

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Mississippi State Fairgrounds to Host Comedy Legend Martin Lawrence August 9

**STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss.** – The Mississippi State Fairgrounds is hosting comedy legend Martin Lawrence during his "Y'all Know What It Is!" national arena tour Friday, August 9, 2024, inside the Mississippi Coliseum. The tour is set to launch soon after the June 7 release of the highly anticipated *Bad Boys: Ride or Die* feature film, co-starring Will Smith.

General admission tickets will go on sale beginning Friday, May 17, at 10:00 a.m. To purchase tickets, visit <a href="www.martinlawrenceontour.com">www.martinlawrenceontour.com</a>. View the tour announcement video here: <a href="Martin Lawrence Y'all">Martin Lawrence Y'all</a> Know What It Is! Tour on Vimeo.

"Y'all Know What It Is!" is an all-new stand-up show and fresh one hour set where Martin brings the real talk and finds the funny in everything from family to culture as only he can. Special guests have been personally hand-picked by the comedy maestro and are some of the hottest comedians on the mic, including B. Simone and Benji Brown, who will open for Lawrence August 9.

"Comedy gives me that instant gratification," Lawrence says. "Seeing the fans up close and in person, making people laugh, doing what I love most, this is what it's all about for me. But hey...y'all know what it is!"

Lawrence, hailed by fans around the world as one of the greatest comics of all time, launched his comedy career in New York City at the Improv Comedy Club. His breakthrough film role came courtesy of Spike Lee in the classic *Do The Right Thing!* Other film roles followed including *House Party* and *Boomerang*. He soon captured the attention of mega producer Russell Simmons who tapped Lawrence to host the groundbreaking HBO series *Def Comedy Jam*. In 1992, Lawrence landed his own hit series *Martin*. The ratings juggernaut single-handedly elevated FOX to a major contender against network television stations. Following the finale of his self-titled comedy series, Lawrence went on to star in a string of top grossing films including *Life*, *Big Momma's House* and the *Bad Boys* franchise.



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