

Things to Do Philly

Our weekly concert picks: July 30–August 5



LOS ANGELES, CA - JANUARY 26: Musician John Legend performs onstage during the 56th GRAMMY Awards at Staples Center on January 26, 2014 in Los Angeles, California. (Photo by Kevork Djansezian/Getty Images) Getty Images

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What we're checking out this week!

Saturday, August 2: John Legend

If you choose “John Legend” as your stage name, you better have the chops to live up to your projected star power, and luckily R&B soul master John Legend (born John Roger Stephens) does just that. A veteran session musician-turned-star in his own right, Legend first made a name for himself singing in an a capella group at UPenn, then played piano on Lauryn Hill’s “Everything Is Everything” and shared production credits with Kanye, before transitioning to the powerhouse he is today. Along the way, he became somewhat of a Philly legend, collaborating with The Roots for 2010’s *Wake Up!*, and even giving the commencement address [at his alma mater last year](#). We love Legend for his smooth vocals, smart lyrics, and undeniable ear for melody—and can think of no better venue for his sensual tunes than outdoors at the Mann, where the open skies should provide the perfect background for grand, soaring melodies.

7:00 at the Mann Center for Performing Arts, 5201 Parkside Ave., \$30–99.50. Tickets available [here](#).

Read more at http://www.philly.com/philly/blogs/things_to_do/Our-weekly-concert-picks-July-30August-5.html#ZBtDkiqwkpvSIXjG.99