

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Seth Rogen, Aziz Ansari, Nathan Lane, Russell Peters
NBA Superstar Blake Griffin and more
added to the 34th Edition of the Just For Laughs Festival**

Montreal, June 13, 2016 – The Just For Laughs Festival, presented by Videotron in association with Loto-Québec kicks off its one-month countdown to the festival by announcing the addition of Seth Rogen, Aziz Ansari, Nathan Lane, Russell Peters and NBA superstar Blake Griffin to a lineup of 90-plus comedians.

THIS SUMMER, JUST FOR LAUGHS IS HAVING A BIG SAUSAGE PARTY!

Seth Rogen is coming back to Just For Laughs for the special screening of the much-anticipated movie ***Sausage Party***, the first ever R-rated CG animated film. One sausage (voiced by Rogen) leads a group of supermarket products on a quest to discover the truth about their existence and what really happens when they are chosen to leave the grocery store. The film features the vocal talents of a who's who of today's comedy stars: Seth Rogen, Kristen Wiig, Jonah Hill, Bill Hader, Michael Cera, James Franco, Danny McBride, Craig Robinson, Paul Rudd, Nick Kroll, David Krumholtz, Edward Norton and Salma Hayek. The film is directed by Conrad Vernon and Greg Tiernan, with a screenplay by Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg, Kyle Hunter and Ariel Shaffir, and a story by Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg and Jonah Hill. The producers are Megan Ellison, Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg and Conrad Vernon. *Sausage Party* hits theatres Aug. 12, however Montrealers will be able to catch a special screening on July 30, 8:30 pm at Imperial.

YOUR NEXT NETFLIX BINGE WILL TAKE PLACE AT JUST FOR LAUGHS

Aziz Ansari, Noël Wells, Kelvin Yu and Alan Yang are coming to Montreal this summer for a ***Master of None*** cast panel at JFL ComedyPRO. The Netflix original series *Master of None*, created by Ansari and *Parks and Recreation* writer Yang, follows the personal and professional lives of Dev (Ansari), a 30-year-old actor in New York who has trouble deciding what he wants to eat, much less the pathway for the rest of his life. Ambitious, funny, cinematic and both sweeping in scope and intensely personal, Dev's story takes him through subjects as diverse as the plight of the elderly, the immigrant experience and how to find the most delicious pasta for dinner. The *Master of None* cast panel will take place on July 30, 4:00 pm at The Hyatt Regency Grand Salon.

2 MORE INCREDIBLE VIDEOTRON GALAS PRESENTED BY AIR CANADA JUST ADDED!

The enormously talented, award-winning **Nathan Lane** is an accomplished stage, film and television performer. He is best known for his performances in *The Producers* and *The Birdcage*, both of which earned him Golden Globe nominations, and has lent his voice to animated films such as *The Lion King* and *Stuart Little*. He was last seen on FX's anthology series *American Crime Story: The People v. O.J. Simpson* and has had recurring roles on *The Good Wife* and *Modern Family*, as well as many guest appearances, receiving six Primetime Emmy nominations, two Daytime Emmy Awards and a People's Choice Award. He recently starred in the smash hit revival of Terrence McNally's *It's Only a Play* and in the critically acclaimed Robert Falls production of *The Iceman Cometh* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. He's received Tony nominations for numerous Broadway performances, such as *Guys and Dolls* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. In 2006, he received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and in 2008 was inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame. Don't miss *The Nathan Lane Showstopper Gala* on July 28, 7:00 pm at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier Place-des-Arts.

After over 250 shows in 120 cities across 25 countries, and more than 500,000 fans in attendance, over a two year span, **Russell Peters** returns to host another incredible night of comedy in Montreal this summer. Peters is known for his lightning fast improv with the audience and for his racial and cultural observations. Peters is currently in development on a number of new television and movie projects and can be heard as one of the voices on Disney's *The Jungle Book*. Recently a judge on NBC's *Last Comic Standing*, alongside Roseanne Barr and Keenan Ivory Wayans, Peters can also be seen in Jon Favreau's critically acclaimed movie, *Chef*. Listed on the Forbes List as one of the top ten Highest Earning Comics in the U.S. since 2009, Russell Peters has spent the past 25 years building a career to become one of the biggest comics in the world. He's performed six sold-out shows at Toronto's Air Canada Centre, a feat that no other comedian has achieved. After selling out two Just For Laughs galas in 2014, one of the hottest tickets in Montreal this summer will be *The Russell Peters Gala* on July 30, 9:45 pm, at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier in Place Des Arts.

YOUTUBERS GRACE HELBIG AND MAMRIE HART ARE READY TO TAKE OVER MONTREAL

YouTube sensations **Grace Helbig** and **Mamrie Hart** are coming to Just For Laughs this summer for a night of comedy. Helbig is a comedian, actress and video blogger. She's the creator and star of *It's Grace* (over 2.5 million subscribers), for which she's been awarded a Webby and is also the creator of the IAWTV and Streamy award-winning web series *DailyGrace*. Hart is known as a potty-mouthed internet comedian who creates weekly cocktails inspired by pop culture's latest train wreck celebrities and headlines.

She wrote and starred in the 2014 feature film *Camp Takota*, which beat out Oscar Best Picture nominees on iTunes “top downloaded movies chart” during the week leading up to the Academy Awards. Mamrie is currently working on her second book after the successful release of her first book last spring that was named after her channel, *You Deserve a Drink*, which landed on the *New York Times* bestseller list. These two talented ladies will host a lineup of special guests at **JFL All Access Live**, July 28 with two performances at Club Soda, 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm, presented as part of the National Bank Club Series.

IMPROV SHOWS

From the minds of improv and comedy legend **Colin Mochrie** and master hypnotist **Asad Mecci** comes the mind-blowing, jaw-dropping, side-splitting show, ***HYPROV: Improv Under Hypnosis***. Two masters of their crafts unite for a totally unique experience: improv under hypnosis. Twenty random volunteers from the audience will be hypnotized (the process of which is a show in its own right), their inhibitions evaporated and their minds no longer their own. The five best are left on stage when one of the world’s leading improvisers enters. *HYPROV: Improv Under Hypnosis* takes place July 30, 11:00 pm at 5e Salle Place des Arts, as part of the National Bank Theatre Shows.

Fellow improvers **Colin Mochrie** and **Brad Sherwood**, stars of the Emmy-nominated *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, team up again to present an evening of extraordinary improvisational comedy. Using their quick wit, the duo takes contributions from the audience to create hilarious and original scenes. Throughout the evening, the show becomes truly interactive as audience members are called to the stage to participate in the fun. Their high-profile presentations have played to corporations, universities and theatres all over the country. The Colin and Brad Show take place July 27, 7:00 pm at L’Olympia.

VARIETY ANNOUNCES THEIR “10 COMICS TO WATCH”

One of the biggest events in the comedy world each year is Variety’s unveiling of their annual “10 Comics to Watch” feature which recognizes stand-up, sketch artists and web content creators. This year’s list includes: **Vlad Caamano, Ronny Chieng, Lauren Lapkus, Lilly Singh, Granger Smith, Roy Wood Jr.** and appearing in OFF-JFL this summer, **James Adomian and Athony Atamanuik, Cameron Esposito, Jermaine Fowler and Aparna Nancherla**. Catch some of the best and brightest as they perform on July 29, 9:30 pm, at Monument-National in the Ludger-Duvernay Theatre, hosted by **Lil Rel**.

NEMR ADDED TO THE ETHNIC SHOW LINEUP!

Nemr is a Lebanese-American stand-up comedian who is credited with establishing and pioneering the stand-up comedy scene throughout the Middle East where he performs in English. He has seven full feature specials and was featured on the cover of Rolling

Stone Magazine Middle East, which called him the ‘The biggest name in Stand Up in the Middle East’. Hosting **The Ethnic Show**, after breakout English performances at last summer’s Festival, is one of Quebec’s biggest stars **Rachid Badouri**. Included in The Ethnic Show is a gathering of some of the most diverse comedians with unique backgrounds and perspectives including; Nigerian-American **Godfrey**, Greek-American **Yannis Pappas**, from the Bronx, Puerto Rican **Gina Brillon**, Jewish-American **Jessica Kirson**, and special guest and Festival favourite, Italian-American **Dom Irrera**. The Ethnic Show will take place at Club Soda and Metropolis with 19 performances from July 13-28, presented as part of the National Bank Club Series.

HOMEGROWN COMICS LINEUP ANNOUNCED!

Not only does Canada have the sexiest Prime Minister in the world, we also export some of the best comedians! Don’t miss your chance to see the next generation of Canadian comics as they strut their stuff in a showcase of the best talent hand-picked from across The Great White North, including: **Nigel Grinstead, Mike Rita, Keith Pedro, Chris Robinson, Mayce Galoni, Sophie Buddle, Ryan Dillon, Chantel Marostica, Jordan Chyzowski** and **Daniel Carin**. The 18th edition of *Homegrown Comics* presented by Sirius XM and hosted by *The Kids in the Hall’s Scott Thompson* will take place at 5e Salle in Place Des Arts on July 29 at 7:00 PM, presented as part of the National Bank Club Series.

JO KOY TO PERFORM A SOLO SHOW!

Jo Koy sells out clubs across the nation, created his own podcast, *The Koy Pond with Jo Koy*, and serves as a regular panelist on *Chelsea Lately*. He has had two Comedy Central specials: *Don’t Make Him Angry* and *Lights Out*. Jo has also appeared on *World’s Funniest Fails*, *The Joy Behar Show*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, *Last Call with Carson Daly* and *Jamie Foxx: Laffapalooza*. His infectious, explosive energy onstage, insightful jokes and family-inspired humour cross all boundaries. Don’t miss his solo show July 30, 7:00 pm at Monument-National in the Ludger-Duvernay Theatre.

GRAB A BAG OF POPCORN AND GET READY FOR SOME INCREDIBLE FILMS AT CINÉMA DU PARC

For the past 14 years, actor/comedian **Howie Mandel** has honestly and openly documented the everyday struggles of Vic Cohen, a man desperately seeking to make it in this “Business of Show,” and as a result makes all of us redefine our perceptions of tragedy and triumph and failure and success. *Committed* is a passionate, undaunted and sometimes tragically hysterical 14-year journey into the unforgiving world of entertainment and the struggle of one man with such a passion and drive that nothing, not even common sense, could get in the way of his dream of becoming a star. Don’t miss the screening on July 28, 9:15 pm with a live Q&A featuring Howie Mandel.

The most eagerly awaited British comedy film of 2016 previewing exclusively at Just For Laughs, ***The Comedian's Guide to Survival*** follows the journey of James Mullinger, a struggling stand-up comedian (played by *The Inbetweeners'* James Buckley) who is at a crossroads in his life. Despite dying on stage every night, he encounters a plethora of A-list comedians (including Mike Ward, Jimmy Carr and Gilbert Gottfried playing themselves) who set him on the path to redemption. **James Mullinger, Mark Murphy and Mike Ward** join the screening for a Q&A on July 29, 7:00 pm.

Del Close was never a household name, but any comedy enthusiast is aware of his impact. From Bill Murray to Chris Farley to Amy Poehler, many of the most famous comedians consider him their mentor. Fifteen years after Del Close's death, thousands of improv students, comedy fans, actors and successful comedians gather to celebrate the most important person in modern comedy that no one knows in ***Thank You Del: The Story of the Del Close Marathon***. On July 30, 9:15 pm.

Tout court is a selection of the best short French films from around the world! On July 29, 9:15 pm.

A selection of the best short films from around the world, which will also include *Roast Battle*, directed by Jason Reitman (*Thank You for Smoking, Juno, Up in the Air, Young Adult*), will be on display at ***Eat My Shorts*** presented by Shaftesbury/Smokebomb. On July 28, 7:00 pm.

**OFF-JFL PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH PABST BLUE RIBBON
WILL BE ELEVATED TO NEW HEIGHTS THIS YEAR**

Midnight Surprise just took it to the next level... the mystery-lineup show now will feature an all-star host. Literally. NBA superstar **Blake Griffin** (yes, that Blake Griffin) just signed on to host five nights from July 26-30 at Theatre Sainte-Catherine. Griffin is a five-time NBA All-Star, 2011 Rookie of the Year, Slam Dunk Champion and one of the most influential players in recent history. Second only to his basketball talent is his innate knack for comedic timing, which has been showcased in numerous national ad campaigns and top-tier media. In addition to the previously announced shows hosted by **Piff The Magic Dragon**, *Midnight Surprise* continues to top itself as one of the most exciting shows that OFF-JFL has to offer.

Hold On with **Eugene Mirman** is a new series from Audible that puts storytellers and comedians in the spotlight... and on the spot. The fearless and inquisitive host, Eugene Mirman (*Bob's Burgers, Flight of the Conchords*), pauses the funniest live stories to peer into the minds of performers for the story behind the story. Comedian and storytelling aficionado Mirman brings in some of his favourite fellow comics to playfully pause their true, entertaining and personal stories whenever he darn pleases. If Eugene has a question, he asks it. If he wants to put the storyteller on the spot, he goes for it. If he

wants backstory, he gets it. Previous *Hold On* show guests include Jim Gaffigan, “Weird Al” Yankovic, Mike Birbiglia and Reggie Watts. Don’t miss *Hold On* with Eugene Mirman at Theatre La Chapelle, July 27 at 10:00 pm and July 28 at 11:30 pm.

Veteran radio personality, beloved stand-up comedian and bestselling author **George Wallace** will be performing his solo show for one night only at OFF-JFL this summer. Deemed “The New Mr. Vegas,” Wallace headlined his own show at Las Vegas’s Flamingo Hotel for 10 years straight before touring North America in 2014. Don’t miss his show on July 30, 9:00 pm at Salle Claude-Léveillée in Place-des-Arts.

Comedians, actors and writers **The Lucas Bros** (Keith and Kenny Lucas) continue their rise as two of the freshest, most dynamic new faces on the comedy scene. Born in a ghetto in Newark, New Jersey, and raised in a ghetto in High Point, North Carolina, the identical twins now appear in movies and on TV, and perform stand-up comedy all over the country – even in ghettos. Keith and Kenny are the creators of the animation series *Lucas Bros. Moving Co.*, which premiered its second season in January 2015 on FXX, and Bret “The Hitman” Hart is their favourite person of all time. Don’t miss your chance to see *The Lucas Bros* from July 26-30, 7:30 pm at Newspeak.

Joe Mande wrote for three seasons on the popular NBC show *Parks and Recreation* and most recently wrote on the critically acclaimed Netflix series, *Master of None*. His other writing credits include *Kroll Show* for Comedy Central, and as an actor he has been seen on *Parks and Recreation*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* and *Modern Family*. He was the featured comedian twice on Conan and has had a half-hour special on Comedy Central. Catch him live at OFF-JFL from July 27-30, 9:00 pm at Newspeak.

Comedian, actor, writer and producer **Lil Rel Howery** is a star on the rise. He was cast in NBC’s primetime series *The Carmichael Show*, the weekly sketch comedy show *Friends of the People* airing on TruTV, and his first hour-long stand-up special *RElevant* was executive produced by superstar comedian Kevin Hart on Comedy Central. Don’t miss **Lil Rel** as he hosts *Hosts With The Most*, a multi-comic show, on July 30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm at Theatre Sainte-Catherine. *Hosts With The Most* features a different lineup each night and runs from July 26-30 with two performances each night at Theatre Sainte-Catherine. Already announced, **Cameron Esposito** has hosting duties on July 26 at 7:30 and 9:45 pm.

Presale for each newly-announced show begins tomorrow, June 14 at 10 AM at hahaha.com Public onsale starts June 16, at 10 AM at hahaha.com

SO MANY WAYS TO SAVE!

With all new benefits, including free tickets and exclusive pass holder zones onsite, the best offer of the Festival returns with the Just For Laughs Festival Passes. Grab the 2-Show Pass for only \$99.99, the 3-Show Pass for \$139.99, the 5-Show Pass for \$215 or the new VIP festival pass for \$300.

Just For Laughs' edgier sibling, OFF-JFL has combined this year with Zoofest creating the inaugural Zoofest & OFF-JFL festival! Choose any 3 shows of OFF-JFL or Zoofest as part of your ZOØFF pass for only \$49.99!

Early Bird prices are now in effect for JFL ComedyPRO industry members (you know who you are) until June 17, 2016: <http://comedypro.hahaha.com/>

**OVER 90+ ARTISTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED AND
ARE READY TO TAKE OVER MONTREAL THIS JULY**

The 34th edition of the Just For Laughs Festival will also include: **Julia Louis-Dreyfus, P.K. Subban, Sebastian Maniscalco, Carrie Fisher, David Cross, Lewis Black, Jeff Ross presents Roast Battle, Howie Mandel, Russell Peters, Oh, Hello starring Nick Kroll and John Mulaney, Sarah Silverman, Hannibal Buress, Jeremy Hotz, Brian Regan, Maria Bamford, Gad Elmaleh, Jimmy Carr, Russell Howard, Iliza Shlesinger, Kathleen Madigan, Nikki Glaser, Jay Pharoah, George Wallace, Dan Harmon, Scott Aukerman, Paul F. Tompkins, Mark Watson, Russell Kane, Tiff Stevenson, Rachid Badouri, Dom Irrera, Godfrey, Jessica Kirson, Gina Brillon, Yannis Pappas, Mike Ward, Bobby Slayton, Brad Williams, Ralphie May, Tiffany Haddish, Tony Hale, Timothy Simons, David Mandel, Alan Carr, Tom Green, Janeane Garofalo, Mary Lynn Rajsakub, Adam Hills, Tommy Johnagin, Nick Thune, Steve Rannazzisi, Scott Thompson, Kurt Metzger, Big Jay Oakerson, Barry Crimmins, Louie Anderson, Emo Philips, Piff The Magic Dragon, Beth Stelling, Michelle Wolf, Todd Barry, Aparna Nancherla, Jermaine Fowler, Mark Normand, Matt Braunger, Ari Shaffir, Andy Kindler, Anthony Atamanuik, Cameron Esposito, Daniel Sloss, Derek Seguin, Jackie Kashian, James Adomian, Josh Adam Meyers, Katherine Ryan, Finesse Mitchell, Corrine Fisher, Krystyna Hutchinson, Stuart Goldsmith, Barry Katz** and more!

The Just For Laughs Festival runs from July 13 to August 1, 2016 in Montreal, Canada.

OFF-JFL runs from July 21-30, 2016 in Montreal, Canada and is presented in collaboration with Pabst Blue Ribbon.

JFL ComedyPRO runs from July 27-30, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Montreal, Canada.

#JFLMTL

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @justforlaughs

The Just For Laughs Festival presented by Videotron in association with Loto-Quebec would like to thank their partners and sponsors: Vidéotron, Loto-Québec, Tangerine, Sleeman, KIA, Tim Hortons, Sirius XM, Le Lait, SAQ, Air Canada, V8, Appleton Estate, Eska, Lolita, Pepito Sangria, Gouvernement du Québec, Government of Canada, City of Montréal and Tourisme Montréal.

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**THE 2016 EDITION OF
THE JUST FOR LAUGHS FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY VIDEOTRON
IN ASSOCIATION WITH LOTO-QUÉBEC**

For tickets by phone, online or in person:

The Just For Laughs Box Office, 514-845-2322, hahaha.com presented by Videotron

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About the Just For Laughs Group

Founded in 1983, the Just For Laughs Group has had but one goal in its 30-plus years of operation: Make People Happy. To achieve this goal, the Just For Laughs Group has focused on four major products: Festivals in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Sydney; television production including Gags seen in over 130 countries and on over 75 airlines and stand-up specials; live shows, such as Canadian tour dates for Jerry Seinfeld, Louis C.K., Jim Gaffigan and the Just For Laughs Comedy Tour; and talent management. The Just For Laughs Montreal Comedy Festival is the world's largest and most prestigious comedy event welcoming on average 1.35 million visitors to Montreal each summer and generating approximately \$80 million for the city's economy. The Group has offices in Montreal, Paris, Los Angeles, Toronto, London and they are all connected to each other via internet.