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## **Ohio Leaders, Rock Hall Inductees Kick off Rock Hall Induction Week**

*Governor proclaims the week of March 28 – April 4, 2009 “Rock and Roll Week” in Ohio*

**CLEVELAND, Ohio** (March 27, 2009) – During a news conference in Cleveland today, leaders from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, City of Cleveland, Positively Cleveland and the Ohio Tourism Division joined together to officially kick off a first-ever weeklong celebration of public events leading up to the Rock Hall Induction Ceremony on April 4.

The Governor has proclaimed the week of March 28-April 4, 2009, as “Rock and Roll Week” in Ohio, and the proclamation was presented today by Peggy Zone Fisher on behalf of Governor Strickland and Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher. The proclamation was presented to Terry Stewart, President and CEO of the Rock Hall, and native Ohio artists and Hall of Fame Inductees, Bootsy Collins (Parliament-Funkadelic) and Walter Williams (the O’Jays).

“It is truly exciting to have the Rock Hall Induction Ceremonies back home in Ohio where the term rock ‘n’ roll was coined and the first major rock concert was held,” said Lieutenant Governor Fisher. “Everyone at the Rock Hall and in Cleveland has outdone themselves by creating an unprecedented series of events for Ohioans and visitors alike to experience, so please come and join us for this one-of-a-kind music celebration in April.”

Nine musicians will be inducted into the Hall of Fame, including Ohio’s own Bobby Womack. The 2009 Induction marks the first time the ceremony has been held in Ohio since 1997.

For the first time in the history of the Rock Hall inductions, there will be a weeklong series of public events and concerts that lead up to the actual Rock Hall Induction Ceremony. Some event highlights include:

- The Moondog Coronation Ball at Quicken Loans Arena (March 28)
- The opening of the first-ever Bruce Springsteen exhibit at the Rock Hall (April 1)
- A free, public concert at Cleveland State University’s Wolstein Center featuring The O’Jays, Dave Mason, Whodini and Rob Base (April 2)
- Free admission to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum (April 4)

With the return of the Rock Hall Induction Ceremonies to Cleveland this year, the Ohio Tourism Division will be promoting Ohio’s musical heritage throughout the summer featuring such unique sites as: Chrissie Hynde’s VegiTerranean restaurant (Akron), Bootsy’s restaurant (Cincinnati), the newly restored Lincoln Theatre (Columbus), Fur Peace Ranch (Pomeroy) and more. For additional information on Ohio’s great musical getaways, please visit [DiscoverOhio.com](http://DiscoverOhio.com) or call 1-800-BUCKEYE.

### **About the Ohio Tourism Division**

The Ohio Tourism Division is the premier source of information for travelers and media about Ohio’s vibrant tourism experiences, attractions, and economy. Division marketing programs contributed to an estimated \$38 billion in visitor sales in 2007 and 454,000 jobs sustained by visitors to the state. A part of the Ohio Department of Development, the Division’s mission is to promote and celebrate Ohio’s unique travel opportunities and market the state’s outstanding quality of life.

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