

Release Date: January 9, 2018 Media Contact: Ryan Woodcock Woody@wmphoenixopen.com, (480) 766-1221

## LARRY FITZGERALD, BRUCE ARIANS AND PATRICK PETERSON ADDED TO ANNEXUS PRO-AM AT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.** – Arizona Cardinals all-time leading receiver Larry Fitzgerald, former Cardinals head coach Bruce Arians and All-Pro Cardinals cornerback Patrick Peterson have been added to the list of star-studded celebrities from the sports and entertainment world who will be playing in the Annexus Pro-Am at the Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by The Ak-Chin Indian Community on Wed., Jan. 31, at TPC Scottsdale's Stadium Course.

Fitzgerald recently finished his 14<sup>th</sup> season in the NFL – all with the Arizona Cardinals. During that time, Fitzgerald was named to 11 Pro Bowls, one First Team All-Pro (2008), twice led the NFL in receptions (2005, 2016), twice led the NFL in receiving touchdowns (2008, 2009), won the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year in 2016 and is currently ranked third all-time in NFL receiving yards with 15,545.

Arians recently retired as the Arizona Cardinals winningest head coach in their 98-year history, earning his 50<sup>th</sup> win in the final game of the year against Seattle. Arians has two Super Bowl titles under his belt (2006, 2009) and was named the AP NFL Coach of the Year in 2012 and 2014, the latter coming as head coach of the Cardinals.

Peterson is coming off his seventh season in the NFL, all with the Arizona Cardinals. During his career, Peterson has been named to seven Pro Bowls, named to the NFL All-Pro Team three times (2011, 2013, 2015) and is widely considered one of the top defensive backs in the league.

The trio will join Michael Phelps, Greg Maddux, Emmitt Smith and Tim Brown, who have already committed to playing.

Tee times for the Annexus Pro-Am will range from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Exact tee times for participants will be announced on Tuesday, Jan. 30 on wmphoenixopen.com, along with a complete list of celebrities and PGA TOUR players in the field.

The 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by the Ak-Chin Indian Community will be held at TPC Scottsdale January 29 – February 4, 2018. "The People's Open" is the best-attended golf tournament in the world and has gained legendary status for being the most unique stop on the PGA TOUR. The 2018 edition will mark the 83<sup>rd</sup> playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the ninth as the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 "active" members and more than 250 "life" members. In 2017 The Thunderbirds raised a record \$10.1 million for charity from proceeds from last year's tournament and have eclipsed \$122 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.

