



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 11, 2019

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Wilmer Valderrama, Paula Poundstone, Brantley Gilbert to Headline ‘Backstage at the USO’

USO to host public care package event at The Wharf in Washington, D.C., and Bob Hope’s daughter Linda Hope to present Hollywood icon Ann-Margret with first-ever Bob Hope Legacy Award

WHAT: “Backstage at the USO” will begin with a takeover of The Wharf with a public-facing care package event, entertainment, and dine and donate opportunities at surrounding retailers. Additionally, during the care package event, USO partner Southern New Hampshire University will announce the winner of a full tuition scholarship to a deserving service member, veteran, or military spouse. In the evening, the USO will host a variety show at The Anthem for more than 1,000 service members and military leadership. The show will be hosted by actor, activist and producer Wilmer Valderrama and include performances by comedian Paula Poundstone and country superstar Brantley Gilbert. Additionally, actress, Hollywood icon and USO tour veteran Ann-Margret will be presented with the first-ever Bob Hope Legacy Award for her many contributions to the USO and our service men and women.

WHEN: Thursday, November 14, 2019

- 3:45 PM Press Arrival at Transit Pier
- 4:00–5:00 p.m. – Public Care Package Event
- 5:00–6:00 p.m. – Media Check-in, Walk-Through, Interviews with Talent
- 6:00 p.m. – Doors Open and USO Experiential Walk-Through
- 7:30 p.m. – Variety Show Begins

WHO: Actor **Wilmer Valderrama**
Comedian **Paula Poundstone**
Country Superstar **Brantley Gilbert**
Actress **Ann-Margret**
Host of Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta, **Monte Durham**
Combate Americas Superstar and UFC Hall of Famer, **Tito Ortiz**
Combate Americas Announcer and UFC Superstar, **Julianna "The Venezuelan Vixen" Peña**
Performers, **USO Show Troupe**
NBA, **Washington Wizard Dancers**
DC Personality, **Tommy McFly**
36th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, **General George W. Casey (ret.)**
Senior Military Leadership

WHERE: The Anthem
901 Wharf St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

WHY: “Backstage at the USO” will offer the general public a unique opportunity to support our service members through their participation in a care package event, to meet USO staff and to gain a better understanding of the USO’s mission to strengthen our military and their families throughout the year. The event will bring together military supporters as a *Force Behind the Forces*® to honor and celebrate our Armed Forces.

Note: Media interested in covering this event must RSVP to USO media consultant Karen Hart at karenjhart@gmail.com or 202-492-6492 no later than Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

About the USO:

The USO strengthens America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation. At hundreds of locations worldwide, we are united in our commitment to connect our service members and their families through countless acts of caring, comfort and support. The USO is a private, nonprofit organization, not a government agency. Our programs, services and entertainment tours are made possible by the American people, support of our corporate partners and the dedication of our volunteers and staff. To join us in this important mission and learn more about the USO, please visit uso.org.

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