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**ATLANTIC CITY'S BOARDWALK HALL RANKED AMONG THE TOP TEN
VENUES IN THE WORLD BY *VENUES TODAY* AND *BILLBOARD* MAGAZINES**

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ – Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall has received a double honor as it was recently named one of the top ten stops by leading trade publications *Venues Today* and *Billboard* for mid-year rankings in the category of mid-sized arenas with 10,001-15,000 venue capacity. Both magazines are highly respected, prominent resources for key executives, artists, and promoters in the music and entertainment sectors.

Venues Today, a source for sports and entertainment venue managers, based its rankings on concert and event grosses from October 16, 2012 through May 15, 2013. The SMG-managed Boardwalk Hall placed number six in North America and number ten in the world among their mid-year stops with a total box office gross of \$5,196,251 for the events that were held in the building during that timeframe. Some of these events include Carrie Underwood's "Blown Away" tour, Adrian Broner vs. Antonio DeMarco in the WBC Lightweight World Championship, The Who's "Quadrophenia and More" tour, AHL hockey, "Operation Hat Trick", a charity exhibition hockey for victims of Superstorm Sandy, and WWE's "Road to Wrestlemania".

Billboard, an influential publication within the music business, has ranked Boardwalk Hall number two in North America and number nine in the world based on box office scores from November 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013. The total gross for that timeframe accounts for \$6,010,587. *Billboard* has also announced the top 25 tours for the mid-year, including two Boardwalk Hall bookings, Carrie Underwood's "Blown Away" tour and The Who's "Quadrophenia and More" tour.

"We are honored that Boardwalk Hall has been recognized again as one of the top mid-sized arenas by both *Billboard* and *Venues Today*", said Greg Tesone, General Manager of Boardwalk Hall. "Boardwalk Hall has helped establish Atlantic City as an important tour stop in the United States. Clearly the numbers indicate that our market has what it takes to support high quality entertainment events that meet the interests of our diverse clientele. Our staff works hard in all areas of event services, operations, and marketing to ensure that Boardwalk Hall provides audiences with a fun and pleasant fan experience which will entice them to return for future shows. We would like to thank the artists and event promoters that we work with who regularly

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make the decision to come back and host their events in our building.”

Since 2003, Boardwalk Hall has received recognition on eight prior occasions from both *Venues Today* and *Billboard* magazines as either the top grossing mid-sized arena in North America or the world. Last year Boardwalk Hall was named the number two “Top Stop of the Decade” by *Venues Today* which was based on total box office gross from July 1, 2002 to June 31, 2012.

“Atlantic City continues to be a prominent tour stop crossing all genres of music, sports and entertainment, “ said John Palmieri, Executive Director of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority which oversees the Boardwalk Hall venue. “We have a proud tradition of delivering a world-class entertainment experience in Atlantic City, and the accolades from *Billboard* and *Venues Today* are proof positive.”

SMG operates Boardwalk Hall and the Atlantic City Convention Center on behalf of its client, the Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority, a division of the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Authority (CRDA). Boardwalk Hall was one of four SMG-managed buildings to rank in the *Venues Today* top ten stops for mid-sized arenas. The other three facilities include the Save Mart Center in Fresno, CA, the Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids, MI, and the Intrust Bank Arena in Wichita, KS. Boardwalk Hall and the Van Andel Arena also both ranked within the top ten venues on *Billboard*’s list. SMG, through its corporate entertainment division and its Atlantic City-based management team, has positioned Boardwalk Hall as a prominent venue in the sports and entertainment market. For more information, visit www.boardwalkhall.com.

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Historic Boardwalk Hall, which first opened in 1929, underwent a three year, \$90 million renovation to transform the building into a modern special events arena capable of variable seating for up to 14,770 people. Listed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks, Boardwalk Hall’s renovation produced a glimpse into the dramatic and original Roman Renaissance style, while providing a 21st century experience in terms of comfort and amenities. Upon its reopening in 2001, it has been recognized as the destination’s premier entertainment venue, known for high profile concerts, family shows, and sporting events. SMG manages Boardwalk Hall on behalf of its client, the Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority. Visit us at www.boardwalkhall.com for more information. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/boardwalkhall and follow us on Twitter @boardwalkhall. For destination information about Atlantic City, please visit www.doatlanticcity.com

Founded in 1977, SMG provides management services to more than 230 public assembly facilities including convention and exhibition centers, arenas, stadiums, theatres, performing arts centers, equestrian facilities, science centers and a variety of other venues. With facilities across the globe, SMG manages more than 14.4 million square feet of exhibition space and over 1.75 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 Reliant Park and the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. SMG also offers food and beverage operations through its concessions, catering and special events division, SAVOR, currently servicing more than 100 accounts worldwide. For more information visit www.smgworld.com

The Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority, a division of the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA), serves as the destination’s principal marketing arm, stimulating economic growth through convention, business and leisure tourism development. The Authority oversees the management of the Atlantic City Convention Center and Boardwalk Hall. The Authority is the first destination marketing organization in New Jersey to achieve prestigious Destination Marketing Accreditation by the Destination Marketing Association International. For complete Atlantic City information, visit www.doatlanticcity.com. Also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AtlanticCityNJ



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