

Bandstand Turns 40!



Dick Clark is surrounded by models depicting the styles of the four decades ('50s through '80s) in which *American Bandstand* reigned as the center of pop music's universe.

ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN OFF THE AIR for several years now, *American Bandstand* starring "America's oldest teenager," Dick Clark, will be celebrating the 40th anniversary since its first broadcast in 1952. Starting in September of that year (with Bob Horn and Lee Stewart as hosts), *Bandstand* was initially only seen locally in Philadelphia. Four years later Clark became host, and, in 1957, the show debuted nationwide on the ABC network.

It will be on ABC-TV again when Clark salutes *American Bandstand* with a star-studded special on Wednesday, May 13, 9-11 p.m. Eastern and Pacific Time (8-10 p.m. Central). A "Who's Who" of entertainment celebrities of the last 40 years—over 200 in all—will perform on the show, either "live" or via film clips, both recent and vintage.

Performing "live" will be Alabama, Boyz II Men, Neil Diamond, Gloria Estefan & The Miami Sound Machine, Little Anthony and The Imperials (making their first TV appearance together since 1968), Luther Vandross and Don McLean, who will mark the 20th anniversary of his classic "American Pie."

Also "live" will be a musical "supergroup" of top contemporary musicians, led by Bo Diddley "jamming" a performance of his rock classic "Hey Bo Diddley." Among the members of the supergroup are Gregg Allman, James Ingram and Donny Osmond (keyboards); Steely Dan and Doobie Brothers alumnus Jeff "Skunk" Baxter, David Cassidy, Lita Ford, Johnny Rivers and Joe Walsh (guitars); Stanley Clarke and the Who's John Entwistle (basses); Clarence Clemons, Tower of Power's "Doc" Kupka and Tom Scott (saxes); Sheila E (percussion); The E Street Band's Max Weinberg (drums); and Frankie Avalon and Tower of Power's Lee Thornburg (trumpets).

Among the many stars scheduled to make special appearances reflecting on their personal memories of *American Bandstand* will be Paula Abdul, Roseanne and Tom Arnold, Garth Brooks, Natalie Cole, Color Me Badd, Hammer, Evander Holyfield, Barry Manilow, John Mellencamp, Pat Sajak, Pauly Shore and Vanna White. The special will also include film clip appearances by other stars who have graced the *American Bandstand* soundstage during the past 40 years.

Other highlights will include special film clip montage segments devoted to specific themes such as a tribute to stars who are now deceased, a salute to teen idols, show-stopping superstars, great groups and looks at the events that shaped the music over the last four decades.

The *American Bandstand 40th Anniversary Special* is a presentation of Dick Clark Productions, Inc. with Clark serving as executive producer. Larry Klein produces the special with Barry Glazer directing. Fran LaMaina is executive in charge.