

THE GOLDDIGGERS®



More popular than “American Idol,” “Dancing with the Stars,” and “So you think you can Dance,” and long before The Spice Girls and the Pussycat Dolls gained fame, there were The Golddiggers, the 12 gals who made television history on the Dean Martin Show.

Handpicked from thousands of girls across the nation, The Golddiggers first came to the public’s attention in 1968 on Dean Martin’s Summer Series: “Dean Martin Presents The Golddiggers” starring Frank Sinatra Jr., and Joey Heatherton.

Based upon “The Golddiggers” films of the 1930s, the series was a hit, topping the TV rating charts and amassing more fan mail than Dean Martin! The girls went on to perform with Dean on the “Dean Martin Show” through 1972 and concurrently starred in their own weekly series “Chevrolet Presents The Golddiggers” from 1971-1972.

So popular was their own show that it became the hot venue for celebrity appearances. Stars such as John Forsythe and Bob Newhart, Glen Ford, Lou Rawls, Ernie Borgnine, Vicki Carr, Eddie Albert, Ruth Buzzi, Mike Connors, Steve Allen, Dom DeLuise, Vincent Price, Don Meredith and Tommy Tune were booked on the show.

At the peak of their popularity, The Goldiggers also performed with many of the greatest names in show business including Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly, Jimmy Stewart, Lucille Ball, Ginger Rogers, Jack Benny, Carol Burnett, Ann Margret, Raquel Welch, Jerry Lewis and John Wayne.

In 1968, Bob Hope invited the girls to accompany him to Vietnam to entertain our troops. The "USO Bob Hope Christmas Show" was later televised on NBC and became the highest-rated TV specials of the year. The Goldiggers traveled with Bob overseas again in 1969 and 1970, and again, NBC's USO shows were the highest-rated TV specials of the year.

Entertaining two U.S. Presidents at the White House, the girls also made multiple appearances on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" and guested on talk shows "Dinah! (Dinah Shore)" and The Mike Douglas Show. Their reach expanded to specials with Roy Rogers, Burl Ives and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

The Goldiggers were the only group chosen to perform on the Emmy Awards of 1971, hosted by Johnny Carson. Well known documentary filmmaker Charles Braverman followed the group and filmed the documentary, "The making of a Live TV Show," which was later broadcast on ABC.

The girls debuted their first record album "The Goldiggers" in 1969. Their title track of their second album "We need a Little Christmas" followed up their first hit "Blame it on my Youth." A third record album entitled "The Goldiggers Today" was released on RCA.

They expanded their global fan base while hosting the "Dean Martin Show" from London, England: "The Goldiggers in London." Performing live to sell-out crowds worldwide, they joined the biggest names in the business – Tony Bennett, Steve Lawrence and Edyie Gorme, The Osmonds, Andy Williams, Johnny Mathis and Buddy Hackett at The Copacabana in New York, Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, The Queen Elizabeth Bonaventure in Ontario, Harrah's in Reno, The Bristol in England and The Coconut Grove in Los Angeles.

Featured on and within the covers of numerous magazines of the era, including "TV Guide," "Vogue," "The New York Times" "Daily Variety," "The Hollywood Reporter," and "The Los Angeles Times," The Goldiggers, as performers on television, in concert and as recording artists, stand among the most popular girl groups of all time.

Now four decades later after the first Goldiggers made television history, six of the originals – Sheila (Mann) Allan, Suzy Cadham, Jackie Chidsey, Susie (Lund) Ewing, Rosetta (Cox) Gitlin, and Nancy (Reichert) Sinclair – are performing again!