

Apple to hold media event next week

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An Apple iPod plays an iPod commercial at an Apple Store in San Francisco, California. Apple, with its usual air of mystery, announced on Monday that it would hold a media event next week but did not reveal what it would be about.

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An invitation sent to journalists inviting them to the September 9 event in San Francisco featured a picture of a woman in silhouette holding an iPod and the tagline: "It's only rock and roll, but we like it."

The invitation sparked speculation on technology blogs that <u>Apple</u> planned to release a new line of iPod music players.



The videogame "The Beatles: Rock Band" is also to be released on September 9 and the coinciding dates sparked speculation that Apple may announce the availability of a Beatles catalog on iTunes, its online music store.

The California-based company is traditionally secretive about projects under development, revealing them only at launch and guarding zealously against leaks.

Rumors have been sweeping <u>Silicon Valley</u> in recent weeks that Apple plans to come out later this year with a portable tablet-sized computer that can surf the Web and also serve as an <u>electronic book reader</u>.

The September 9 invitation also sparked the inevitable speculation about an appearance by Apple's iconic chief executive, <u>Steve Jobs</u>, who returned to work in June after a five-month medical leave of absence during which he underwent a liver transplant.

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