars*."

As part of the program, members of the skating cast will also visit with children and families at a Ronald McDonald House® and help promote World Children's Day at McDonald's®, which takes place annually on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

On World Children's Day participating McDonald's restaurants across the United States will donate one dollar from the sale of select menu items to RMHC. In addition, between November 10 and 20, customers can help support the charity through the Give A Hand® in-restaurant fundraising program. When customers purchase a paper Give A Hand for one dollar, funds raised will go directly to RMHC. The colorful paper hands will be displayed in participating restaurants throughout the fundraising time period, inviting the community to show their support.

#### **About McDonald's USA**

McDonald's USA, LLC is the leading foodservice provider in the United States serving a variety of wholesome foods made from quality ingredients to millions of customers every day. More than 80 percent of McDonald's 13,700 U.S. restaurants are independently owned and operated by local franchisees. Since the inception of Ronald McDonald House Charities in 1974, McDonald's has supported the charity and its mission to improve the health and well being of children around the world. World Children's Day is McDonald's largest annual fundraiser, and an important day to call attention to the needs of children. Since it began in 2002, fundraising events for World Children's Day have raised more than \$100 million to benefit RMHC and other children's causes around the world.

**Ticket Information:** Tickets are on sale from Monday, September 8, 2008. In view of the family nature of this event, at the Galen Center at USC, ticket prices will start as low as \$25 to only \$65! Tickets will be available through the main USC Ticket Office: [www.uscticketoffice.com](http://www.uscticketoffice.com), or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and phone: (213)-740-GOSC (4672) and also from the Galen Center, 3400 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90007. General Information: phone (213)-740-0626. E-mail: [gcevents@usc.edu](mailto:gcevents@usc.edu). Galen Center Ticket office: (213)-821-4253.

For Updated Show information: <http://www.dissonskating.com>

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