



**PAUL RODGERS AND THE FENDER® CENTER
ANNOUNCE "ROCK PACK™" MUSIC MENTORING PROGRAM**

PARTNERSHIP IS FIRST OF ITS KIND FOR THE "KID'S ROCK FREE®" MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS INCLUDE BRIAN MAY (QUEEN), SAM MOORE (SAM & DAVE), RYAN HOYLE (COLLECTIVE SOUL), JANE MANGINI (TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA) AND TONY FRANKLIN (THE FIRM), DAVID GILMOUR AND KATE BUSH)

CORONA, Calif. (March 13, 2008) – Paul Rodgers, legendary singer and songwriter of Queen, The Firm, Bad Company and Free, has established "Rodgers Rock Pack™", the first mentoring program for the Fender Center's "Kids Rock Free®" Music Education Program in Corona, California.

Celebrating his 40th year as a recording artist, Rodgers and his wife Cynthia collaborated on the concept and have confirmed Brian May (guitarist Queen), Ryan Hoyle (drummer Collective Soul), Sam Moore (singer Sam & Dave) whose hits include "Soul Man", "Hold on I'm Coming", Jane Mangini (keyboardist Trans Siberian Orchestra) and Tony Franklin (Bassist The Firm, David Gilmour and Kate Bush) will be the first volunteer musicians for "Rodgers Rock Pack™".

As part of the "Rock Pack™" music mentoring program, some of the recording artists will visit the Fender Center and lead student workshops. Students will study the music of these extraordinary diverse musicians, learn several songs and via the internet, phone or in-person perform for the musicians themselves, followed by a question/answer session.

"It is absolutely fantastic that children have an affordable place to study all types of music from rock to classical. Without music in my life as a kid I may have taken a wrong turn," said Rodgers. "My heartfelt thanks go out to Brian, Sam, Ryan, Tony and Jane for graciously volunteering their time and musicianship. I know that the students are going to be inspired and inspiring."

Since 2004 Rodgers has supported the Fender Center "Kids Rock Free® Program," recently raising over \$40,000 during a Fender Center VIP reception unveiling an exhibit honoring his 40th anniversary.

To visit The Fender Center online www.fendercenter.org

ABOUT THE FENDER CENTER/MUSEUM:

The Fender Center for Music Education is a non-profit center dedicated to the music education of children. The 33,000-square-foot building is located at 365 N. Main Street, in Corona, Calif. Run by the Fender Museum of Music and the Arts Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 corporation, the board is made up of civic leaders, elected officials, and business leaders from the Riverside County and Orange Country regions. The main focus of the Center is to provide music education to children at a no or low cost. Music education has been drastically reduced due to money constraints in the public education system. The Fender Center endeavors to bridge that gap by providing an innovative and caring environment for children to explore the world of music performance. Numerous studies have shown that children, who incorporate music into their education, perform better in math and science by a staggering 30 percent. Additionally, children attain a higher degree of personal confidence and a greater sense of accomplishment compared to non-music students.

The Fender Center conducts events throughout the year to bring musical experiences to the general public and raise funds to continue the important work of music education. Contained within the Center, the FM Studio, professionally equipped and staffed, records the kids' performances. FM Studio is available for commercial use and audio recording. Additional information can be obtained at www.fendermuseum.com.

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