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**GOSPEL STAR HEZEKIAH WALKER AND LOVE FELLOWSHIP CRUSADE
CHOIR TO PERFORM AT WAWA WELCOME AMERICA!'S
TASTE OF PHILADELPHIA**

The "Raise the Praise" free concert on June 27th will also feature Jeffrey Gaines, Wes Morgan and more inspiring live performances at Penn's Landing.

PHILADELPHIA, PA (June 22, 2010) – Enjoy the powerful messages and inspiring sounds of gospel great Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir while indulging in scrumptious local cuisine as part of Wawa Welcome America!'s *Taste of Philadelphia* on June 27th at Penn's Landing. The free concert starts at 11:00 am with a roster of talented and local musicians, and Walker and the Love Fellowship Choir take the stage at 4:30 pm. Performers include Jeffrey Gaines, gospel artist Wes Morgan, folksinger Birdie Busch, Enon Gospel Choir, Dancing Classrooms Philly, All Souled Out, pop cover band Love Junk and The Reel Feel. The concert is presented by Praise 103.9, Philadelphia's Inspiration Station.

Known as "the Pastor of Hip-Hop," Walker has opened the genre of gospel music to a broader audience by fusing traditional gospel and urban music and has worked with some of the biggest names in R&B and hip-hop such as Sean "Diddy" Combs and R. Kelly. As front man of The Love Fellowship Crusade Choir for the past 25 years, Walker has seen great success in the music industry. Hits include "The Lord Will Make A Way Somehow," "Oh Lord We Praise You," "Power Belongs to God," and the Grammy-nominated "Lift Him Up."

A Philadelphia tradition, Wawa Welcome America!'s *Taste of Philadelphia* begins on Friday, June 25 and continues Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27. Entertainment and excitement will

be present throughout the weekend including appearances by cast members from *The Last Airbender*, a performance by funk pop ensemble Morris Day & The Time and a spectacular fireworks display on the 26th.

Admission to Penn's Landing is free and the "tastes" from participating restaurants are just a few dollars—a fraction of regular entrée-sized prices. While enjoying the sights at Penn's Landing, guests can sample many of the mouth-watering dishes that make Philadelphia famous with a sampling of exotic flavors from dozens of local restaurants. Try authentic jerk chicken from South Street's Jamaican Jerk Hut, experience Latin American flavors from Cuba Libre, and save room for dessert for a taste of Capogiro's Italian gelato.

Participating restaurants include Beka's, Capital Grille, Capogiro, Chops, Cuba Libre, Darlings, Dave and Busters, Hard Rock Café, Fat Jack's BBQ, Jamaican Jerk Hut, La Baguette, Los Taquitos de la Puebla, Magic Carpet, Maglio's/Innovative Catering Concepts, Mama Maria's, Maui Wowi, North Bowl, Paesanos, Steaks on South, Tony Lukes, and Yards Brewery.

Following the *Taste of Philadelphia* weekend, Wawa Welcome America! festivities continue during the week of June 28, including three "Go 4th & Learn" activities for children, three "Philly @ the Movies" screenings of cinematic favorites, the famed Wawa Hoagie Day celebration, a *Rocky Balboa* look-alike contest on the steps of the Art Museum, the Dietz and Watson Hot Dog Day in Historic Philadelphia, and three opportunities to enjoy the 12th annual Super Scooper All-You-Can-Eat Ice Cream Festival at Penn's Landing, benefiting the Joshua Kahan Fund which fights to cure pediatric leukemia. And of course, fireworks will be prominently featured this year. For the first time ever, the Festival boasts three shows over the course of ten days, culminating on the evening of the 4th of July.

The line-up on Independence Day begins early with pomp and pageantry. The morning ceremony, Celebration of Freedom, takes place at Independence Hall, the site of our nation's birth. Immediately following, the *Life, Liberty & You* Independence Day Parade will put its best patriotic foot forward, and for the second year in a row, will march through the cobblestone streets of downtown Historic Philadelphia. In the afternoon, the Party on the Parkway will be in full swing on Benjamin Franklin Parkway, where a non-stop array of free performances, games, children's activities, food and other exciting fun takes place. Later that evening in the same locale, Grammy-nominated performers The Goo Goo Dolls will take center stage for the musical finale followed by fireworks. But come early, because you won't want to miss hearing the other great main stage acts The Roots, with special guest R&B and soul singer Chrisette Michele, and jazz funk guitarist and vocalist Chuck Brown.

The Wawa Welcome America festival is a multi-day festival that celebrates America's birthday in America's birthplace and is produced by Welcome America, Inc. For more information, please visit www.welcomeamerica.com

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