

Music World Gives Back

AN INTERVIEW WITH MATHEW KNOWLES

By KATHERINE MESTOUSIS

Communities throughout Texas are finding that people want to “give back.” More and more, Houstonians are becoming involved in humanitarian projects and volunteerism. The same generosity holds true for Midtown entrepreneur and Music World Entertainment CEO Mathew Knowles.

Music World Entertainment, widely known for Houston sweetheart Beyoncé Knowles (or for the Jay Z fans... Mrs. Carter), holds steadfast to the belief that community is king and “giving back” is part of what it takes to build a strong kingdom. Knowles understands the importance of philanthropy and has deeply woven that philanthropic spirit into the fabric of Music World Entertainment. He simply states, “It’s about caring for people first.”

With the promise of employment opportunities, Knowles left his home in Nashville and moved to Houston in 1976. He lived in and around the community now known as Midtown. When it was time for Music World to build its headquarters, Knowles says, “It was only natural that I build in Midtown.”

From its humble beginnings, Music World has always initiated philanthropic endeavors.

Their national platform, the Survivor Foundation, was created to assist those who have been affected by disaster, HIV or homelessness. The foundation hosts the annual *Music World Cares Holiday Carnival* — a holiday event for youth which honors the diversity of the city.

In the past, Music World partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build two homes for families in need. The Knowles Temenos Place Apartments, yet another way the Knowles Family has displayed their commitment to Midtown and the Houston community, is a 43-unit apartment complex developed to address the needs of vulnerable populations.

Knowles believes, “It’s important to do what you can and to reach out to people in need.” He hopes to leave a legacy of not only great music, but one of giving and caring for your fellow man.



Mathew Knowles

So what’s next for Music World Entertainment? Mathew Knowles has development projects in mind for the area surrounding Music World. He plans to continue expanding special events and programming at the House of Deréon Media Center as well as to continue to promote the state of the art recording studio within the Music World compound. Artists such as Jay Z, Estelle, Lil Wayne, P. Diddy, Chris Brown and others have graced the doors of the Music World Studios and/or rehearsal hall. Finally, for the folks that just can’t get enough Destiny’s Child, two new projects are underway, including a greatest hits album and a video anthology, both to be released on October 5.

Make sure to keep an eye out, Knowles says, “There’s a big announcement coming within the next 60 days.” Do I see a Destiny’s Child reunion tour on the horizon? ☒

Music World Studios

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Survivor Foundation

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