ALL FOR SHOW:
Entertainers, Authors, Musicians, and Artists from the Show-Me State

Princeton: Martha Jane Cannary was born in Princeton in 1852. She became known as the folk hero “Calamity Jane,” a sharpshooter who performed in the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show.

St. Joseph: Rapper, music producer, and actor Eminem was born Marshall Mathers III in St. Joseph in 1972. A multiple Grammy Award winner, Eminem is one of the bestselling artists of this century.

Independence: Legendary Grammy Award-winning jazz saxophonist Charlie Parker was born in Kansas City in 1920. His home in Harlem is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and his image was included on a U.S. Postal Service postage stamp.

Hannibal: Acclaimed ballerina Misty Copeland is the first African-American to be appointed the principal dancer for the American Ballet Theatre. Copeland was born in Kansas City in 1982.

Jefferson City: Ginger Rogers was born in Independence in 1911. Best known as the dance partner of Fred Astaire in several films, Rogers won an Academy Award in 1941 for her dramatic role in Kitty Foyle.

St. Louis: Betty Grable was a movie star in the 1940’s who became more famous as the most popular pin-up girl for the troops during World War II. Born in St. Louis, Betty Grable was inducted into the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1963.

Josephine Baker was born in St. Louis in 1906. Finding acclaim on Broadway as a dancer and singer, she moved to France and was wildly popular and one of the highest paid performers during the 1920’s.

Chuck Berry, a rock ‘n’ roll pioneer and guitarist, was born in St. Louis in 1926.

Cape Girardeau: Conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh was born in Cape Girardeau in 1951. His nationally syndicated “Rush Limbaugh Show” has been on the air since 1988.

Marlin Perkins (born in Carthage in 1905) was a respected zoologist who gained fame as the host of the Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom television show from 1957 to 1985.

Dick Van Dyke was born in West Plains in 1925. As an actor and comedian, he reached stardom with the popular “Dick Van Dyke Show.” He is also widely known for his roles in the classic movies, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and Mary Poppins.

West Plains: Conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh was born in Cape Girardeau in 1951. His nationally syndicated “Rush Limbaugh Show” has been on the air since 1988.

Carthage: Innovative poet, novelist, and playwright Langston Hughes was born in Joplin in 1902. Hughes’ poems, plays, and books helped him become a leader of the Harlem Renaissance. His home in Harlem is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and his image was included on a U.S. Postal Service postage stamp.