

# Atlanta Metro Observer

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## Back to School Bash Kicks off New School Year



Atlanta Public Schools hosted its third annual APS Back-to-School Bash Saturday, July 29 at the Georgia World Congress Center,

The bash for APS students and families provided a one-stop shop for all incoming and returning students. Over 70 exhibitors participated. The event included free immunizations and health screenings, community and after school resources, fun activities for children, raffles and prize giveaways, and a free backpack stuffed with school supplies. The APS Back-to-School Bash was presented by Newell Brands and Delta Air Lines. Fox5 Helping Hands, V-103 and News Talk 1380 WAOK were the media sponsors for the event.

### ★ Musical Spotlight

#### Lionel Richie



Lionel Richie continues to make a strong presence in the music industry, solidifying his status as one of the most respected vocalists and songwriters of his generation. He's currently touring with Mariah Carey. Catch Lionel Richie's 'All The Hits' Tour at Infinite Energy Arena in Duluth on August 13.

#### Randy Weston



After contributing seven decades of musical direction and genius, Randy Weston remains one of the world's foremost pianists and composers today, a true innovator and visionary.

#### Chick Corea



Since embarking on a solo career in 1966, Chick Corea has been at the forefront of jazz, both as a renowned pianist forging new ground with his acoustic jazz bands and as an innovative electric keyboardist with Return to Forever, the Elektric Band, and now the electro/acoustic Vigil.

#### John Legend



John Legend's performance at did not disappoint. The singer-songwriter was his typically charming and talented self on tour in support of his fifth studio album, Darkness and Light.



## Forever Young Ladies Kick off Flashback Summer Fun With the Amazing Uncle Charlie Wilson



Several members of Atlanta's Top of The Deck Social Club are big fans of old school music. The Charlie Wilson Concert at Chastain Amphitheater was the first of three on their 2017 Flashback Concert list. Uncle Charlie did not disappoint. He dazzled the loyal fans with an awesome high energy performance.

"It was one of the best shows I have seen in a long time. Charlie Wilson puts on a fantastic show with so much energy and crowd participation," declared Mary Chapman of Atlanta.

Isley Brothers and Lionel Richie are next on the ladies Forever Young Hit List.



# Atlanta Hawks To Honor Team Photographer Scott Cunningham's 40 Years With The Franchise With Special Art Exhibition

Select Photos from Cunningham's Catalogue Highlight His Time Shooting Sports Heroes and Cultural Icons in Atlanta and Around the World

The Atlanta Hawks Basketball Club is honoring team photographer of the past 40 seasons, Scott Cunningham, with a two-week retrospective of his work at the Westside Cultural Arts Center beginning Aug. 3 through Aug. 14. More than 50 stunning photos will be displayed from Cunningham's career as an NBA photographer covering the home team, as well as Atlanta's Braves, Falcons, Dream, Thrashers and Flames franchises, along with other professional and collegiate sports teams, concerts and events. The exhibition titled, From the Baseline: 40 Years Beneath the Rim was curated by Michael David Murphy, Digital Director of Atlanta Celebrates Photography (ACP), a non-profit arts organization dedicated to the cultivation of the photographic arts and the enrichment of the Atlanta art community.

"Scott is incredibly deserving of this recognition of his talent and his devotion to the Hawks organization," said Steve Koonin, CEO of the Atlanta Hawks Basketball Club. "He has been a constant in our arena for an amazing 40 seasons, uniquely capturing the most awe-inspiring moments in our franchise's history. We are excited to invite the Atlanta community to help us honor Scott's contributions to sports history."

Cunningham's photos have graced four Sports Illustrated covers, as well as national publications including SLAM and Hockey News, and been featured in advertising campaigns for the likes of Nike and more. In 1997, fans voted his shot of Michael Jordan driving the lane against the Milwaukee Bucks as the Photo of the Year on NBA.com. Cunningham, a Roanoke, VA native, also co-authored Dale Earnhardt Image of Greatness, a book of photos chronicling the life of the NASCAR legend on and off the track.

The Hawks partnered with ACP to curate Cunningham's vast photo archives of more than 20,000 pictures into a show that will enthrall art and sports fans alike.

Cunningham's lens work through the years has included the Chicago Bulls, Washington Redskins and Carolina Panthers, as well as major events such as Super Bowls, Stanley Cups, NBA All-Star games, NASCAR and Princess Diana's funeral.

"The highlights of Scott Cunningham's photographic career illuminate some of the greatest moments, rivalries and personalities in sport," said Murphy. "From hometown Hawks heroes like 'Nique, to Michael and Magic, Scott's photographs stand the test of time."

**The exhibition, which is free to the public, officially starts Aug. 3 with an opening reception from 7 – 10 p.m. To RSVP for the event or for more information on gallery hours go to [www.hawks.com/scott](http://www.hawks.com/scott).**



SCOTT  
CUNNINGHAM

FROM THE BASELINE:  
40 YEARS BENEATH THE RIM

**AUGUST 3-14**  
Westside Cultural Arts Center

**HAWKS.COM/SCOTT**

## DRAGON CON 2017 September 1-4 Labor Day Weekend

Dragon Con in Atlanta is the nation's leading multi-media and pop culture convention! Dragon Con will bring you the latest in science fiction and fantasy gaming, comics, literature, art, music and film this Labor Day Weekend in Atlanta, GA. Today's hottest brands will be hailed and the up-and-comers will have the chance to showcase their newest wares.



An estimated 82,000 people are expected to attend Dragon Con 2017, filling downtown Atlanta over the four-day Labor Day Weekend – Sept. 1 - Sept. 4 – with events and activities

across AmericasMart Buildings #1 and #2 and five host hotels – Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Marriott Marquis, Hilton Atlanta, Westin Peachtree, and Sheraton Atlanta.