

PRESS RELEASE



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Jordan Smith **Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 7 pm**

(Morristown) – Winner of NBC’s *The Voice* season 9 Jordan Smith comes to Mayo Performing Arts Center on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$29 - \$59.

Jordan Smith showed the world his musical gift in 2015 when he became the “Best-selling artist in the history of *The Voice*” and the winner of Season 9. Now, he shares his message through the songs on his debut album for Republic Records/LightWorkers Records—*Something Beautiful*, which was released in July 2016.

“It’s extremely important for me to let everyone know it’s OK to be different,” he affirms. “I feel like it’s taken a long time for me to love different parts of myself. The world is hurting and searching, because we think there are flawed parts of who we are. It’s important to accept yourself and have confidence, and then you can love others.”

Jordan’s honesty made history. Not only did he cement himself as *The Voice*’s biggest seller, moving 1.5 million singles in 6 months, but he launched 8 songs to the Top 10 of iTunes— the first artist from any season to hit the iTunes Top 10 every single week of the Live Rounds. He also became “one of two *The Voice* artists to notch three #1s during the show’s season.” Meanwhile, he’s “the first act to own both the #1 and #2 titles concurrently on Billboard’s Hot Christian Songs Chart.” The singer and performer has certainly come a long way from his native Harlan, Kentucky.

In a “close knit town where everyone knows everyone,” Jordan found himself surrounded by music at home. He constantly sang with his family, whether harmonizing in the car with his mom or singing in the church choir. At the same time, he fell in love with the likes of gospel singer Shirley Caesar, pop songstress Sara Bareilles, the legendary Whitney Houston, and more. This diversity would inform his own sound and style.

In high school, Jordan’s music teacher noticed his talent and encouraged him with one-on-one training and a place to practice. After graduation, he attended college, pursuing a major in Music Business. In 2014, he decided to audition for *The Voice* following years of fandom.

"I've been a fan since season one," he goes on. "So when auditions came near my school, I had to try out. We signed up the day before and drove all night to Nashville. I actually got a call back, but when I did the private audition, I never heard anything. I was a bit disappointed, but inside I thought I was meant to be a part of it. It just wasn't the right time."

The right time serendipitously came a year later when a talent scout reached out. Jordan made it to the show, joined Adam Levine's team, and eventually emerged as the 2015 victor. Following the season's conclusion, he headed right to the studio with legendary Grammy Award®-winning producer David Foster [Céline Dion, Michael Bublé, Josh Groban], Academy Award®-nominee and songwriter extraordinaire Stephan Moccio [The Weeknd, Céline Dion], and Grammy Award®-winning artist and writer Kirk Franklin [Gladys Knight, John Tesh] in order to begin work on Something Beautiful.

Jordan's robust delivery breathes a new kind of soul into timeless classics such as "Over The Rainbow" and "Amazing Grace" as well as Maroon 5's "Love Somebody," Florence + the Machine's "Dog Days Are Over," and "Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful." It's the original material where both the vision and voice shine the most.

"The medium is music, but the message is the most important thing to me," Jordan leaves off. "I want this record to inspire people. Some of these songs are about love, some are about strength, and some are about personal experiences. Music is a very powerful tool. I'm thankful and blessed to use it in order to spread hope with Something Beautiful."

For more information, please visit: <http://www.jordansmithofficial.com/>

Mayo Performing Arts Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, presents a wide range of programs that entertain, enrich, and educate the diverse population of the region and enhance the economic vitality of Northern New Jersey. The 2016-2017 season is made possible, in part, by a grant the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as support received from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, F.M. Kirby Foundation and numerous corporations, foundations and individuals. The Mayo Performing Arts Center has been designated a Major Presenting Organization by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. Mayo Performing Arts Center has been named 2016 Outstanding Historic Theatre by the League of Historic American Theatres.

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