

## Stockton PAC Presents Rock and Roll Hall-of-Famer John Sebastian of The Lovin' Spoonful

Performance Set for Sunday, Nov. 15

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway, NJ** – Stockton University's Performing Arts Center presents Rock and Roll Hall-of-Famer John Sebastian of The Lovin' Spoonful on **Sunday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m.** in the Stockton PAC, located on the university's main Galloway campus.

Tickets are \$32 and may be ordered online at [www.stockton.edu/pac](http://www.stockton.edu/pac) or by calling the Box Office at 609-652-9000. The Box Office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 90 minutes before the performance. For group sales, call 609-652-4786.

Sebastian was the front man for The Lovin' Spoonful, a group that was part of the American response to the British Invasion and was noted for folk-flavored hits such as "Jug Band Music," "Do You Believe in Magic," "Summer in the City," "Daydream," "Nashville Cats," "Did You Ever Have to Make Up Your Mind," "Six O'Clock" and "Younger Girl."

Sebastian's solo career produced a hit with the theme song to the "Welcome Back, Kotter" television show, which was later a hit for rapper Mase in 2004.

For four decades, the contributions of Sebastian have become a permanent part of our American musical fabric. His group, The Lovin' Spoonful, played a major role in the mid-1960s rock revolution. Leader, singer and songwriter Sebastian aimed for a counter-revolution.

"We were grateful to The Beatles for reminding us of our rock and roll roots," Sebastian said. "But we wanted to cut out the English middlemen, so to speak, and get down to making this new music as an 'American' band."

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The Lovin' Spoonful did that like no band before or since, putting their first seven singles into the Top 10. This was unprecedented, and utterly unthinkable at the height of Beatlemania. At first they'd taken older material from blues, country, folk and jug band sources—what we now term "roots music"—and made it sound modern.

Then, in a series of original songs composed and sung by Sebastian, they did the reverse, creating thoroughly modern music that sounded like it contained the entire history of American music- which it did.

The Lovin' Spoonful was not Sebastian's first act, and it certainly wasn't his last. After leaving the group he founded, he bore witness to another turn of the musical zeitgeist with his performances at massive festivals like Woodstock and its English equivalent, the Isle of Wight.

Sebastian had been involved in music for films and Broadway, but when producers of a television show called "Welcome Back, Kotter" commissioned a theme song in 1976, Sebastian's "Welcome Back" became a chart-topping solo record. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, he continued to record and tour, pleasing old fans and winning new ones.

For patrons with special needs, the **Stockton Performing Arts Center** offers wheelchair accessible seating, large type programs and listening assistive devices. Please identify any needs you may have when making a reservation.

**The Stockton Performing Arts Center**, the Jersey Shore's Center for the Arts, is located on the campus of Stockton University, on Vera King Farris Drive, off Jimmie Leeds Road, in Galloway Township. Just 12 miles west of Atlantic City, the center is easily accessible from the Garden State Parkway and the Atlantic City Expressway.

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.

**STOCKTON**  
**PAC** STOCKTON UNIVERSITY  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**Stockton University Performing Arts Center, M-Wing at 101 Vera King Farris Drive,  
Galloway, NJ 08205-9441 Box Office: 609-652-9000**

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