



*Music · Education · Inspiration*

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

STATEMENT ON WORLD-PREMIERE GALA POSTPONEMENT:

As we all know, the increasing spread of corona virus poses a public safety risk in places where groups gather. In response to that threat, Universal Orlando Resort announced late in the evening yesterday (Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020) its intention to close its local theme parks on Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> until the end of the month of March, at least. The Loews Portofino Bay Hotel site of our proposed 2020 Mable Butler Gala is located within Universal Orlando Resort.

Because the health and safety of everyone planning to attend the Gala is our top priority, **Project GRADY-RAYAM, The “Negro Spiritual” Scholarship Foundation, and the Mable Butler Brotherhood are announcing the postponement of our 2020 Comm. Mable Butler World-Premiere Gala previously scheduled to take place on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2020.** It is the only reasonable and responsible action to take at this moment. While waiting out the closure, we will collaborate with our partners at the Portofino Bay property to secure a new date that works best for all concerned. Please stay tuned with us to learn when a new date for the Gala event has been scheduled. Thank you for understanding.

In addition we ask that you visit the website of The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to learn what safety measures you can take to safeguard your personal health and sense of well-being, and contribute to a climate of enhanced public safety during the national emergency this pandemic represents:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/index.html>.

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