

# The Greatest Showman

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# The Greatest Showman

Phineas Taylor Barnum was an American businessman and showman. He was the founder of the \_\_\_\_\_  
that later became the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey \_\_\_\_\_.

Although Barnum was also an author, publisher, philanthropist, and for some time a politician, he said of himself, "I am a showman by profession...and all the \_\_\_\_\_ shall make nothing else of me, " and his personal aims were "to put money in his own \_\_\_\_\_." Barnum is widely but erroneously credited with coining the phrase "There's a \_\_\_\_\_ born every minute."

Barnum became a small-business owner in his early twenties, and founded a weekly \_\_\_\_\_, before moving to New York City in \_\_\_\_\_. He embarked on an entertainment career, first with a variety troupe called "Barnum's Grand Scientific and \_\_\_\_\_ Theater," and soon after by \_\_\_\_\_ Scudder's American \_\_\_\_\_. On January 1, 1842, Barnum opened his \_\_\_\_\_ in New York City, he later renamed the American \_\_\_\_\_ after himself. Barnum used the \_\_\_\_\_ as a platform to promote hoaxes and human curiosities such as the "'Feejee' mermaid' and "General Tom Thumb." In 1850 he promoted the American tour of singer Jenny Lind, paying her an unprecedented \$ \_\_\_\_\_ a night for 150 nights.

After economic reversals due to bad investments in the 1850s, and years of litigation and public humiliation, he used

a lecture tour, mostly as a Adjective speaker, to Verb Base Form from debt. His museum added America's first aquarium and Verb Past Tense the wax Noun department.

Barnum served two terms in the Connecticut legislature in 1865 as a Republican for Fairfield. As mayor of Bridgeport, Connecticut, he Verb Past Tense to improve the water supply, bring gas lighting to streets, and to enforce liquor and Noun laws. Barnum was instrumental in starting Bridgeport Hospital, founded in 1878, and was its first president.

The circus business was the source of much of his enduring fame. He Verb Past Tense "P. T. Barnum's Grand Traveling Museum, Menagerie, Caravan & Hippodrome," a traveling circus, menagerie and museum of "Noun Plural," which adopted many names over the years.

Barnum Verb Past Tense in his sleep at home on April 7, 1891 and was Verb Past Tense in Mountain Grove Noun, Bridgeport, Connecticut, a Repeat Last Noun he designed.