

Summer days, hot nights

Meadow Brook added to 'pick-your-own' ticket plan

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Smokey Robinson, LeAnn Rimes, Ringo Starr and, of course, Pearl Jam — this year's summer concert series at DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival — is a mix of nostalgia, experimental and nearly everything in the middle.

Series tickets go on sale at noon today. The popular "pick-your-own plan" Summer Series allows patrons to create their own ticket package.

Purchase pavilion tickets for three shows of your choosing at either DTE Energy Music Theatre or the Meadow Brook Music Festival and receive free pavilion tickets (while supplies last) for three bonus shows of your choice.

Lawn series buyers receive free lawn tickets. Lollapalooza, Friday, July 18, with the awaited return of its mastermind Perry Farrell, is the alternative highlight — especially with Jane's Addiction as its headliner. This year's festival includes Queens of the Stone Age, The Donnas, Audioslave, Incubus and Jurassic 5.

Just like the first memorable Lollapalooza, Jane's Addiction will headline the show that mixes music, politics, games and technology into a surreal rock n' roll carnival atmosphere.

In addition, it always includes political and envi-

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Perry Farrell
musician and Lollapalooza founder

ronmental action opportunities.

"I try to keep things as positive as possible," Farrell says about his shows. "My first priority is to make sure everybody's having a good time, but within that bubble of bliss there has to be the serious moment."

Ozzfest — with Ozzy, Marilyn Manson and Disturbed on Friday, July 25 — will gratify the death rock and metal crowd. Poison's show, with special guest Vince Neil, should tickle glam lovers.

The Doors, with The Cult's Ian Ashbury as frontman Friday, June 20, is probably the most surprising union; Neil Young & Crazy Horse is one of the most anticipated.



Ozzfest, with Ozzy headlining, is one of the hottest tickets at DTE this year. Marilyn Manson and Disturbed will also perform.

The only absence seems to be a big hip-hop show — but that could change as new dates are added to the schedule. The rap show of the summer concert season so far is Eminem at Comerica Park, and that will be hard to beat.

This year's DTE season begins Friday, May 23, with ZZ Top, Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Double Trouble. Eddie Money, who's been kicking off the summer series for years, performs on Saturday, May 24. Beck kicks off the Meadow Brook Music Festival series Tuesday, June 10.

Wait, there's more — because that's just a slice of summer.

For an evening with a calmer tone, consider the Wine and Food Festival, Friday-Sunday, June 27-29, or Beatlemania Saturday, Aug. 23, at Meadow Brook.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra's five-week summer series at Meadow Brook begins with *The Romance of Richard III*, Friday-Saturday, July 11-12.

New this year are Casual Fridays, featuring a dress-down casual atmosphere followed by Saturdays of Summer. Both nights will offer classical masterworks and internationally renowned soloists. Sundays with the Family programs are designed to appeal to kids of all ages, and feature pre-concert activities for children. Friday-Saturday night DSO concerts begin at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m.

DSO's summer season continues weekends through Aug. 10. Series tickets have been a tradition at DTE Energy Music Theatre going back to

its early days in the 1970s and we are happy to keep the custom alive," said Tom Wilson, president and CEO of Palace Sports and Entertainment. "With this year's changes to the program, offering free pavilion tickets and including Meadow Brook shows, we feel we have made the packages



Jurassic 5 has a solid reputation in the underground hip-hop movement. The south central L.A. band hasn't made mainstream headlines, but that could soon change with their performance at Lollapalooza.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

What: Tickets go on sale for the summer series at DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival
 When: Noon, Sunday, April 27
 Where: The Palace Box office in Auburn Hills, and www.Palacenet.com. Series tickets may also be charged by phone by calling (248) 377-0100.

even more attractive." Bonus shows for free tickets include everything from Detroit Public TV's Kids' Club Live with Arthur, Sesame Street's Elmo and Clifford the Big Red Dog, Wednesday, June 25; Carrot Top, Tuesday, July 22; Eddie Money, Saturday, May 24; The Trinity Irish Dance Company Thursday, July 31; Doobie Brothers Sunday, Aug. 24, and more.

DTE is the nation's most-attended outdoor amphitheater. The Palace was voted Arena of the Year eight times by Performance magazine and twice by Pollstar magazine.

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Thomas A. Rose

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