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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRAMMY-Award Winning Superstar Pitbull Announced as Firefly Gala's Headliner

SARASOTA, FL: January 23, 2020. On Saturday, March 28th, 2020, GRAMMY Award winning superstar, Pitbull will headline Forty Carrots Family Center's Firefly Gala. In its 10th and final year, the signature event is presented by the Dart Foundation, at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Sarasota. The event will feature dinner, live auction, intimate concert, and after-concert dance party.

Ariane Dart, 10-time chairwoman and Firefly Gala creator (seen here with some of her committee members) took the stage at the recent Wine Women & Shoes event to announce this year's 10th and final Firefly Gala entertainer. The crowd went wild when she revealed, Armando Christian Perez - better known as Pitbull - will perform.

"What an extraordinary honor it's been to lead Firefly Gala the past 10 years in support of Forty Carrots Family Center. The funds raised help strengthen thousands of families in our community each year. Forty Carrots' extensive outreach in parenting education, mental health and early childhood education - with 93% of services provided at no cost to families - are vital to lifting up our community," said Ariane Dart.

Previous Firefly Gala headliners include KC & The Sunshine Band, Blondie, The Go-Go's, Pat Benatar, Joan Jett, Bret Michaels, Flo Rida, Jason Derulo and Kesha.

Pitbull has sold over 80 million singles, has more than 84 million Facebook/Twitter/Instagram followers and over 15 billion views on YouTube. In addition to the United States, his sold-out world concert tours have taken him to North and South America, Europe and the Far East. He released his first project independent Latin album LIBERTAD 548 under his own Mr. 305 Records in September 2019. Pitbull is also known for his many philanthropic and entrepreneurial endeavors and serves as ambassador to the Sports Leadership Arts and Management (SLAM!) charter schools he helped to establish - striving to bring relevant experiences to the youth it serves.

Forty Carrots Family Center has provided children with Good Beginnings That Last a Lifetime through its expertise in parenting education, early childhood education and mental health services. Rated 4-Stars by Charity Navigator, Forty Carrots fundraises to provide these services to families from all walks of life.

Limited sponsorships remain for intimate concert seating. For more information about the 10th and final Firefly Gala or to learn how to be involved, email events@fortycarrots.com or call **(941) 365-7716 ext. 318**, visit fireflygala.org or fortycarrots.org Follow The Firefly Gala on Facebook.



COMMITTEE PHOTO

Front Row Seated, L-R: Melissa Morsli, Deborah Hill, Jane Bennett, Forty Carrots Family Center CEO, Michelle Kapreilian, Firefly Gala Chair, Ariane Dart, Ashley Williams, and Cristina Campos

Second Row, L-R: Kim Hickerson, Bella, Heather Stacy, Kimberly Knox, Kaylea Schule, Jolene Searles, and Tannis Limp

Third Row, L-R: Ingrid Eichman, Silvia Smith, Lori Mitchell, Felicia LoPresto, KJ Vorndran, Brooke Baker, Malushua Griffith, and Ann Miller

Not Pictured: Lisa Budstick, Tonya Gowan, Tomeika Hunter-Koski, Kerry McCarthy, Ivana Rivolta, Stephanie Rubner, Tobi Schneider, Ana Varone, Alisa Westberry