

Drive-In St. Louis Concerts & Graduations Return In 2021



HAZELWOOD - After being named one of the Top Five Drive-ins in America in 2020 by Forbes Magazine, Drive-In St. Louis is coming back even bigger and better in 2021.

The 12-acre parking lot at POWERplex will undergo a transformation in the coming weeks, as huge screens and a giant performance stage will be rolling in to create 25 weeks of concerts, movies, graduations, galas and special events from May 6 through Halloween.

In 2020, POWERplex was among the first major Drive-Ins to pop-up in the United States in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Drive-In St. Louis hosted more than 25 events, including 13 high school graduations where more than 3,500 seniors crossed the stage. In all, nearly 60,000 people attended the commencements, concerts and movie nights, which included the largest 4th of July celebration in the St. Louis region.

“If we could bring that many people together during the height of the pandemic, we know that thousands more will be ready to get out with family and friends and enjoy an entire season of great shows this year,” said Dan Buck, the Managing Partner of Big Sports Properties.

New in 2021 will be a better diversity of food options with multiple food trucks each night to serve the thousands of concert goers. Visitors will enjoy a new, outdoor hospitality tent where groups can socially distance while enjoying pre-show festivities and post-show music and cocktails until midnight after the concerts and movies.

The city of Hazelwood provided safety and support to all 25 events in 2020 and is excited to see Drive-In St. Louis return in 2021, beginning with the “Casting Crowns” concert on May 6.

“We love to see so many people come into our community and enjoy great local bands with their family and friends,” said Hazelwood City Manager Matt Zimmerman. “We’re excited to hear that our own Hazelwood School District is among the many area school districts that will get a rock star-like graduation ceremony,” added Zimmerman.

All three **Hazelwood District High Schools, East, Central and West**, will be graduating at Drive-In St. Louis along with all four Parkway Schools, Clayton High, Incarnate Word and North County Tech along with many other schools from across the region. Some schools are still pending final board approval and will be announced in the coming weeks.