

# An All-Star Tribute to Aretha Franklin

By Naomi Richard | VILLAGER Entertainment Editor

**(VILLAGER NEWS)** - The Recording Academy™, AEG Ehrlich Ventures, Clive Davis, and CBS will pay tribute to the legendary career of 18-time GRAMMY® winner and 2008 MusiCares® Person of the Year honoree Aretha Franklin by presenting “Aretha! A GRAMMY Celebration For The Queen Of Soul.” Performing songs from her legendary repertoire are GRAMMY winners Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar, Alessia Cara, Kelly Clarkson, Common, Celine Dion, Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, John Legend, Patti LaBelle, and BeBe Winans as well as current GRAMMY nominees Brandi Carlile, Chloe X Halle, H.E.R., Janelle Monáe, and SZA.

Actor and filmmaker Tyler Perry will host the unforgettable night. Additional unique performances to be added.

The live concert will tape January 13 and be broadcast later in 2019 on the CBS Television Network. Follow the Villager Newspaper for the final airing date.

“Aretha Franklin’s reign as the Queen of Soul is incomparable and undisputed,” said Neil Portnow, President/CEO of the Recording Academy. “For more than six decades, her extraordinary artistic achievements coupled with her passionate dedication to her philanthropic work—which ranged from children’s and artists’ issues to civil rights activism—served as a testament to her power, majesty, and genius. These gifts positioned her as a true cultural icon, and the Recording Academy is honored to celebrate her inspirational legacy.”

“We’re approaching this show with extremely mixed feelings of sadness and joy, two qualities that over my 37 years of working with Aretha were often present,” said Ken Ehrlich, executive producer of AEG Ehrlich Ventures. “Our hope is that we will be able to share her remarkable musical and cultural accomplishments through her own words and music as well as through the performances of an amazing group of musical artists who will gather to celebrate her rich musical heritage.”

“I am thrilled to have the Recording Academy and CBS as partners in this global tribute to my very dear friend Aretha Franklin,” said Clive Davis. “Aretha was more than the Queen of Soul; she was a national treasure. This unique concert—featuring many of today’s greatest artists—will celebrate Aretha in a spectacular manner befitting her once-in-a-lifetime talent.”



**Aretha Franklin performs at ACL Live at the Moody Theatre in Austin, Texas. Photo by Naomi Richard.**

“This special will celebrate Aretha Franklin’s numerous accomplishments as an entertainment icon, singer, songwriter, pianist, actress, and civil rights activist,” said, Jack Sussman, Executive Vice President, Specials, Music and Live Events, CBS Entertainment. “Aretha had an incredible effect on humanity and music with her indomitable spirit and grace. We look forward to honoring this music legend with numerous performers who all admire and respect the Queen of Soul.”

“Aretha! A GRAMMY Celebration” is produced by AEG Ehrlich Ventures, LLC. Ehrlich and Clive Davis are executive producers, Ron Basile and Chantel Sausedo are producers, and David Wild is the writer/producer.

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**Round Rock’s Sweet Home Baptist Church to Celebrate 114 Years**  
The public is invited to the Sweet Home—The Pinnacle of Praise 114th church anniversary on Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019. The theme for the celebration is titled, “Honoring a church, witnessing for Christ, to influence the world” from Acts 1:8. The guest speaker for the 11 a.m. morning worship is Leonard R. Davis, newly retired Pastor of Galilee Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. Under the leadership of Pastor Davis, who began his years of service in 1977, his church, like Sweet Home, has grown spiritually, numerically, and financially.  
Sweet Home—The Pinnacle of Praise, under the leadership of Dr. Dante D. Wright I, is one of the largest and fastest growing black churches in Williamson County. The Round Rock congregation has been developing Christian disciples, through the word, as a powerful witness of Christ as the second black church established in the area in 1905.  
Sweet Home’s history began when 22 enthusiastic Christians joined Rev. S.W. Wormley, the first pastor. Together the group established the church from land that was donated and befitting to the “sweet” haven that securely bound the members in unity to support their spiritual, educational, social, political and cultural needs. Sweet Home Baptist Church was formed on Jan. 8, 1905.  
Sweet Home—The Pinnacle of Praise is located at 3200 Sunrise Road. Visit the web site at <http://www.shbcpinnacleofpraise.org/> or call 512-823-2888.

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Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

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