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**STAR 94.1**  
**(WXEZ-FM)**

# Press Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 17, 2009**

## **Gospel Superstars Come to Hampton Roads for Star 94.1's Annual Outdoor Gospel Music Festival**

**VIRGINIA BEACH, VA** – Star 94.1 (WXEZ-FM) launches their annual outdoor gospel music festival, Picnic at the Pavilion, on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at the nTelos Wireless Pavilion in Portsmouth. Headlining this year's event will be Integrity recording artist Israel Houghton of Israel and New Breed along with Verity recording artist Hezekiah Walker.

"This year's lineup is especially incredible. Seven of the artists performing currently have top charting records on the national gospel play list", says Dale Murray, Program Director at Star 94.1. "We're blessed to have this caliber of artists performing for us this year."

In January 2008, Israel Houghton headlined the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Grammy Awards' gospel segment with fellow nominees Aretha Franklin, Mary J. Blige and the Clark Sisters. He took home his second Grammy that night to add to his accolades including Doves, a Stellar and Soul Train Award. Houghton's music crosses all boundaries, cultural, generational and denominational. Houghton maintains his day job as the worship leader at Lakewood Church in Austin, TX, pastored by best-selling author Joel Osteen.

Hezekiah Walker, the "Pastor of Hip-Hop" does not quite fit the mold for preachers or gospel artists. Walker seems as comfortable preaching to the drug dealer on the tough, urban streets of Brooklyn as he is in welcoming former First Lady Hilary Rodham-Clinton to his church.

Also appearing at this year's event will be Maurette Brown-Clark, The Williams Brothers, Luther Barnes and James Fortune & FIYA. Other artists performing include: Paul Porter, Alvin Darling, Kevin LaVar, Ted Wynn, Kathy Taylor & FAVOR, Brian Courtney Wilson, GI (God's Image), The Brown Boyz and Hampton Roads very own – The Virginia Aires.

Tickets for this event are \$15 plus service charge or \$45 for a 4-pack of tickets and are available now at the nTelos Pavilion Box Office, all Ticketmaster locations, or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

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