

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 3, 2024



**CONTACTS:**

Ellen McDonald  
Publicist, Mershon & McDonald, LLC  
ellen@mershonandmcdonald.com  
816-213-4355

Rachel Bliss  
Director of Marketing, Starlight  
rachel.bliss@kcstarlight.com  
816-997-1151

Kevin Memolo  
Director of Communications, Levy  
kmemolo@levyrestaurants.com  
312-335-4741

## **Starlight Partners with Hospitality Leader Levy to Enhance Guest Experience**



*The partnership will focus on new food and beverage options, expanded operations, and the first-ever grab-and-go market to operate in a performing arts venue.*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Starlight has partnered with Levy, a world-class hospitality company, to elevate hospitality at the oldest, continually operating, professional theater in Kansas City. This new partnership will help upgrade to the guest experience at Starlight for the more than 300,000 annual visitors experiencing Broadway performances, concert events, community programs, and more.

Levy, the market leader in creating hospitality experiences at cultural events, world-class restaurants, and sports, will bring Starlight a fresh approach to on-site dining and concessions operations with a focus on quality, convenience, diverse options, and one-of-a-kind items.

Guests can expect new offerings at concession stands, elevated food and beverage presentations, new dining stations in Starlight’s Applause Club, and themed drinks inspired by on-stage performances. Most notably, a new walk-out market concept will offer grab-and-go items from beverages, snacks, and hot food located under Starlight’s North Pavilion. Starlight is the first nonprofit outdoor performing arts venue in the country to offer this type of convenient hospitality option to guests.

“Selecting Levy as Starlight’s partner was the positive result of a year-long selection process that incorporated the valuable feedback received from guests of Starlight,” said Lindsey Rood-

*MORE*

Clifford, President + C.E.O. of Starlight. “We are excited to partner with Levy to take our food and beverage options to the next level with a team that is dedicated to serving our visitors with a deep understanding of the complexities of a large-scale venue.”

Levy recognizes the great power that food and beverage serves in bringing people together. Starlight’s vision is to be the home for accessible live arts experience for generations, and together, this partnership will foster opportunities to elevate the tradition of gathering for all ages - a unique experience at Starlight Theatre.

“Starlight is a pillar of the performing arts community in Kansas City, and we’re excited to provide guests with an incredible experience every time they visit the theater,” said Levy C.E.O. Andy Lansing. “The food, hospitality, and innovative market will take the experience to another level for both performers and audiences.”

Levy also operates food, beverage and hospitality for the Kansas City Zoo & Aquarium, T-Mobile Center, and Arrowhead Stadium. The local team will leverage Levy’s expertise from leading hospitality at some of the premiere cultural destinations in the country such as The Music Center in Los Angeles, The Art Institute of Chicago, as well as major events like the Super Bowl, Grammy Awards, US Open Tennis Tournament, Kentucky Derby, Coachella, and more.

### **About Starlight**

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts organization in Kansas City, Missouri, and connects our community through live arts experiences that entertain, inspire, and engage audiences of all ages. Offering diverse programming year-round, Starlight presents Broadway musicals, concert events, and extensive community engagement programming, including classes, scholarships, and one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation. Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, the historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country with almost 8,000 seats. Follow Starlight on social media @kcstarlight and visit [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com) for more information. Starlight is supported in part by the City of Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

### **About Levy**

The disruptor in defining hospitality at the most-recognized cultural, entertainment, and sports destinations, Levy is recognized as the market leader and most critically acclaimed hospitality company in its industry. With restaurant roots, Levy has created many of the country’s defining dining experiences, from Michelin Star fine dining to waterfront social gathering spots, and elevated casual neighborhood restaurants. Twice named one of the 10 most innovative companies in sports by Fast Company magazine and one of the top three Best Employers for Diversity in America by Forbes, Levy’s diverse portfolio includes iconic cultural destinations and music venues, award-winning restaurants, major sports and entertainment venues, and convention centers; as well as the Super Bowl, Grammy Awards, US Open Tennis Tournament, Kentucky Derby, and NHL, MLB, NBA, NFL, and MLS All-Star Games. For more, visit [www.levyrestaurants.com](http://www.levyrestaurants.com) or follow Levy on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

###