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ENTERTAINMENT

ROCK THE GREEN

Climate Rally to bring out stars, activists

By Robert Fulton

Special to the Washington Examiner

The likes of Sting, John Legend, the Roots, Bob Weir and Joss Stone will take to the National Mall on Sunday as featured music entertainment for the Climate Rally. An assortment of speakers also will be at the free event, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

"The performers and speakers are proven environmental stewards," Nate Byer, the Earth Day 2010 campaign coordinator, said during a phone interview. "They have the power to deliver a clear message. They speak to a lot of people who aren't thinking about this on a daily basis."

The Climate Rally is presented by the Earth Day Network, whose mission is "to broaden and diversify the environmental movement worldwide, and to mobilize it as the most effective vehicle for promoting a healthy, sustainable environment," according to earthday.org.

"Avatar" and "Titanic" director James Cameron and the Rev. Jesse Jackson are two of the featured speakers.

The event's location — on the National Mall — is no coincidence.

"The whole purpose is to send a message to Congress," Denis Hayes, an organizer of the first Earth Day in 1970 and the Earth Day 2010 chairman, said during a recent phone conversation.

Hayes said environmental concerns back in the 1970s were easier

to explain because they were obvious, like acid rain or smog. Today's challenges, he said, are to get people to accept the science that shows subtle climate change throughout time.

"We were protesting things that were immediate and could be sensed," Hayes said. "[Now], they tend to be things we're unaware of. It requires a higher degree of science."

While the folks at Earth Day Network stress Sunday's event is a climate rally with featured speakers and a message to be sent, it's the performances by Sting, Legend, the Roots and others that will draw thousands to the Mall.

"We need people to come out, listen to some good music and show it's something they care about," Byer said.



IF YOU GO

Climate Rally, featuring Sting, John Legend, the Roots and more

- » **Where:** National Mall (accessible via several Metro stations; consult map for locations)
- » **When:** 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday
- » **Info:** Free; earthday.org

Sting is set to headline the Climate Rally on the National Mall, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

WILLIAM THOMAS CAIN/GETTY IMAGES

After you rock out, eat green

Living green goes beyond Earth Day, and isn't limited to recycling and changing light bulbs. Food choices can be green as well. But don't think it's all about tofu and rabbit food. Here are four area restaurants with solid green credentials everyone can enjoy.

Bread and Brew: 1247 20th St. NW; 202-466-2676; breadandbrew.com — The Green Restaurant Association (dinegreen.com) has certified Bread and Brew in D.C. as environmentally friendly for its biodegradable items and recycling practices. Great beer and coffee lead the way, and there's a solid menu of sandwiches, salads and entrees.

Founding Farmers: 1924 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-822-8783; wearefoundingfarmers.com — This is another restaurant certified by the Green Restaurant Association,

for its energy efficiency and recycling, among other reasons. Last year, the U.S. Green Building Council distinguished Founding Farmers with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, Gold certification. Enjoy sandwiches, soup, pasta and cocktails knowing the building is about as green as they come.

Hook: 3241 M St. NW; 202-625-4488; hookdc.com — The stated mission of this Georgetown-based seafood restaurant is sustainability. In 2008, Bon Appetit named Hook a Top-10 eco-friendly restaurant; and the Seafood Choices Alliance acknowledged Hook a "Seafood Champion." As the restaurant's Web site says, "The two things that link every human on the planet are food and environment and we cannot live without either."

Punk's Backyard Grill: 2188 Annap-



COURTESY OF MOSHE ZUSMAN

One of Hook's tuna dishes.

olis Mall, Annapolis; 410-571-7744; punkbackyardgrill — In September 2009, the Maryland Green Registry gave this fast casual restaurant green certification. According to the state's Web site, the registry "is a voluntary, self-certification program offering tips and resources to help organizations set and meet their own goals on the path to sustainability." Punk's is the first restaurant in the state to have received this designation because of its energy use, waste control, and the use of responsible products and ingredients.

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