

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICHAEL PHELPS JOINS CONNECT'S STAR-STUDED SPEAKER LINEUP

ATLANTA, March 19, 2019—Connect is pleased to announce that Michael Phelps will deliver the opening address at Connect 2019, taking place Aug. 26-28, in Louisville. Phelps is a retired American competitive swimmer and the most successful and most decorated Olympian in history, with a total of 28 medals.

“We are very excited to include one of the most celebrated athletes of all time to the Connect 2019 program,” said President Chris Collinson. “Our goal every year is to deliver high-caliber speakers, education and networking opportunities that will elevate each attendee’s personal and professional success. Phelps’ inspiring message will not disappoint.”

Phelps will deliver his address from 5 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 26. He joins a star-studded keynote lineup alongside John Cena, who will speak on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

Connect is committed to providing an engaging trade show experience that not only allows attendees to grow professionally but close business in a cost-effective manner. During Marketplace, planners and suppliers will meet in prescheduled appointments to exchange RFPs, arrange future site visits and book events.

To register, go to connectmarketplace.com.

ABOUT CONNECT 2019

Connect 2019 will take place Aug. 26-28 at the Kentucky International Convention Center. It is the premier hosted-buyer event that brings together the most active planners, suppliers and experts across six industry markets in meetings and events: corporate, association, specialty, expo, tour and sports. Attendees will gain the experience to move their careers and business forward through professional development and meetings excellence all while having fun in Louisville, Kentucky. Key features of the event include top-level education and CMP testing, inspirational speakers, preset one-on-one Marketplace appointments, experiential tech booths as well as fun networking parties and receptions.

ABOUT CONNECT

Connect is a leader in the meetings, events, travel and tourism industry. Specializing in destination marketing, the company produces digital programs, online and mobile solutions, meetings business and travel magazines, trade shows and consumer events, travel guides for newspapers and leisure magazines and destination information, which is distributed through broadcast and custom

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programs. Connect, formerly known as Collinson Media & Events, introduced the popular Marketplace format to the meetings industry and now produces national shows for meeting planners in the Corporate, Expo, Sports, Diversity, Association and Faith sectors as well as other state- and region-specific meetings- and hospitality-focused events. More information about the company's brands and services is available at connectmeetings.com.