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**“WEIRD AL” YANKOVIC ANNOUNCES RETURN OF MANDATORY WORLD TOUR
The King of Parodies Returns to Palace Theater on Sept. 18**

WATERBURY, CONN. – Following his wildly successful 2015 tour, four-time Grammy-winning artist **“Weird Al” Yankovic** has announced the continuation of his ***Mandatory World Tour*** in 2016, which includes a stop at the Waterbury Palace Theater in partnership with Premier Concerts and Manic Productions on **Sunday, Sept. 18 at 8 p.m.** Also announced was a flyaway contest where winning fans will choose an all-expense-paid trip to Los Angeles to see one of his two performances at the Hollywood Bowl or to New York City for his show at Radio City Music Hall. Complete contest info can be found at weirdal.com.

Tickets for *Mandatory World Tour's* Waterbury concert **go on sale this week** beginning with fanclub presale on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. on weirdal.com, followed by general public on sale Friday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. Tickets range in price from \$38.50 to \$89.50 and can be purchased online at palacetheaterct.org, by phone at 203-346-2000, or in person at the Box Office, 100 East Main Street in Waterbury.

VIP Ticket Packages are also available for ultimate “Weird Al” fans and include a post-show meet and greet, pre-show party invitation, souvenir tour laminate and lanyard, Special Collector’s Edition of *MAD Magazine* featuring Al as Guest Editor, and additional “Weird Al” merchandise. For complete package details visit palacetheaterct.org.

The 2015 tour took Weird Al and his long-time band to over 100 cities in the US, Canada, Europe and Australia. This year’s tour (beginning Jun. 3) will see Yankovic bringing his high-energy comedy rock show to an additional 76 cities across North America.

According to Al, “I’ve decided to do the Mandatory World Tour for one more year, after learning that *some* people didn’t make it out to the show this last time around. Apparently, they don’t know the meaning of the word ‘mandatory!’”

The tour follows Yankovic’s Grammy-winning *Mandatory Fun*, which was the first comedy album in over fifty years to hit #1 on the *Billboard* charts and the first comedy album in history to debut at the top spot.

In addition to this year’s tour, below are a few other recently-announced Yankovic projects:

- Co-host and bandleader for the fifth season of Comedy Bang! Bang! on IFC, to begin airing this spring
- Voice of the title character in Disney XD’s new animated fall series Milo Murphy’s Law (from the creators of Phineas and Ferb)

- Executive Producer of a TV show based on his best-selling children's books (being developed with the Jim Henson Company)
- Star and creator of an on-air promotional campaign for SundanceTV (now airing)
- A series of Weird Al retro-clothed action figures from NECA, to be released over the next two years beginning this spring
- Recent appearances on the ABC hit series *Galavant* (as a singing monk) and *The Goldbergs* (as the '80s version of himself), as well as numerous voice-over roles including spots on *Gravity Falls*, *Wander Over Yonder*, *Adventure Time*, and the DC animated feature *Batman vs. Robin*
- Live performances on *George Fest: A Night to Celebrate the Music of George Harrison* (to be released in all formats on Feb. 26)
- A career-spanning box set from Legacy Recordings, featuring all 14 Weird Al studio albums digitally remastered in all formats

"Weird Al" Yankovic is the biggest-selling comedy recording artist in history, earning four Grammys and fifteen career nominations. He is best known for his hilariously irreverent parodies of hit songs by the biggest stars in the musical universe over the past three decades, including "Eat It," "Like A Surgeon," "Smells Like Nirvana," "Amish Paradise," "White & Nerdy," and "Tacky." In 2015, Yankovic released his fourteenth studio album, the Grammy Award-winning Best Comedy Album *Mandatory Fun* making history as the first comedy album to debut at #1 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart and the first time a comedy album has reached the top of the chart in over 50 years. The single "Word Crimes" debuted in the Billboard Top 40, making Al one of only three people to have had Top 40 singles in each of the last four decades (the other two are Michael Jackson and Madonna).

Yankovic has found success in multiple entertainment formats including the film world with his cult classic *UHF*, his CBS TV series *The Weird Al Show*, online with The Nerdist Channel with his faux celebrity interview web series *Face 2 Face with "Weird Al" Yankovic*, and the publishing world with *Weird Al: The Book* (an illustrated hardcover on Al's life and career) and his children's books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *When I Grow Up*. Weird Al has performed more than 1500 dates over the course of his career and continues to direct videos and be an innovator in the entertainment community.

For more information, visit www.weirdal.com or www.palacetheaterct.org.

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About the Palace Theater

The Palace's primary purpose is to revitalize the Greater Waterbury community through the presentation of the performing arts and educational initiatives in collaboration with area cultural and educational institutions. Its mission is to preserve and operate the historic Palace Theater as a performing arts center and community gathering place that provides a focal point of cultural activity and educational outreach for diverse audiences. For more information, visit: www.palacetheaterct.org.

The Palace Theater gratefully acknowledges support by Comcast, Crystal Rock, Webster Bank, Bank of America, City of Waterbury, CT DECD Office of Tourism, ION Bank, Republican-American, and WATR Radio.