



Press Information

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**Redlands Bicycle Classic and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Partner to Present the 32nd Annual Redlands
Bicycle Classic April 6th-10th**

Sponsorship to Bring New Events and Experiences to the 32nd Year of the Classic

Redlands, CA— The Redlands Bicycle Classic Committee and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians are pleased to announce their partnership to present the 32nd Annual Redlands Bicycle Classic. This event will be held April 6-10, 2016 in Redlands, CA and surrounding cities. The Classic has the distinction of being the first stage race on the 2016 USA Cycling Pro Road Tour, a series of competitive cycling events held throughout the country during the course of approximately six months.

The year 2016 is the fourth consecutive year of the partnership that has expanded the event, bringing racers, spectators and the broader community new opportunities to participate in the Classic. This year will mark the addition of a second race stage in the nearby city of Highland, a large-scale school outreach program to promote healthy lifestyles, and a Saturday evening family concert.

“We are excited and fortunate to continue our partnership with San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Together, we have forged a significant investment in the communities, continue to bring new and exciting events, while increasing our footprint in the area”, said new Classic President Marc Shaw. “It is an honor to have a presenting sponsor with such a rich heritage in our communities, and who shares our vision of promoting a healthy lifestyle”.

For 32 years, Redlands has been host to thousands from the local community and around the world, as more than 500 volunteers put on a world class event in the form of bike racing. Athletes of all abilities - from toddlers barely able to touch the pedals to seasoned professionals ready to become the next legend - compete while the world watches as Redlands and surrounding communities put on this fantastic community event.

“San Manuel as a major community partner and employer in the Inland Empire is pleased to join with the cities of Redlands, Highland, and Yucaipa to host the Redlands Bicycle Classic as presenting sponsor for a fourth year,” said San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena. “As the nation’s first competitive stage race for USA Cycling, the Classic is an unsurpassed opportunity for communities in the San Bernardino Valley to pull together to host a world class event.”

The professional men and women’s races will include five tough days of racing, beginning with a Circuit Race in the City of Highland on Wednesday, a grueling road race in the cities of Yucaipa and Oak Glen on Thursday, back to Highland for a tough 8 mile Time Trial, wrapping up in Redlands with a criterium Saturday, and the famous Sunset Road Race on Sunday. **For more information, including race times, distances, and volunteer opportunities, visit www.redlandsclassic.com.**

About the Redlands Bicycle Classic

The Redlands Bicycle Classic is an all-volunteer organization, managed by the Redlands Bicycle Classic Organizing Committee, comprised of active community members that seek to see the promotion of cycling and its benefits in Redlands and its surrounding communities. The 32nd Annual Redlands Bicycle Classic is scheduled for April 6th –10th. The event was founded in 1985 by a community group, chaired by then-Mayor Carole Beswick, to promote awareness of Downtown Redlands. Since that time, professional cyclists from around the world have been racing the event, which is centered in the city of Redlands, California. The event continues today invigorated by the RBC Organizing Committee’s adoption of, and commitment to, the events’ core virtues of Health, Diversity, and the Environment. The Redlands Bicycle Classic is on the USA Cycling Pro Road Tour and is the opening round of the ten race series.

About San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

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The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as a sovereign nation with the right of self-government. As an indigenous community the origins and history of the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians stem from our relationship with the land and to all who share it. Since ancient times we have expressed ourselves through a culture of giving. Today, San Manuel is able to answer the call of Yawa' (Serrano word meaning "to act on one's beliefs") through partnerships with charitable organizations. We have drawn upon our history, knowledge, expertise and cultural values to direct our philanthropic giving in our local region, as well as to Native American causes nationwide. For more information, visit <http://www.sanmanuel-nsn.gov>.