

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 22, 2015

**Beverly Hills Holiday Lighting Ceremony on Rodeo Drive  
Kicked-Off Holiday Season with Special Musical Performance by Molly Ringwald  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

***Hosted by Giuliana Rancic, Event Included Santa & Mrs. Claus,  
Debbie Allen Dance Company, DJ Michelle Pesce and More***

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. – The City of Beverly Hills and the Rodeo Drive Committee kicked-off the season with the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Beverly Hills Holiday Lighting Ceremony on Rodeo Drive on November 22, 2015. Attended by thousands of guests, the event was hosted by fashion expert and television personality Giuliana Rancic, and featured a musical performance by actor, jazz vocalist, and writer Molly Ringwald.

The Debbie Allen Dance Company opened the Ceremony with “The Hot Chocolate Nutcracker,” which included an appearance by the acclaimed choreographer herself. An immersive light show choreographed to a custom holiday mix by famed DJ Michelle Pesce dazzled the crowd. And of course, it wouldn’t be the holidays without an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus who, together with civic dignitaries, “flipped the switch” turning on thousands of twinkle lights adorning Rodeo Drive’s storied palm trees, the lights at the Beverly Wilshire, a Four Seasons Hotel, and Two Rodeo Drive.

“The Lighting Ceremony on Rodeo Drive is a wonderful annual tradition for our community and we welcome families from all over the world,” says Beverly Hills Mayor Julian Gold, M.D. “The performances, the lighting and the atmosphere sets the stage for a joyful holiday season for everyone who attends, young or old.”

Known for her iconic roles in the classic 1980’s films “Sixteen Candles,” “The Breakfast Club,” and “Pretty in Pink,” Molly Ringwald is also an accomplished modern Jazz vocalist. She sang the holiday standard, “Let it Snow,” as well as “Don’t You (Forget About Me),” the famous theme song to “The Breakfast Club.”

The award-winning family spectacular, ‘The Hot Chocolate Nutcracker’ is written, directed and choreographed by Debbie Allen. The dynamic Nutcracker remake is filled with lively characters, new music and spectacular dancing and stars Raven Symone. The performance on Rodeo Drive previewed the production’s annual holiday show held this year at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

Creating a fun and high-energy holiday soundtrack for the event was DJ Michelle Pesce, who has performed for countless global brands, A-list events, and is known for being the only DJ to ever play four times for the official Grammy after party. The ceremony also featured appearances by Santa and Mrs. Claus and a performance by the Beverly Hills High School Marching Band.

“Holiday is one of the busiest times of the year on the Drive and the Holiday Lighting Ceremony is a wonderful way to kick-off the season,” says Mark Tronstein, President of the Rodeo Drive Committee. “We are creating an exciting, fun, and chic holiday experience that can be found only on Rodeo Drive.”

This year, holiday décor on Rodeo Drive will feature an elegant gifting theme. Large glistening red and gold gift boxes with flowing ribbons adorn the median strip, adding colorful décor throughout the day and shinning brilliantly at night. In addition, light-filled boxes with patterned snowflake cutouts emanate light after dark and glow along with the Drive’s palm trees, which sparkle with tens of thousands of red lights.

During November and December, Two Rodeo Drive will also feature performances by a Classical String Trio, Jazz Trio and Strolling Carolers, as well as complimentary visits with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Two Rodeo’s annual Hanukkah celebration will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. And, December 12<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:45 – 7:45pm a magical 3-D paintscaping light show will take place nightly. Throughout the holiday season, Two Rodeo Drive will also host a giving tree in support of Operation Smile. More details about Two Rodeo Drive’s holiday events may be found at [www.TwoRodeo.com](http://www.TwoRodeo.com).

For more information on the Holiday Lighting Ceremony on Rodeo Drive, please visit [www.rodeodrive-bh.com](http://www.rodeodrive-bh.com).

### **About Rodeo Drive**

Rodeo Drive, internationally recognized as the intersection of fashion and entertainment, is an exceptional destination for both Southern California residents, as well as visitors from around the globe. The more than 100 distinguished retailers all help create an unparalleled atmosphere only found on the three blocks of this famed drive. Rodeo Drive also hosts distinguished events throughout the year, including the Rodeo Drive Walk of Style<sup>®</sup>, Rodeo Drive Concours d’Elegance, the Beverly Hills Holiday Lighting Ceremony, amongst others. For more information about Rodeo Drive, please visit [www.rodeodrive-bh.com](http://www.rodeodrive-bh.com) and follow us on Twitter and Facebook at @RodeoDriveBH, as well as @RodeoDrive on Instagram using the hash tag, #OnlyOnRodeo.

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