



NEWS RELEASE

2121 GEORGE HALAS DR. CANTON, OH 44708 | PROFOOTBALLHOF.COM | @PROFOOTBALLHOF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/15/2019

BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME CLASSIC COMING TO PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME'S CAMPUS

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND EVENT

CANTON, OHIO – For more than 100 years, Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) have faced off in football games featuring the talent of their athletes, marching bands, and dance lines. Each Classic is centered around the pride, history and traditions that draws fans from across the country to this highly anticipated sporting event.

The **Black College Football Hall of Fame's (BCFHOF) first-ever Classic is coming to the Pro Football Hall of Fame's campus** over the upcoming Labor Day weekend. The **Alabama A&M University Bulldogs** of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) will take on the **Morehouse College Maroon Tigers** from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) on Sunday, Sept. 1 at 4 p.m. in Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, adjacent to the Hall of Fame Museum.

But "Classic Weekends" are more than a great football game. They are like no other football experience. While the weekend is centered around a football game featuring two HBCUs, unlike traditional college bowl games, classics take place during college football's regular season. They differ from standard regular season games in that they are often accompanied by entertaining battle of the bands, tailgate parties, social events, and concerts. It is truly an entertainment and sports extravaganza.

The Black College Football Hall of Fame Classic will include it all. The schools' **renowned marching bands will perform at halftime of the game** and a special **concert from Morris Day & The Time** will immediately follow the season opener for the two colleges.

Other exciting festivities over the course of the weekend will include a **Drumline & Dance Competition** on Saturday, Aug. 31 at noon. On the day of the game, a pre-game **Hall of Fame Tailgate Party** and **player autograph sessions** will take place on the Hall's campus. **Live**

TICKET INFO

Tickets to the Classic start at \$30 and are now available for purchase at https://mpv.tickets.com/?orgId=53799&agency=FHOF_PL_MPV&pid=8696495#/event.

Club seats are available for \$125 and include upscale food and beverage with the ticket price. Each ticket includes access to the post-game concert in Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium.

entertainment will be provided from noon to 3 p.m. including performances by the Alabama A&M and Morehouse bands. There will also be a **food court, beer garden** and **interactive sponsor booths**.

BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

The BCFHOF will have a permanent home at the Pro Football Hall of Fame to tell the story of HBCUs for future generations. Proceeds from the BCFHOF Classic will go toward the creation and operation of the BCFHOF.

TOM BENSON HALL OF FAME STADIUM

Built in amphitheater style with a large, permanent built-in stage, Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, a key component of Johnson Controls Hall of Fame Village, is an elite concert venue that ranks among the best in the nation due to its unique architecture and amenities. Named among one of "13 game-changing NFL stadiums" by Forbes, Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium is the largest venue in the Akron/Canton metropolitan area and the largest venue in Northeast Ohio outside of the Cleveland/Columbus metro areas.

The stadium is a spectacular sports and entertainment complex that holds 23,000 and features an NFL caliber press box that also includes world-class hospitality experiences in a variety of settings.

MORRIS DAY & THE TIME

Day, born in Minneapolis, has a flair for fashion. Inspired by photographs of his grandpa in zoot suits, a true fashionista was formed. Day went to school with Prince Rogers Nelson and sang in Prince's first band Grand Central. Prince grew as an artist and so did the opportunity to be around him. The Time was originally created as Prince's alter ego to be seen as the cool, street wise funk band contrasting Prince's more soulful R&B sound. After looking at several lead vocalists, Prince wanted someone with mad talent, so he cast his high school friend the funky, the fabulous Morris Day. Soon after, Morris Day and the Time were cast in Purple Rain which captured the exploding Minneapolis music scene at its peak.

Morris Day burst onto the public scene with the group's self-titled album, The Time, which included "Get It Up," "Cool," and "Girl." Soon after the world was introduced the prolific Minneapolis music marvel, the group went on to record three more albums, including What Time Is It? (Featuring the hits "777-9311," "Wild and Loose," "Walk," and "Gigolos Get Lonely Too") and Ice Cream Castle, (which included the hit "Jungle Love"). After three albums Morris Day launched his solo career, releasing three albums: The Color of Success, Daydreaming, and Guaranteed. Combined sales of Morris Day's solo work and The Time is in excess of 10 million units.

###

CONTACTS:

Pete Fierle, Chief of Staff & Senior Vice President of Communications
Pete.Fierle@ProFootballHOF.com; 330-588-3622

Rachel Gutting, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives
Rachel.Gutting@ProFootballHOF.com; 330-588-3671

ABOUT THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Located in Canton, Ohio, the birthplace of the National Football League, the Pro Football Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit institution with the Mission to Honor the Heroes of the Game, Preserve its History, Promote its Values, & Celebrate Excellence EVERYWHERE.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. AAM accreditation is national recognition for the museum's commitment to excellence and the highest professional standards of museum operation and public service.

Hundreds of thousands of fans from across the globe travel to Canton annually to experience "*The Most Inspiring Place on Earth!*" that chronicles America's most popular sport. Fans can also enjoy the Hall of Fame Store at the Hall, and online at www.profootballhof.com/store, for merchandise from all 32 NFL clubs plus the Hall of Fame. Proceeds from the Store support the Hall's Mission.

Construction on Johnson Controls Hall of Fame Village, a mixed-use development project that will include 10 main components, is under way in Canton to transform the Hall of Fame's campus.

@ProFootballHOF

