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'The Music of ABBA' at Freedom Fire

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'THE MUSIC OF ABBA' AT FREEDOM FIRE

LOGAN – The glamour and gold of the '70s are back for this year's Independence Day celebration in Logan that features "The Music of ABBA" performed by Arrival from Sweden at Romney Stadium on July 3 at Utah State University. The act is a part of Freedom Fire, northern Utah's annual holiday presentation.

ABBA was recently honored with the opening of ABBA the Museum in Stockholm. The museum displays band equipment, including many costumes worn by the band, a star-shaped guitar, gold records and the helicopter used on the cover of the album "Arrival." Visitors are able to join the band in a computer simulation concert and interactive displays.

Formed in 1971, ABBA left behind a music legacy that gave birth to the award-winning Broadway hit "Mamma Mia! The Musical" which, in turn, led to the film starring Academy Award-winning actors Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan. The band sold more than 370 million records and is one of the top-selling bands of all time.

"This is an exciting star-spangled event with the music of ABBA performed by Arrival from Sweden," said Russ Akina, parks and recreation director for Logan city.

USU's Freedom Fire team is equally enthusiastic.

"Arrival from Sweden is the finest ABBA act in the world today and this Freedom Fire show will be so delightful it simply should not be missed,"

said Michael Huff, Freedom Fire producer.

According to its promotional material, since 1995, Arrival from Sweden has toured more than 50 nations and appeared on TV and radio around the world. And, the group was given an unreleased song from ABBA to perform and has exclusive permission to copy the original costumes.

“The Music of ABBA is a high-energy, fun show for the entire family,” said James Bankhead, music department head in the Caine College of the Arts and producer of Freedom Fire. “Everyone will be singing along in the audience to the many well-known number one hits.”

Freedom Fire is a collaboration between the City of Logan and USU’s Caine College of the Arts.

The Caine College of the Arts seeks to make the arts more visible, innovative and integrated into the intellectual and cultural life of the communities served. By partnering with Logan City for the annual Independence Day celebration, the college hopes to showcase the quality and talent of its students, faculty and staff while entertaining local residents and visitors.

Tickets for Freedom Fire are on sale now and start at \$10. Groups of six or more will receive 15 percent off their tickets if purchased together. Gates open July 3 at 6 p.m., the pre-show begins at 7 p.m. and The Music of ABBA is at 8 p.m. followed by fireworks. For more information or tickets visit the CCA Box Office, open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., in room 139-B of the Chase Fine Arts Center, call 435-797-8022 or go online to arts.usu.edu.

