

SEPTEMBER 2025



Bus Partners Needed

If you or your organization would like to explore becoming a bus partner for our September 2026 Getaway, please reach out to us at: Lou@crnbfest.com for additional details.

Vendors Wanted

If you or your business would like to be part of this unforgettable experience secure your vendor spot as spaces are limited, so early inquiries are encouraged.

Please contact us at vendor@crnbfest.com, click here to register: [Vendor Registration](#) or by calling our toll-free registration hotline at 855-222-FEST (3378).



Hello R&B Family

We are excited to share details about our **September 2026 R&B Getaway at Gaylord National Resort & Conventional Center**, a premier 5-star venue located at the National Harbor in Oxon Hill, MD.

Reserve your room and secure your seating by registering online

Need Help registering: call our toll-free registration hotline at 855-222-FEST (3378).

[2026 RnB Empowerment Fest Reservation](#)



R&B Family

Before looking ahead, I must pause to thank Maurice Watts for our incredible 16-year run of producing unforgettable

Classic R&B concerts and getaways together. What a journey it was! We sincerely wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.



As We Reflect on Our Journey

I want to take a moment to briefly

acknowledge the email some of you may have received questioning who we are. The truth is, our track record speaks for itself. The then Sessoms group was proud to have co-produced the **Classic R&B Music Festival** for 16 years—a vision inspired by **Lincoln Sessoms, Terry Pickering, and Big Al of Williamsport, PA**, after experiencing the unforgettable *Northern Soul Weekend Getaway* in England.

Our very first weekend getaway took place in the Pocono Mountains, where we successfully negotiated and secured the Fernwood Resort for ourselves and our then-partners. We also provided the staff needed to run the event.

Concerned about attendance, we reached out to our good friends—**Chris Curry** (Queens, NY), **Joe Waterman** (Staten Island), the **Bartlett Brothers** (Queens, NY), and several other promoter friends—who arrived with multiple busloads of guests as we honored our dear friend **Ann Tripp of WBLS Radio in NYC**. The arrangement was that we would handle staffing and on-the-ground operations, while our former partners managed the data and graphics. It worked out well—especially since, at the time, some of us were admittedly a bit “data and computer challenged” (smile). That was just the beginning.



As we quickly outgrew **Fernwood**, The Sessoms Group moved on to secure **The Bushkill Inn**, which proved too small, followed by the **Hershey Lodge**, which was a wonderful fit. Later, after connecting with the **Pocono Vacation Bureau**, we were able to secure the incredible **Kalahari Resorts and Conventions**. What a run that was! And now—we're back, stronger than ever at the **Gaylord National Resort & Conventional Center**.

[Visit our Website](#)

The Team Behind the RnB Fest Empowerment LLC

As for our name, our new company is **RnB Fest Empowerment LLC**, very similar to the name we used last year, **Classic R&B Events LLC**. The principals are:

- **Lincoln Sessoms**, of The Sessoms Group Inc., former co-owner of Classic R&B Events LLC, and co-producer of the past 16 Classic R&B events.
- **Terry Pickering**, President of Gynesis Music Group Inc. and co-owner of a NEPA radio station, who has worked alongside us for many years.

Along with us, you'll see many familiar faces you know and love—Robin Brock, Michael Stern, Steve Saxon, Coco Joseph, Lucinda Martin, Martha Hunter, Gail Ali, Loretta Knight, Larry Love, Theresa Petroza, and many others who remain a valued part of our team.





We cannot thank you enough for your continued support. We only ask that you never allow anyone or any organization to discourage you from attending the events you love—including our upcoming getaway scheduled for **September 18–21, 2026**, at the fabulous **Gaylord National Resort & Conventional Center** in Oxon Hill, MD, at the National Harbor.

Thank you for standing with us in the past, and we look forward to creating even more unforgettable memories with you in the future.



Looking Ahead

Our mission is clear: to continue building on our long tradition of delivering unforgettable R&B experiences while raising the bar even higher. With a strong team, new systems in place, and exciting partnerships on the horizon, we are positioned to create events that are nothing short of spectacular. From world-class performers and engaging workshops to dynamic DJs and activities, every detail has been carefully planned to ensure your experience is better than ever.

Reserve your room and secure your seating by registering online at 2026 RnB Empowerment Fest Reservation or by calling our toll-free registration hotline at 855-222-FEST (3378).



Bus Partners Needed

As we prepare for our upcoming R&B Getaway, we recognize the importance of making travel easy, safe, and convenient for our guests. To accomplish this, we are seeking reliable **bus partners** to join us in transporting attendees to and from the event.

Our ideal partners will provide:

- Comfortable, well-maintained buses
- Professional and courteous drivers
- Flexible routes from key cities/regions
- Competitive group pricing

In return, bus partners will receive exposure to our loyal audience of R&B fans, opportunities for long-term collaboration, and the chance to be part of an exciting, well-established tradition.

If you or your organization would like to explore becoming a bus partner for our September 2026 Getaway, please reach out to us at: Lou@crnbfest.com for additional details.

Vendors Wanted

We are excited to announce opportunities for vendors to join us at our **September 2026 R&B Getaway at the Gaylord National Resort & Conventional Center**. This is a fantastic chance to showcase your products or services to a dedicated audience of music and R&B enthusiasts from across the region.

We are looking for vendors who can offer:

- Unique merchandise or apparel
- Photography, Art or specialty items
- Products, services, etc.

Being a vendor at our event provides not only exposure to a passionate audience but also the opportunity to connect directly with attendees in a lively, engaging environment.

If you or your business would like to be part of this unforgettable experience secure your vendor spot as spaces are limited, so early inquiries are encouraged. Please contact us at vendor@crnbfest.com, click here to register: [Vendor Registration](#) or by calling our toll-free registration hotline at 855-222-FEST (3378).

Again, thanks so much for your past support. We can't wait for you to join us for a "WoW" experience. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. Call our toll-free registration hotline at 855-222-FEST (3378).



2026 RnB Empowerment Fest Reservation

Visit Our Website:
theRnBfest.com

Contact Us:
info@crnbfest.com

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