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American Idol Finalist and New *Quiet Riot* Front Man James Durbin to Perform at University of South Florida, October 24th

**Currently scheduling media interviews via Skype/FaceTime

(Tampa, FL) August 29, 2017

In March, James Durbin announced via his Facebook page that he had joined *Quiet Riot*, as their new lead singer, stating: "Well...The rumors are TRUE TRUE TRUE!! I am the official singer of Quiet Riot!!!! Words I never imagined I would utter."

[James Durbin](#) (28), a singer, songwriter and guitarist from Santa Cruz, California, who gained fame following the 2011 season of American Idol and now the lead vocalist for 80's heavy metal rock band [Quiet Riot](#), will be performing in Tampa on Tuesday, October 24 at 7 PM in the University of South Florida's School of Music Concert Hall. Joining Durbin on stage will be [USF's School of Music iPad Band, Touch](#). Tickets will be free and available by reservation on October 12th at the USF College of the Arts Box Office.

In a 2016 People Magazine article, Durbin discussed living with Tourette's and Asperger's syndrome. "When I was a kid, I knew I was different. I hated it and wished it would go away. But now I want to be living proof that different is awesome."

VSA Florida, the statewide organization on arts and disability, received a 2017 Challenge America grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and contracted Durbin to perform and speak about facing challenges and advocating for inclusion. He will share his motivational story and road to success at multiple middle and high schools and community outreach events in Tampa and Tallahassee.

Durbin is no stranger to the stage and performing, having toured the world on the 49-date *American Idol's Live Tour* with sold out shows across the US, Canada and the Philippines. He has appeared on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. Durbin has worked and performed alongside many incredible musicians including Stevie Wonder, Bob Babbitt of The Funk Brothers and Sheryl Crowe. Durbin appeared in a documentary, [Different Is the New Normal; Living a Live with Tourette's](#), which focused on a teen's effort to overcome Tourette syndrome. Durbin has released several albums and is featured on the new Quiet Riot album *Road Rage*.

Additional funding and support comes from a Regional Touring Grant from South Arts (in partnership with the NEA and Florida Division of Cultural Affairs), a grant from the Gobioff Foundation, Tallahassee Community College, Students with Disabilities Services and Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at both the University of South Florida and Florida State University.

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