

PROVIDENCE ACADEMY

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Press Release

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Christian Storytelling Festival - Providence Academy to Announce 2013 Headline - Matthew West

www.christianstorytellingfestival.com

Matthew West 2013 Christian Storytelling Festival



Tomorrow morning at 7:40 a.m. on WCQR 88.3 FM, Matthew West will be announcing his visit to Johnson City for the **2013 Christian Storytelling Festival**. The storytelling concert will be held at Providence Academy on August 24, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Grammy® and Dove® award winner, **Matthew West**, will share stories and songs from his albums including his most recent efforts *Into the Light* and *The Story of Your Life*.

Ticket Information

Tickets will go on sale April 11, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at www.christianstorytellingfestival.com. The concert will be held in the Providence Academy gymnasium. All seats are \$15 and are General Admission. The doors open at 6:15 P.M., and the event starts at 7:00 P.M.

Matthew West Bio

An acclaimed singer, songwriter, and recording artist, Matthew earned two Grammy® nominations in 2012 bringing his career total to four nominations. This year, he received a nomination for Best Contemporary Christian Music album with *Into the Light*, as well as a songwriting nomination for his contribution to the Casting Crowns' song, "Jesus, Friend of Sinners." With Grammy nominations, a Primetime Emmy nod, a sold out arena tour, and a Billboard Music Award nomination, 2012 was quite a year for Matthew West.

In addition to his main solo career, West has worked as a songwriter for many Christian musicians and groups such as Point of Grace, Mandisa, and Natalie Grant, as well as mainstream country acts Rascal Flatts, Billy Ray Cyrus, and Vince Gill.

West became successful writing songs based on stories from his life. A few years ago, West realized that many of his fans had a story to tell so he asked fans to send him stories from their lives. West's most recent albums (*The Story of Your Life* and *Into the Light*) are a response to the thousands of life stories his fans shared with him. "The first day, I got 1,000 stories. All of a sudden, I was like, 'Holy cow, something special is about to take place'. I rented a cabin in Tennessee, about 25 minutes from my house that felt like it was out in the middle of nowhere. And I spent two months in that cabin reading 10,000 stories," the singer/songwriter reported in an interview with CBN.com. West finished 36 songs and began writing at least a hundred more. "There's way more to be written," he says with a sigh. "It felt like I just stepped into this hidden treasure trove for a songwriter. These people were trusting me to be the messenger and I felt like I'd been given a window into their world". Most everyone who wrote said they hoped sharing their story would help another person dealing with the same issue. Matthew immediately realized he's been given a sacred trust and that the songs he was writing would be among the most special works of his career.

The Christian Storytelling Festival

The Christian Storytelling Festival is a fundraiser, a "friend raiser," and also a chance to celebrate storytelling with a Christian worldview. All proceeds go to support the Providence Academy need-based Annual Scholarship Fund. This fund supports approximately 25% of the school's students who would not be able to receive a Christ-centered and classical education without community support. The 2013-2014 goal of the Annual Scholarship Fund is to raise \$240,000. For more details, contact Director of Development Mark Koscak at (423) 854-9819 or mkoscak@providenceacademy.com.

Tickets will be available on-line at www.christianstorytellingfestival.com on April 11, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.
