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## PRESS RELEASE

### **City of Downey to Recognize Carpenter's 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Downey, CA, April 22, 2024:** The City of Downey kicks off the celebration of the 55th anniversary of The Carpenters signing their recording contract with A&M Records. From April 24 to April 27, 2024, Downey, the hometown of Karen and Richard Carpenter, will host a series of events honoring the three-time Grammy award-winning brother-sister duo and their remarkable musical legacy.

The Carpenters, born in New Haven, Connecticut, relocated to Downey, California, in 1963. Richard, displaying early musical talent, pursued piano lessons and later attended California State University, Long Beach, while Karen mastered the drums. Their musical journey began as a duo in 1965, leading to the formation of the Richard Carpenter Trio and the group Spectrum. However, their signing with A&M Records as Carpenters in 1969 launched them to international stardom.

Renowned for their melodic pop sound, The Carpenters achieved unmatched success, topping charts with hits like "(They Long to Be) Close to You" and "We've Only Just Begun." Their influence spanned multiple genres, including soft rock, easy listening, and adult contemporary music. With three number-one singles and a string of top-10 hits, The Carpenters left an indelible mark on the music industry.

The 55th Anniversary Celebration in Downey will attract fans from across the globe, with attendees expected from the USA, Canada, Australia, Europe, Mexico, Brazil, Sweden, Singapore, and Japan. A four-day event is being organized and led by a committee of fans, which consists of various activities that pay homage to the beloved duo. Highlights of the celebration include a meet and greet reception, historical tours, memorial tribute, sign unveiling, and musical legacy album listening experience.

Mayor Mario Trujillo expressed the city's enthusiasm for the celebration, stating, "The Carpenters hold a special place in the hearts of Downey residents and music lovers worldwide. We are honored to host this milestone anniversary celebration and pay tribute to Karen and Richard Carpenter's enduring legacy."

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information regarding the anniversary events, visit [carpenters55th.com](http://carpenters55th.com) or email the planning committee at [carpenters55th@gmail.com](mailto:carpenters55th@gmail.com).

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