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Gary LeVox of Rascal Flatts headlines 8th Island Hopper Songwriter Fest

LEE COUNTY, Fla. (U.S.A.) – Gary LeVox, frontman for Rascal Flatts, is the headline songwriter/performer at the 8th Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, Sept. 16-25. LeVox is scheduled to perform at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, poolside at the Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina on Fort Myers Beach.

Tickets for the event are available on the Island Hopper app or at island-hopperfest.visitfortmyers.com/artist/gary-levox. Be sure to download the app to be entered for a chance to win a two-night stay at Pink Shell during the final weekend of Island Hopper, tickets to the LeVox concert and a \$200 gift card.

Fans will remember LeVox, who along with bandmates Jay DeMarcus and Joe Don Rooney, founded Rascal Flatts in 2000. The group went on to enjoy one of the most successful careers in modern country music. Infusing the genre's traditional sound with massive pop hooks, rock showmanship and faithful positivity, they scored 17 No. 1 singles and sold more than 23 million albums, making the band the most awarded country group of the last decade.

Embarking on a solo chapter, LeVox's debut single "The Distance," is one of five songs on his debut collection "One On One," which includes multiple collaborations.

The 10-day Island Hopper music festival features performances by some of the country's greatest BMI singer-songwriters. The first weekend kicks off on Captiva Island, Sept. 16-18, then moves to downtown Fort Myers, Sept. 19-22, and ends with a weekend on Fort Myers Beach, Sept. 23-25.

In addition to LeVox, BMI singer-songwriters performing this year include: Kristian Bush, two-time Grammy award winner and half of the Sugarland duo; Aaron Barker, who has written songs for George Strait, Clay Walker and Willie Nelson; and Dave Pahanish, who co-wrote the No. 1

Billboard Country music singles “Do You Believe Me Now” by Jimmy Wayne, “American Ride” by Toby Keith, and “Without You” by Keith Urban.

Most shows are free, with the exception of a few ticketed experiences, such as headliner shows. Fans will select their favorites from 70 singer-songwriters who will perform more than 100 shows.

“The intimate settings for each performance allow for interaction between the performer/songwriter and the audience, which is unique because you can meet the artist and learn the backstory of their songs,” said Tamara Pigott, executive director of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau.

Stay up to date on all the festival news, artists, schedules, venues and accommodations with the Island Hopper app or islandhopperfest.com

Island Hopper is produced by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeartMedia, and BMI, the largest music rights organization in the U.S. Visit IslandHopperFest.com. Follow the festival hashtag #islandhopperfest as well as the event's [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) feeds.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Fort Myers - Islands, Beaches and Neighborhoods include: Sanibel Island, Captiva Island, Fort Myers Beach, Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Estero, Cape Coral, Pine Island, Boca Grande & Outer islands, North Fort Myers and Lehigh Acres. For more information, go to visitfortmyers.com

**Gary LeVox photo attached*

