

PANDORA® NBC SKATING SERIES READY TO KICK OFF 2011-12 SERIES

NBC TO BROADCAST EIGHT SHOWS NATIONALLY

Cast members to include Olympic champions **Brian Boitano**, **Sarah Hughes**, **Iliia Kulik** and **Ekaterina Gordeeva**; entertainers include **Aretha Franklin** and **Mannheim Steamroller**

September 20, 2011 – Disson Skating, the leading producer of televised figure skating shows in the United States, is preparing for the 2011-12 Pandora NBC Skating Series, which features some of the world's best figure skaters in combination with exciting musical performances.

Disson Skating, which operates in a partnership with Philadelphia-based sports and entertainment firm Comcast-Spectacor, produces the shows. NBC will broadcast all of the shows nationally, and the Ovation Network will rebroadcast all of the shows as well.

The first show in the series to be taped in front of a live audience will be *"Fashion on Ice,"* featuring 2002 Olympic champion **Sarah Hughes**, World ice dancing champions (first in U.S. history) **Meryl Davis** and **Charlie White** and special guest artist the Queen of Soul **Aretha Franklin**. The skaters' costumes will be specially designed by **Betsey Johnson** and **J. Mendel**. The live show will take place on Saturday, September 24 at the Sears Centre Arena in Hoffman Estates, Ill., at 7:00 p.m. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, November 13 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

The second show in the series is *"Hilton HHonors and Progressive present RAIN – A Tribute to the Beatles on Ice."* Headlining the cast are 1988 Olympic champions **Brian Boitano** and **Sarah Hughes** with the original Broadway cast of *"RAIN – A Tribute to the Beatles"* performing live at Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City, SD, on Saturday, October 15, at 7:30 p.m. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, November 6, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. EST.)

The *"Progressive Skating & Gymnastics Spectacular"* is next in the filming line-up, bringing together three-time World champion and two-time Olympic silver medalist **Elvis Stojko**, 2010 Olympic bronze medalist **Joannie Rochette**, and three of the world's best gymnasts: 2008 Olympic all-around champion **Nastia Liukin**, 2008 Olympic silver medalist and two-time U.S. all-around champion **Jonathon Horton** and 2011 U.S. all-around champion **Danell Leyva**. The best of both Olympic Games come together with some of today's newest singing sensations, including **Cody Simpson**, **Greyson Chance**, **Ariana Grande** and **Shane Harper** at the i Wireless Center in Moline, Ill., on Saturday, October 29, at 7:00 p.m. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, January 8, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

Fourth up is *"Pandora Unforgettable Holiday Moments on Ice."* The show will be led by **Brian Boitano** and two-time Olympic champion **Ekaterina Gordeeva**. **Mannheim Steamroller** and **David Archuleta** will perform live. The show will be taped on Saturday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. at Grand Canyon University Arena in Phoenix, AZ. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, November 27, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

"Musselman's Apple Sauce presents Brian Boitano Skating Spectacular" is the fifth show, led by **Brian Boitano** and with live performances from **Chicago** where the **Notre Dame Marching Band** will join them on a special selection of songs. The live show will be on Sunday, November 20, at the new Compton Family Ice Arena at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN, at 5:00 p.m. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, December 18, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. EST.)

The next show is *"Caesars Tribute II – A Salute to the Ladies of the Ice"* featuring Olympic champions **Tara Lipinski**, **Sarah Hughes** and **Shizuka Arakawa**. The show will be taped live on Saturday, December 3, at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, NJ. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, January 1, 2012, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

Seventh up will be *"Improv-Ice."* The show will feature reigning U.S. champions **Ryan Bradley** and **Alissa Czisny**, with live performance by **Styx**. The live show will be taped on Thursday, December 15, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in Greenville, SC, at the BI-LO Center. (NBC will broadcast the show on Sunday, January 15, 2012, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

The final show to be taped in the series is *"Pandora Unforgettable Moments of Love on Ice"* featuring Olympic champions **Iliia Kulik** and **Ekaterina Gordeeva** and current World champion **Miki Ando** in this show starring Grammy Award winning artists **Kenny G** and **Gladys Knight**. The live show will take place at the ShoWare Center in Kent, WA, on Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. (NBC will broadcast the show on Saturday, February 4, 2012, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST.)

Pandora NBC Skating Series Live Shows

LIVE SHOW DATE	EVENT	VENUE (CITY)
Saturday, Sept. 24	Fashion on Ice	Sears Centre (Chicago)
Saturday, Oct. 15	Hilton HHonors and Progressive present RAIN – A Tribute to the Beatles on Ice	Rushmore Plaza Civic Center (Rapid City, S.D.)
Saturday, Oct. 29	Progressive Skating & Gymnastics Spectacular	i wireless Center (Moline, Ill.)
Saturday, Nov. 12	Pandora Unforgettable Holiday Moments on Ice	Grand Canyon University (Phoenix)
Sunday, Nov. 20	Musselman's Apple Sauce presents Brian Boitano Skating Spectacular	University of Notre Dame (South Bend, Ind.)
Saturday, Dec. 3	Caesar's Tribute II – A Salute to the Ladies of the Ice	Boardwalk Hall (Atlantic City, N.J.)
Thursday, Dec. 15	Improv-Ice	BI-LO Center (Greenville, S.C.)
Thursday, Jan. 26	Pandora Unforgettable Moments of Love on Ice	ShoWare Center (Seattle)

Pandora NBC Skating Series

(check local listings)

AIR DATE	EVENT	TIME (ET)
Sunday, Nov. 6	Hilton HHonors and Progressive present RAIN – A Tribute to the Beatles on Ice	416 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 13	Fashion on Ice	416 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 27	Pandora UnforgettableHolidayMoments on Ice	416 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 18	Musselman's Apple Sauce presents Brian Boitano Skating Spectacular	214 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 1	Caesar's Tribute II – A Salute to the Ladies of the Ice	416 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 8	Progressive Skating & Gymnastics Spectacular	416 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 15	Improv-Ice	416 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4	Pandora Unforgettable Moments of Love on Ice	416 p.m.

Information about each show can be found at www.dissonskating.com.

Follow the Pandora NBC Skating Series on Twitter at @DissonSkating and Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Disson-Skating/14961882236.

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