PHOENIX (June 13, 2016)—Wear black and celebrate the lives of Johnny Cash and June Carter at the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) on June 25. For the first time, MIM is dedicating an entire day to the legacies of “The First Family” of Country Music with a curatorial talk, an instrument spotlight, a themed menu at Café Allegro, a MIMQuiz with prizes, and more.

Enjoy a spotlight on one of June Carter’s favorite instruments the autoharp, which remains a popular symbol of folk and country music. MIM volunteer team members will guide guests in learning how to strum a few chords on a selection of autoharps from MIM’s extensive Garry Harrison Collection of fretless zithers.

Drop in and catch The Johnny Cash Show in the MIM Music Theater. Enjoy four full-length episodes that feature Johnny Cash’s most popular music and well-known artists including Marty Robbins, Linda Ronstadt, and Roy Orbison, who is showcased in MIM’s Artist Gallery.

Guests will have the opportunity to enjoy gallery talks in front of the Johnny Cash and Carter Family displays in the Artist Gallery with informal Q&A sessions from Dr. Richard Walter, MIM’s curator for USA / Canada. Also, guests can take home a whimsical caricature drawn by local artist Dianne Nowicki of She Draws You Caricatures.

Café Allegro is feeling the “Folsom Prison Blues” and will be featuring menu items inspired by “The Man in Black.” Try the big iron pot “Jackson” chili, “It Ain’t Me Babe” summer soup, “Juke Box Blues” macaroni and cheese, Tennessee bourbon pecan pie, and more!

“Johnny Cash’s marriage to June Carter Cash represents a union of musical influences that have truly shaped American music for nearly a century,” Rich Walter, said. “The Carter Family has served as a standard foundation for American folk and country music since their historic recording sessions in Bristol, Tennessee, in 1927. Johnny Cash is one of the most iconic musical personalities, and his tremendous album sales only begin to suggest the huge influence "The Man in Black" has had on musicians, audiences, and popular culture since the 1950s.”

At the end of the day participate in the MIMQuiz about Johnny Cash, June Carter, and their music. Guests can form teams of four and test their trivia knowledge. The winning team will receive one ten-dollar MIM gift card per person.
About MIM
The Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) enriches our world by collecting, preserving, and making accessible an astonishing variety of musical instruments and performance videos from every country in the world. MIM offers guests a welcoming and fun experience, incomparable interactive technology, dynamic programming, and exceptional musical performances. MIM fosters appreciation of the world’s diverse cultures by showing how we innovate, adapt, and learn from each other to create music—the language of the soul.

The Musical Instrument Museum is located at 4725 E. Mayo Boulevard in Phoenix (corner of Tatum and Mayo Boulevards, just south of Loop 101). For general museum information and a full schedule of events, visit MIM.org or call 480.478.6000.

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