Written by George Browning
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The Louisville Festival of Magic, Illusion and the Unusual will take place June 14-16. Some of the biggest names in magic, including Louisville's own Lance Burton and Mac King, will host shows.

According to Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, "There was no sleight of hand required in picking Louisville for this unique festival. It's another example of a world class event that is a perfect fit for our unique city. We're honored and excited to work with Lance and Mac on this historic event. Let the magic begin!"

The Gala show at The Brown Theatre, hosted by Mac King and Lance Burton, will feature performers Christopher Hart ("Thing" in the Addams Family), Max Maven (America's foremost mindreader), Michael Goudeau (the most successful juggler in Las Vegas history), Tina Lenert (Stage Magician of the Year at Hollywood's Magic Castle), and Arden James (Animated Illusionist). More than 35 shows are available from Friday - Sunday, ticket prices range from $17.50 to $52.50.

Other shows include: "From The Dark," a magic show originally designed so that blind people could experience magic, now expanded so those with sight can participate; "The Secret Show," a show so secret we can't even tell you who's in it; Dana Daniels (star of Disney's Golden Horseshoe); "Sleight of Mind," an academic (but extremely entertaining) multimedia presentation by neurologists Dr. Susan Martinez-Conde and Dr. Stephen Macknik on the relationship between magic and the brain; and dozens more.

A portion of proceeds from the Festival will benefit Kosair Children's Hospital, one of the top children's hospitals in America.

"I'm really excited to bring to Louisville what only a handful of people in the world have had the privilege to see," says festival co-producer Mac King. "We have spectacular illusions, awe inspiring close-up sleight-of-hand tricks, thought provoking academic speakers, and gut-busting comedy magic. There will be shows for adults, families and children. This is not just a first for Louisville, but for the entire U.S."

Tickets and a full list of performers and show times are available at www.louisvillemagicfestival.com .
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