

## Carrie Underwood Headlines Hard Rock Opening

By Dave Lukow

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City is bringing in an entertainment giant as its opening act.

Singer Carrie Underwood will take the stage at the Hard Rock Friday, June 29. A former winner of *American Idol*, Underwood has won seven Grammy Awards and has sold 64 million records worldwide. She's co-wrote 13 of her 26 singles that have topped the charts.

The Grand Opening for the Hard Rock takes place June 28.

In 2013, Underwood, a member of the Grand Ole Opry, starred in NBC's three-hour holiday blockbuster, *The Sound of Music Live!*, which attracted 44 million viewers. Her latest studio album, *Storyteller*, includes four No. 1 hits.

Earlier this year, she released the hit anthem, *The Champion*, featuring Ludacris. Co-written by Underwood, the song opened NBC's broadcast of the Super Bowl. The network later incorporated the single into its coverage of the 2018 Olympic Winter Games.

Underwood has spent five seasons singing the opening theme for primetime TV's top program, *Sunday Night Football*. In November, she co-hosted the CMA Awards for the tenth consecutive year.

Her sixth studio album will be released on Capitol Records Nashville. Underwood co-produced the new single, *Cry Pretty*, a song she co-wrote with Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna and Liz Rose.

An Oklahoma native, Underwood graduated magna cum laude from Northeastern State University in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in mass communications.

She auditioned for *American Idol* in the summer of 2004. After Underwood sang Tiffany's, *Could've Been*, judge Simon Cowell said she was a favorite to win the competition. Later, when Underwood performed a version of the '80s rock hit, *Alone*, Cowell predicted she'd win the contest and would sell more records than any previous winner.

During the season finale, she sang, with Rascal Flatts, *Bless the Broken Road*. On May 25, 2005, Underwood won the fourth season of *American Idol*. For finishing first, she received a recording contract - with an estimated worth of at least \$1 million - use of a private jet and a Ford Mustang convertible.

In addition to the Grand Ole Opry, she's been inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame. Underwood's also received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles.

For more information on the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City, go to <https://www.hardrockhotelatlanticcity.com>.

