



## **Paul Reed Smith to be Inducted into the Guitar Center Rockwalk**

*John Mayer to give induction speech*

**(STEVENSVILLE, Md.) and (WESTLAKE VILLAGE, Calif.) August 27, 2026** – PRS Guitars and Guitar Center today announced that the national retailer is inducting Paul Reed Smith into the Hollywood [Rockwalk](#), the handprint-and-signature tribute outside Guitar Center's flagship Hollywood store on Sunset Boulevard. This pedestrian path and industry-recognized music landmark is dedicated to honoring the musicians and industry pioneers who have made significant and lasting contributions to the growth and evolution of music, through an exceptional level of talent, outstanding innovation and creative ingenuity.

John Mayer will give the induction speech to honor Smith. The handprint ceremony will take place September 26th at the Dell West Plaza Rockwalk Stage at the Moody Center during the Crossroads Guitar Festival in Austin, Texas. The completed handprint will later be installed at Rockwalk outside Guitar Center's flagship Hollywood store.

"The first time I saw a Rockwalk induction, Ted McCarty was getting inducted and Eddie Van Halen was one of the people in attendance to witness it. I was very pleased for Ted. That I'll be in the middle of another induction is an honor and leaves me without words. I look forward to seeing everyone," said Paul Reed Smith, Managing General Partner of PRS Guitars.

"There are very few people in the history of the electric guitar who have pushed the design and perfection of the instrument forward more than Paul," said Gabe Dalporto, CEO of Guitar Center. "He has inspired generations of musicians and instrument makers and is a living legend in our industry."

Since its founding in 1985, Rockwalk has celebrated some of the most recognized names in rock, blues, soul and popular music through signature and handprint ceremonies outside the Guitar Center Hollywood. More than 150 artists and innovators have been inducted, including gear pioneers Jim Marshall, Robert Moog and Les Paul, as well as music icons including Eric Clapton, John Lennon, Stevie Wonder, Aerosmith, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Alanis Morissette, Black Sabbath, The Ramones, Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash. Located at the entrance of Guitar Center's flagship Hollywood store on Sunset Boulevard, Rockwalk is a permanent public destination where fans and musicians connect with music history year-round.

For all of the latest news, visit [www.prsguitars.com](http://www.prsguitars.com) and follow @prsguitars on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, X, and YouTube.

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**FOR MEDIA:**

Paul Reed Smith official headshot: [HERE](#)

**About PRS Guitars:**

PRS Guitars is a leading manufacturer of high-quality instruments in Stevensville, Maryland and has provided some of the world's most renowned musicians with instruments since 1985. The PRS team of highly skilled craftspeople design and build a wide variety of musical instruments and gear for worldwide distribution, including electric and acoustic guitars as well as boutique-style guitar amplifiers and effects pedals. The PRS SE Series complements the Maryland-made PRS line by offering highly approachable and more affordable electric and acoustic guitars. David Grissom, Jimmy Herring, Mark Holcomb, Myles Kennedy, Mark Lettieri, John Mayer, Orianthi, Carlos Santana, Ed Sheeran, Rhonda Smith, Mark Tremonti and Keith Urban are among the artists currently playing PRS instruments and/or amplifiers.

**PRS Guitars Info:** [www.prsguitars.com](http://www.prsguitars.com)

**About Guitar Center:**

Guitar Center is the leading retailer of musical instruments, lessons, repairs and rentals in the U.S. With more than 300 stores nationwide and one of the top direct sales websites in the industry, Guitar Center has helped people make music for more than 60 years. Guitar Center provides a range of musician-based services, including Guitar Center Lessons for players of all ages and skill levels, GC Repairs, an on-site maintenance and repair service, and GC Rentals, offering easy access to instruments and gear. Guitar Center's family of brands includes Music & Arts, which operates more than 250 stores specializing in band and orchestral instruments for sale and rental, serving teachers, band directors, college professors, parents and students, and Musician's Friend, a leading direct marketer of musical instruments in the United States. Guitar Center Business Solutions is the company's commercial division, delivering professional audio, video, lighting and integrated technology solutions for businesses, institutions and creators nationwide through a portfolio of brands including AVDG (Audio Visual Design Group), GC Pro and Custom House at Guitar Center. The Guitar Center Music Foundation is a national nonprofit that expands access to music through instrument donations and support for communities in need.

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