



★ TOP EVENT IN THE UNITED STATES
Fiesta San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas
April 15 - 25

THE AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS THE

2010 TOP 100 EVENTS

IN NORTH AMERICA



AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION



★ TOP EVENT IN CANADA

Canadian Naval Centennial International Fleet Review

Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 28 - July 2

Fiesta San Antonio

San Antonio, Texas

April 15 - 25

With a soundtrack of mariachi, blues, jazz, rock, and country music, Fiesta is one of America's truly spectacular festivals. Since 1891, when the first Fiesta event, the Battle of Flowers, honored the memory of the heroes of the Alamo, Fiesta has expanded the festival to celebrate San Antonio's rich

and diverse culture. More than 3.5 million people attend Fiesta, many of whom line the River Walk and cheer as decorated barges float on the San Antonio River carrying festive bands, Fiesta's royal court, and other radiantly costumed participants. Featuring the Flambeau Parade, held at night and illuminated by torch-bearing brigades

marching between the floats and bands, 2010 marks Fiesta San Antonio's 119th anniversary.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: River Walk; Alamo; Museo Alameda; Spanish Colonial Missions; Imax Theatre

CONTACT: Anne Keever Cannon, (877) 723-4378, (210) 277-5191; anne@fiesta-sa.org; www.fiesta-sa.org



Canadian Naval Centennial International Fleet Review



Halifax, Nova Scotia

June 28 - July 2

100th ANNIVERSARY
 “Ready aye Ready” for a great experience. Come to Nova Scotia, and join the Canadian Navy in celebrating 100 years of service. In Nova Scotia, 2010 will be the “Year of the Sailor,” and celebrations will take place from Yarmouth to Sydney. During the period of June 28 to July 2, more than 30 naval ships from 15-20 countries and 6,000 visiting

sailors will gather in the historic Halifax Harbour and Bedford Basin. By June 28, the naval ships will be at anchor in the Bedford Basin, where in two World Wars, the convoys that provided a lifeline to Europe formed. On June 29, the ships will come alongside in Her Majesty’s Dockyard for three days and will open to the public. On July 2, the naval ships will return to anchorage for the International Fleet Review.

Don’t miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of a historic event—the Canadian Navy Centennial.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo; Halifax Citadel National Historic Site of Canada; Maritime Museum of the Atlantic; Halifax Public Gardens; Pier 21 National Historic Site of Canada

CONTACT: Bruce Gilchrist; b.j.gilchrist@ns.sympatico.ca; www.canadiannavy100.forces.gc.ca



2010 TOP 100 EVENTS
 AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION

The 17-day Québec Winter Carnival is the largest winter carnival in the world and is third on the list of top carnivals after Rio and New Orleans.

World of the Pharaohs Little Rock, Arkansas

September 25, 2009 – July 5, 2010

The World of the Pharaohs: Treasures of Egypt Revealed, an exhibit showcasing ancient Egypt, is spending more than nine months at the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock, Ark., presented in cooperation with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. This extraordinary exhibition showcases more than 200 magnificent objects including the majestic colossus of Ramesses II, amulets, exquisite jewelry, statues, elegant stone objects, intricate art, and funerary artifacts. The objects were selected for the exhibition to exemplify the rich and diverse characteristics of one of the world's great civilizations. Adult group rate is \$17 per person.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Clinton Presidential Library; Arkansas Queen Riverboat; Little Rock Zoo; National Central High Visitor Center; Historic Arkansas Museum

CONTACT: Arkansas Arts Center Group Sales, (800) 264-2787, (501) 372-4000; groupsales@arkarts.com; www.arkarts.com

Mardi Gras of Southwest Louisiana Lake Charles, Louisiana

January 6 – February 16

Glamour, mystique, beauty—you'll find it all during Mardi Gras in Southwest Louisiana. The 2010 season begins with the Twelfth Night celebration in the Lake Charles Civic Center, featuring a parade of nearly 2,000 Mardi Gras royalty members. Throughout the carnival season, more than 50 area krewes will host balls to select new royalty. Visitors can also head to the Royal Gala, the only place in the state to see a glittering promenade of all of the members of each royal court at the same time. Parades by street and boat, dances, music, a gumbo cook-off, a Children's Day and parade, the Royal Gala Mardi Gras eve presentation, chicken runs, and trail rides on horseback are just some of the events planned for the weekend leading up to Lundi Gras and Mardi Gras Day. The festival draws nearly 150,000 people each season.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Charpentier Historic District;



Creole Nature Trail All-American Road; Culinary Delights; Imperial Calcasieu Museum; Mardi Gras Museum

CONTACT: Angie Manning-Istre, (800) 456-7952; aistre@visitlakecharles.org; www.visitlakecharles.org

National Western Stock Show Denver, Colorado

January 9 – 24

Held at National Western's 100-acre show grounds, this annual event is Colorado's largest tradeshow. It boasts more than 30 breeds of cattle, horses, bison, yaks, sheep, goats, llamas, stock dogs, poultry, and rabbits. It features the world's only carload and pen cattle shows in the historic Denver Union Stockyards, the Coors Western Art Exhibition and Sale, and Children's Ranchland, as well as other great food and shopping opportunities. Other highlights include Wild West shows, An Evening of Dancing Horses®, Mexican Rodeo Extravaganza, and show jumping competitions.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: The Colorado History Museum; Buffalo Bill's Museum and Grave; Denver Art Museum; Denver Center for the Performing Arts; Red Rocks Amphitheatre

CONTACT: Bonnie Blitz, (303) 297-1166; nwss@nationalwestern.com; www.nationalwestern.com

Fire and Ice Ely, Nevada

January 15 – 18

This unique outdoor snow sculpture competition at Cave Lake State Park kicks off with a black powder cannon being fired over the lake. Visitors can watch as sculptors work their magic to bring the ice and snow to life in beautiful works of art. Try your hand at the two-lane ice bowling alley, single-hole golf course or the designated skating rink. Concessions include hot dogs, burgers, and chili, as well as coffee, beer, and ale. After dark on Sunday, guests gather around free-standing fire rings on the lake and enjoy one of the largest fireworks displays in the state, including an 80-shot finale. Ample parking, a shuttle bus, and a motorized "ice rider," a 12-seat modified open trailer pulled by an ATV, make this event accessible to all. This year, on Saturday night, visitors will get a treat when fireworks are blasted from the Jack Frost train as it moves back into town, the only display of its kind in the country.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: White Pine Historic Railroad; Great Basin National Park; Renaissance Village; Murals; McGill Drug Store

CONTACT: Ed Spear, (800) 496-9350, (775) 289-3720; coyoteed@mwpower.net; www.elynevada.net

2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Vancouver, British Columbia

February 12 – 28 and March 12 – 21

The eyes of the world will be on British Columbia's natural beauty, spectacular cities, and culturally diverse people when Vancouver and Whistler host the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. Canada's celebration of the Olympic values will be a distinctive reflection of the Canadian love of sport, commitment to freedom and social equity, and its welcoming and multicultural society. The rich culture of Canada's Indigenous peoples will be a key element as the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games works with the Four Host Nations to achieve unprecedented Aboriginal participation in the Games.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Vancouver; Whistler; Richmond

CONTACT: Stephanie Nichols, (604) 660-2956; www.vancouver2010.com

World Ice Art Championships Fairbanks, Alaska

February 24 – March 22

Ice Alaska is hosting one of the largest annual ice art competitions and exhibitions in the world for the 21st time. The World Ice Art Championships has grown to a month-long event involving more than 70 teams from all over the world. The competitions and the accompanying kids' park attract more than 100 ice artists and approximately 45,000 visitors from Alaska and all over the world.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Northern Lights Viewing; Dog Sled Tours; Hot Springs; Winter Activities; Native Culture

CONTACT: Jo Swarner, (907) 457-8767; iceart@icealaska.com; www.icealaska.com

Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Pony Express

St. Joseph, Missouri

March 1 – December 31

125th On April 3, 1860, a lone rider left the Pike's Peak Stables in St. Joseph, Mo., bound for Sacramento, Calif., with saddlebags of mail. This celebration marks the Sesquicentennial of the historic Pony Express era that bound the United States together in the days before

the trans-continental railroad and telegraph. Events including the city's Pony Express Celebration in April and the annual Re-Ride in June will spotlight the Sesquicentennial, with celebrity riders and special festivities. Other annual events, such as May's Apple Blossom festival and the Trails West festival in August, will also feature a Pony Express theme.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Pony Express Museum; Patee House Museum; Jesse James Home; Glore Psychiatric Museum; Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art

CONTACT: Beth Carmichael, (800) 785-0360, (816) 233-6688; bcarmichael@stjomo.com; www.stjomo.com

Wings & Wildlife Festival of Southern Nevada

Laughlin, Nevada

March 10 – 15

The Wings & Wildlife Festival of Southern Nevada was created to showcase the wide varieties of birds and animals that make the Mohave Desert and Colorado River Valley their home. This event allows attendees to experience four different ecological systems and the wildlife that thrive in the desert's springtime splendor. Optional tours, including kayaking,

canoeing, rafting, and river boat trips, provide the perfect opportunity to spot more than 400 species of birds, from bald eagles to mallards, that live along the Colorado River. This four-day event also provides opportunities for land excursions by van or motorcoach. Tours, educational seminars, live and static exhibits, a nature art show with wine reception, and a host of other activities make this event the perfect venue to explore the beautiful Mohave Desert.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Grand Canyon—West or South Rims; Boulder Dam and Keepers of the Wild-Animal Sanctuary; Kayaking Tour of Colorado River; Jet Boat Tour of Colorado River and London Bridge in Lake Havasu; Oatman Stables and Cowboy Cook-Out

CONTACT: Cherie Westbrook, (702) 298-3022; (877) 685-2845; cwestbrook@lvcva.com; www.snbwtp.org

North Carolina Azalea Festival

Wilmington, North Carolina

April 7 – 11

The 63rd Annual North Carolina Azalea Festival will be held in the greater Wilmington area, celebrating the city's exceptional artwork, gardens, rich history, and culture during its five days of entertainment that includes: a parade, street fair, circus, concerts, pageantry,

JANUARY INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Tournament of Roses

Pasadena, California

DECEMBER 27, 2009 – JANUARY 7, 2010

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses is a volunteer organization that annually hosts the Rose Parade® and Rose Bowl Game® presented by Citi. The 121st Rose Parade themed "2010: A Cut Above the Rest" will take place Friday, January 1, 2010, at 8 a.m. (PST) featuring majestic floral floats, high-stepping equestrian units, and spirited marching bands.

CONTACT: W. Gravely, (626) 449-4100; wgravely@rosemail.org; www.tournamentofroses.com

Philadelphia Mummers Fancy Brigade Finale

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

JANUARY 1

Fancy Brigade Finale Show is calling all fun-loving groups and families. The New Year's celebration gets started with a meet-and-greet with the Fancy Brigades. Snap pictures with performers on the show floor, and get in step in a Giant Mummers Strut. Catch the Mummers matinee, featuring performances by each of the 11 competing Fancy Brigades.

CONTACT: James Brennan, (215) 778-6303; acebren@verizon.net; www.fancybrigade.com

Saint Paul Winter Carnival

Saint Paul, Minnesota

JANUARY 21 – 31

In 1885, a reporter referred to Saint Paul, Minn. in winter as "unfit for human habitation." In response, the Saint Paul Chamber of Commerce set out to show the city's winter was its signature season—the Saint Paul Winter Carnival was born. Highlights include ice-carving competitions, snow-sculpting contests, parades, and concerts.

CONTACT: Michael Hernandez, (800) 627-6101, (651) 265-4906; mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com; www.wintercarnival.com; www.saintpaulgroups.com

Québec Winter Carnival

Québec City, Québec

JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 14

The 56th edition of the Québec Winter Carnival, in association with Loto-Québec, will offer an incomparable experience to thousands of visitors from the four corners of the world. For 17 days, the Carnival offers sports competitions, nightlife, 300 shows and activities, one majestic Ice Palace, two great night parades, and much more.

CONTACT: Sylvain Gagne, (866) 4CARNAVAL, (418) 626-3716; sylvain.gagne@carnaval.qc.ca; www.camaval.qc.ca; www.quebecregion.com

and all that is Southern.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Wilmington/Cape Fear Coast; USS North Carolina

CONTACT: Allison Berringer, (910) 794-4650; info@ncazaleafestival.org; www.ncazaleafestival.org

MAIN ST. Fort Worth Arts Festival Fort Worth, Texas

April 8 - 11



The MAIN ST. Fort Worth Arts Festival, Fort Worth's most honored event, celebrates its 25th year.

Produced by Downtown Fort Worth Initiatives, Inc., the event hosts tens of thousands of people annually during the four-day visual arts, entertainment, and cultural event. It showcases a nationally recognized fine art and fine craft juried art fair, including ceramics, paintings, photography, woodcarvings, glassworks, mixed-media compositions and jewelry, live concerts, performing arts, and music entertainment. More than 300 artists perform on the streets of downtown Fort Worth, stretching nine blocks on Main Street from the Tarrant County Courthouse to the Fort Worth Convention Center. Attendees can savor culinary arts of the finest eateries and an after-hours showcase of the

best in fine dining and entertainment in the safe, walkable environment of downtown Fort Worth.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Fort Worth Cultural District; Museum of Science and History; Fort Worth Botanic and Japanese Gardens; Bass Performance Hall; National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame

CONTACT: Jay Downie, (817) 336-2787; jay@dfwi.org; www.mainstreetartsfest.org

WATERFIRE Providence, Rhode Island

April 25 - October 10

WaterFire is a multi-sensory art installation festival in downtown Providence that consists of 100 bonfires set alight atop the rivers that flow through downtown Providence. It is part art exhibit, part festival, and wholly breathtaking. WaterFire, created by Barnaby Evans, will mark its 250th lighting. WaterFire is lit via a ceremonial process in which torches are passed from boats along the river, leading to the lighting of the first fire. Live entertainment is featured on stage in the center of the city square giving way to ballroom dancing on the dance floor, where hundreds of dancers enjoy the night air, the music, and the architecture. Street artists such as gargoyles, singers, and fire dancers perform alongside the river.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Benefit Street Mile of History

tour; Mansion tours; Culinary Arts Museum; Roger Williams Park Zoo & Botanical Gardens

CONTACT: Barnaby Evans, (401) 273-1155; bronwyn@waterfire.ccsend.com; www.waterfire.org

Contraband Days Pirate Festival Lake Charles, Louisiana

April 27 - May 9

During the first two weeks of May, the city of Lake Charles returns to the swashbuckling days of the pirates and buccaneers who once sailed the area's waterways. Legend has it that pirate Jean Lafitte buried his contraband treasure somewhere along Southwest Louisiana's plentiful waterways. The celebration of Lafitte and his adventures has grown into Contraband Days. The first festival began in 1958 as a one-day festival of water and has expanded to a 12-day festival with close to 100 events, such as pirates sailing in from Lake Charles, coming ashore to put up their pirate flag, and taking over the city. Lafitte makes the mayor walk the plank and jump into Lake Charles, which starts a two-week festival of concerts, carnival rides, food vendors, concerts, bike races, tennis and golf tournaments, a Kids' Pirate Costume Contest, a petting zoo, and more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Charpentier Historic District; Creole Nature Trail All-American Road; Mardi Gras Museum; Imperial Calcasieu Museum; Culinary Delights

CONTACT: Angie Manning-Istre, (800) 456-7952; aistre@visittlakecharles.org; www.visittlakecharles.org

FEBRUARY & MARCH INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Mardi Gras

New Orleans, Louisiana

FEBRUARY 16

Noted as the city for jazz, Cajun and Creole cooking, and the French Quarter, Mardi Gras eclipses all as New Orleans' centerpiece. Fat Tuesday this year will be February 5, but the festivities begin weeks in advance. A time of revelry, fraternity, and indulgence, Mardi Gras reflects New Orleanians' rich heritage and embraces the city's social and cultural variety.

CONTACT: Lisa Holland, (800) 748-8695; lholland@neworleanscvb.com; www.neworleanscvb.com

Philadelphia International Flower Show

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MARCH 1 - 8

The 2010 Philadelphia International Flower Show will present an international bouquet of exhibits in "Passport to the World," a celebration of global flowers and plants, which will transport visitors to India, Holland, South Africa, the Amazon jungle of Brazil, Singapore, and New Zealand.

CONTACT: Connor Sharkey, (215) 988-8814; csharkey@pennhort.org; Ryan O'Connor, (800) 225-5745, (215) 636-3312, groups@pennhorg.org; ryano@pcvb.org; www.theflowershow.com

Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race

Wasilla, Alaska

MARCH 6

You can't compare it to any other competitive event in the world: A race over 1,150 miles of the roughest, most beautiful terrain Mother Nature has to offer. She throws jagged mountain ranges, frozen river, dense forest, desolate tundra, and miles of windswept coast at the mushers and their dog teams.

CONTACT: Chas St. George, (907) 376-5155; cstgeorge@iditarod.com; www.iditarod.com

National Cherry Blossom Festival

Washington, DC

MARCH 27 - APRIL 11

Come March in the nation's capital, thoughts turn to the National Cherry Blossom Festival. Japan's 1912 gift of 3,000 cherry trees to the United States is showcased during the two-week celebration. Highlights include the parade on April 10, featuring vocal artists, marching bands, international performance troupes, and floats.

CONTACT: Lillian Iversen, (877) 44-BLOOM, (202) 661-7584, ncbf@downtowndc.org; www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org; www.washington.org

Pella Tulip Time Festival Pella, Iowa

May 6 - 8



The Pella Tulip Time Festival celebrates the Dutch Heritage of Pella. This year marks the 75th anniversary for the event. Nearly one-half million tulips are planted to provide tulip lanes along the streets, as well as gardens full of color. A highlight of the festival is the parade; each day features two parades, an afternoon and a lighted evening parade. No Dutch celebration would be complete without the Street Scrubbers to ensure the parade route is Dutch clean. Grandstand seating provides a perfect view of all the festivities. The authentic Dutch working windmill and the Historical Village fascinate all who visit. Dozens of food stands provide a meal with a touch of Dutch and churches provide indoor sit-down meals. Step-on guides for coaches can be arranged to explain Pella's history, architecture, and points of interest. The festival has twice been named the Iowa Tourism Event of the Year in the last six years.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Pella Historical Village / Vermeer

Mill Tour; Scholte House Museum; Living History Farms; Amana Colonies; Bridges of Madison County

CONTACT: Bonnie Verburg, (641) 620-9463; pellamill@iowatelecom.net; www.pellatuliptime.com

Rochester Lilac Festival

Rochester, New York

May 14 – 23

Each May, Rochester's Lilac Festival signals spring as the park's 1,200 lilac bushes display a floral rainbow of more than 500 varieties creating brilliant floral colors, and a truly "living rainbow." Visitors come from nearly every continent creating an exotic spectacle of languages, customs, and costumes. The festival features a grand opening parade, arts and crafts, international food court, live entertainment, and wine tasting. Flowering trees and bushes enhance the floral experience as well as the elaborate tulip and pansy displays. Lamberton Botanical Garden is on the grounds and features colorful tropical floral and foliage plants. The festival offers visitors a beautiful way to welcome spring. Motorcoach visitors are offered preferred bleacher seating during the parade and complimentary motorcoach parking is available on-site. Admission to the festival is free. Tour groups are requested to pre-register with Visit Rochester to ensure all benefits are provided.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: George Eastman House and International Museum of Photography & Film; Strong National Museum of Play—National Toy Hall of Fame; Genesee Country Village and Museum; Erie Canal; Artisan Works Gallery

CONTACT: Paula Savage, (800) 677-7282, (585) 279-8305; paulas@visitrochester.com; www.lilacfestival.com

Little Rock Riverfest

Little Rock, Arkansas

May 28 – 30

Riverfest is a celebration of visual and performing arts held annually over Memorial Day weekend on the banks of the Arkansas River in Little Rock. It includes six stages and three days of entertainment. Riverfest is the largest single event in the state of Arkansas with a rich 32-year tradition and more than a quarter of a million people in attendance each year. Riverfest is fantastic family entertainment with outstanding music performers, visual artists, food vendors, children's activities, interactive attractions, and a spectacular fireworks show. Riverfest, Arkansas' largest three-day celebration of music, art, and food, is more than just a festival. It has become an important economic resource for our community and the state.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: William J. Clinton Presidential Center and Park; Central High School National



The Rochester Lilac Festival showcases 1,200 bushes and more than 500 varieties of lilacs.

Historic Site; Marlsgate Plantation; Heifer International; Old State House Museum

CONTACT: Gretchen Hall, (800) 844-4781, (501) 376-4781; ghall@littlerock.com; www.littlerock.com

A Gift from the Desert Exhibition

Lexington, Kentucky

May 29 – October 15

The International Museum of the Horse at the Kentucky Horse Park will host the international exhibition and film entitled *A Gift from the Desert: The Art, History, and Culture of the Arabian Horse*, presented by the Saudi Arabian Equestrian Federation. This will be the third major international exhibition developed by the museum this decade and is an exclusive presentation that will not travel to any other destination. *A Gift from the Desert* will be the first major exhibition to explore the dynamic impact of the horse on Near Eastern civilization with particular emphasis on the Arabian horse, the world's oldest breed. The exhibition will be a journey from the arrival of the first domesticated horses in the Near East to the renaissance of purebred Arabian horse breeding in the Near East today. The 9,000-square-foot exhibition will contain

approximately 350 artifacts and works of art from prominent Near Eastern museums, academic institutions, and private collections, as well as from prominent American and European collections.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Shaker Village; Keeneland Horse Track; Horse Farm Tours; Bourbon Trail; KY Wine Trail

CONTACT: Cindy Armstrong, (800) 678-8813, (859) 259-4280; cindy.armstrong@ky.gov; www.kyhorsepark.com

Quilt Gardens Tour of Amish Country Northern Indiana

Elkhart, Indiana

May 31 – October 1

Nothing says Amish Country of Northern Indiana like an exquisitely handcrafted quilt. We've combined both to create a tour of 16 vibrant quilt patterned gardens bursting with colorful annuals and 16 outdoor quilt art murals—a colorful patchwork "sewn" across seven welcoming communities in Northern Indiana including Nappanee, Middlebury, and Shipshewana. The tour, inspired by quilt designs, celebrates the heritage and artistry of Northern Indiana Amish Country. Group immersive experiences include specialty hands-on programs, gardening seminars, quilt exhibits, quilt shop hops, and Master Gardener

APRIL INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Stratford Shakespeare Festival

Stratford, Ontario

APRIL – NOVEMBER

From Shakespearean classics to works by today's master playwrights, this seven-month festival stages them all. The festival also presents the best in operetta and musical theater and offers themed packages that include performances, discussions, and other activities.

CONTACT: Stratford Festival of Canada, (800) 567-1600, (519) 273-1600; groups@stratfordshakepearefestival.com; www.stratfordshakespearefestival.com

Shaw Festival

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

APRIL – DECEMBER

The only festival that specializes in producing plays written by George Bernard Shaw, shows are staged in three different theaters, offering visitors an opportunity to choose from several productions at any one time. The festival also offers backstage tours, lectures on plays being presented, chamber music concerts, pre-show chats, informal Q&A sessions, and seminars.

CONTACT: Group Sales Manager, Shaw Festival, (800) 511-7429; groupsales@shawfest.com; www.shawfest.com

Virginia Arts Festival – Virginia International Tattoo Performances

Norfolk, Virginia

APRIL 16 – MAY 30

Considered one of the premiere cultural events in the mid-Atlantic, the Virginia Arts Festival showcases performing artists and companies from around the world, presenting more than 80 performances, events, and educational programs to guests during its six-week run.

CONTACT: Dianna Starkey, (877) 741-2787, (757) 282-2819; dstarkey@vafest.org; www.vafest.org

Kentucky Derby Festival

Louisville, Kentucky

APRIL 17 – 30 (Kentucky Derby Race: May 1)

Louisville's Derby Festival celebrates the horse race and, more importantly, the unique spirit of the community at Derby time. It starts with a bang with "Thunder Over Louisville," a spectacle over the Louisville skyline with an aviation show and the nation's largest annual fireworks show.

CONTACT: Dineene Bradley, (800) 626-5646, (502) 560-1495; dbradley@gotolouisville.com; www.kdf.org; www.gotolouisville.com

step-on guides. Groups combine the cultural experience of Amish Country by visiting group-friendly attractions such as Amish Acres, Das Dutchman Essenhaus, and the Shipshewana Flea Market.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Amish Acres, Nappanee; Das Dutchman Essenhaus, Middlebury; Shipshewana Flea Market, Shipshewana; American Countryside Farmers Market, Elkhart; Old Bag Factory, Goshen

CONTACT: Sonya Nash, (800) 517-9657, (574) 262-8161; sonya@amishcountry.org; www.QuiltGardensTour.com

19th Annual Grand Celebration Pow Wow Hinckley, Minnesota

June 1

Native Americans of all ages in colorful regalia come from around the country to honor their traditions and heritage through song, dance, and drums. Men, women, teens, and children compete for prizes in several categories throughout this annual Pow Wow sponsored by Grand Casino Hinckley. Stroll the grounds and enjoy a variety of food and crafts. The event is free, and grandstand seating is available.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Grand Casino Hinckley; Hinckley Fire Depot; Antiques America Mall; Northwest Company Fur Post; Lake Superior attractions

CONTACT: Joni O'Brien, (800) 472-6321, (320) 384-4843; hinjjo@gcasinos.com; www.grandcasinomn.com/entertainment

Great Galena Balloon Race Galena, Illinois

June 1

The Great Galena Balloon Race is held to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). This spectacular three-day event features more than 20 hot air balloons, two races, two night glows, tethered rides, a car show, live music, activities for the whole family, and a Friday night Alefest. Friday night, the festival kicks off with Galena On The Fly, Inc. hot-air balloon rides. Join in on the Alefest which will feature more than 100 of the finest craft beer styles. Tickets cost \$20, and reservations are highly recommended. Each admission is good for samples of craft beer, a tasting glass, and a guide. Saturday morning begins with the Crack of Dawn Balloon Race, which is the first chance to see all of the balloons launch. Saturday concludes with the Great Galena Balloon Race and another helium balloon launch.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Massbach Ridge Winery; National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium; Remembering Old Galena; Chicago Great Western Railway Depot Museum; Ulysses S. Grant Home State Historic Site

CONTACT: Eric Gregne, (800) 690-1287, (815) 777-2747; info@greatgalenaballoonrace.com; www.greatgalenaballoonrace.com

1885 North-West Resistance 125th Anniversary Celebration Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

June 1 – October 1



The 1885 North-West Resistance was a series of pivotal events in Canadian history. The 125th anniversary will be commemorated in 2010 with festivals, celebrations, and educational programming at many of the important battle sites across Saskatchewan. The North-West Resistance involved uprisings of the Metis and Cree against the Dominion Government of the day. These were the last battles to have ever taken place on Canadian soil. Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont led the Metis forces, discontent over land and other rights. Signature events include an extended presentation of Back to Batoche, an annual festival celebrating the rich history and culture of the Metis. The community of Duck Lake will host the Battle of Duck Lake Commemorative Days on June 25 and 26. **OTHER ATTRACTIONS:** Prince Albert National Park; Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre; Fort Battleford National Historic Site; North Battleford WDM Heritage Farm & Village; Seager Wheeler Farm National Historic Site

CONTACT: Colleen Norrish, (306) 933-7492; colleen@trailsof1885.ca; www.trailsof1885.com

Music Theatre of Wichita Wichita, Kansas

June 9 – August 10

Music Theatre of Wichita (MTWichita), a not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to stimulating and nurturing interest in musical theatre by producing and/or presenting Broadway-quality productions while entertaining and educating patrons, the community, and theatrical artists. MTWichita has attained an international reputation for excellence. Regarded as one of the nation's top 10 summer theatres and the largest subscribed arts organization in the state of Kansas, MTWichita is one of the few theaters to mount all its own productions. Each summer it presents five "better than Broadway" Broadway productions, which routinely sell out. More than 1,000 motorcoach passengers enjoy Music Theatre of Wichita each season.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Wichita Art Museum; Crown Uptown Dinner Theater; Museum of World Treasures, Botanica; The Wichita Gardens; Old Cowtown Museum

CONTACT: Wayne Bryan, (316) 265-3253; wbyranks@aol.com; www.MTWichita.org

Glenn Miller Festival Clarinda, Iowa

June 10 – 13

35th The Glenn Miller Festival began in 1976, and has gradually grown over the years. By 1990, it had become an international event, attracting entertainers and fans from around the world. Entertainers have attended the festival from England, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Sweden, Japan, Canada, and the United States. The festival has a wide variety of things to offer: a kick-off and closing picnic, a Big-Band breakfast, seven or eight outstanding bands perform, which in 2010 will include the world-famous Glenn Miller Orchestra and the world-class Tamana Girls High School Band from Tamana, Japan. In addition there is a presentation, *Portrait—Glenn Miller* by Alan Cass from the University of Colorado, museum displays by the Glenn Miller Birthplace Society and the University of Colorado, a panel discussion, a parade, a big-band dance, tours of Glenn Miller's birthplace home, and the new Glenn Miller Birthplace Museum.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Glenn Miller Birthplace Home and Glenn Miller Birthplace Museum (opening June 10, 2010); Nodaway Valley Historical Museum—Goldenrod School; Bridges of Madison County, Winterset; John Wayne's Birthplace, Winterset; The Loess Hills National Park Site
CONTACT: Marvin Negley, (712) 542-2461; marvn@mchsi.com; www.glennmiller.org

International Festival of Arts & Ideas New Haven, Connecticut

June 12 – 26

15th The International Festival of Arts & Ideas is a unique experience that occurs each June in New Haven, featuring world-class theater, dance, and musical performances, as well as eclectic lectures, panel discussions, and dialogues. The festival also includes interactive activities for children and families, poetry, bike tours of historic spaces, and tours of ethnic restaurants. Everything is within walking distance, and 80 percent of the festival events are free. *The New York Times* describes the festival as “a happening hard to top for sheer scale and variety.”

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Yale Campus Tour; Yale Art Gallery; Yale Center for British Art; Peabody Museum of Natural History; CT Open House Day
CONTACT: Mary Lou Aleskie, (888) 278-4332, (203) 946-3800; mlaleskie@artidea.org; www.artidea.org

51st Annual Eastern Shoshone Indian Days Lander, Wyoming

June 24 – 27

Traditional Indian Powwow located near Ft. Washakie on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. Enjoy four days of Indian music and dancing, Indian games,

feasts, a Powwow Parade, the Indian Hand Games, an all-Indian rodeo, Indian horse relay races, the 1868 Treaty Reenactment between the Eastern Shoshone & Bannock tribes with the government, plus Indian arts and crafts sales as well as Native American food booths.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Eastern Shoshone Cultural Center; Casinos: Shoshone Rose Casino, Wind River Casino + Northern Arapaho Experience; Historic Oregon/Mormon/Gold Rush Trails; National Big Horn Sheep Center; Sinks Canyon

CONTACT: Paula McCormick, (307) 332-5546; info@wind-river.org; www.wind-river.org

Buffalo Bill Days Sheridan, Wyoming

June 24 – 27

The Buffalo Bill Days & Wild West Show brings the original show back to life. Hold on to your hat for the trick ropers, Roman Riders, Calamity Jane Race, Wild Ride, and gymkhana. Watch in amazement at the precision and mastery of the Westernaires who make synchronized horse riding look easy. Listen to the live band playing authentic period tunes from the time of Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band. A host of events, depicting Wyoming in the late 1800s, pack the week. On Saturday morning, enjoy the Pony Express reenactment, complete with the delivery of mail, addressed to Buffalo Bill and the Sheridan Postmaster, to the front porch of the Historic Sheridan Inn. After the reenactment enjoy an old fashion Western-style parade down Sheridan's Main Street followed by the annual Chuck Wagon Lunch.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Yellowstone National Park; Grand Teton National Park; Devils Tower National Monument; Mount Rushmore National Monument
CONTACT: Penny Becker, (888) 596-6787, (307) 673 7120; stt@sheridanwyoming.org; www.sheridanwyoming.org/info/au-contact.php

Nordic Culture Clubs Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival Moorhead, Minnesota

June 25 – 27

Celebrate the unique cultures of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and Saami Land (indigenous peoples of Northern Scandinavia) at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival held annually in Moorhead, Minn. and Fargo, N.D. Take part in a feast of Nordic foods and sing or dance with some of the most talented musicians in the world. Explore Nordic traditions, and discover modern Scandinavian cultures. Shop for unique Scandinavian arts and treasures in the Nordic Marketplace. Exhibits about the replica Viking ship Hjemkomst and Hopperstad Stave Church



George Bernard Shaw favorites like *Born Yesterday* are showcased at the Shaw Festival in Ontario.

as well as the Clay County Museum and 1870s Swedish Bergquist Pioneer Cabin are a sight to behold. Fifty percent of the population in these metro twin cities boasts Scandinavian heritage and the Nordic culture clubs roll out the red carpet each year for thousands of guests.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Hjemkomst Center; Plains Arts Museum; Bonanzaville USA; Rourke Art Museum; Downtown Fargo-Moorhead

CONTACT: Nordic Culture Clubs, (218) 299-5452; nordiccultureclubs@gmail.com; www.scandinavianhjemkomstfestival.org

The Chautauqua Institution 2010 Summer Season Chautauqua, New York

June 27 - August 29

Chautauqua Institution is a festival for the mind, body, and spirit. For nine weeks each year, the Chautauqua Institution offers an extraordinary blend of arts programming, educational and religious opportunities, and recreational activities. Chautauqua is a summer center that encompasses the arts, education, religion, and recreation. A place where music, dance, opera, theater and visual arts create the "Chautauqua Mix" that draws more than 170,000 people each summer. This 180-acre gated community offers something for everyone. Nestled in the beautiful countryside of Chautauqua County, it is a magical place for all ages, all interests, all summer long.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Wineries; Museums: Lucy/Desi, Fenton History, Roger Tory Peterson Institute; Lake Cruises

CONTACT: Laurie Paterniti-Stanton, (800) 821-1881 (Athenaeum Hotel), (716) 357-6262, (716) 357-6269; lpaterniti@ciweb.org; www.ciweb.org

Mountain State Art & Craft Fair Ripley, West Virginia

July 1 - 3

The Mountain State Art & Craft Fair is the grandfather of juried heritage arts and crafts events held in West Virginia. Hosted on the beautiful grounds of Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley, this fair features 150+ of the Appalachian region's best juried artisans with hands-on demonstrations and products ranging from glass, pottery, jewelry, woodworking and carving, weaving, quilting, photography, paintings, fine art, and so much more. There is great traditional Appalachian music, delicious kettle korn, and apple butter. Sample some of the finest West Virginia-grown specialty food in the Market Place where proud businesses sell their jams, jellies, pickles, salsa, bread, dried mixes, mustards, and much more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Blennerhassett Island State Park/Museum; The Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences; Appalachian Power Park & WV Power Baseball; Fenton Art Glass Co.; Holl's Chocolate

CONTACT: Debra Gard, (800) 225-5982, (888) 982-3274; dgard3@verizon.net; www.msacf.com

National Tom Sawyer Days

Hannibal, Missouri

July 1 - 4



A Hannibal tradition for more than 50 years, National Tom Sawyer Days are about wholesome family fun, while celebrating Missouri's famous native son, Mark Twain. Visitors of all ages can watch and

join in the many activities during this unforgettable festival in America's Hometown. Some events are pulled straight from the pages of Twain's novels, like the National Fence Painting Competition, which invites kids from around the country to try their hand at whitewashing a fence just like Tom Sawyer. This year will be full of special events tied into the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Mark Twain's death and the 175th anniversary of his birth.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Mark Twain's Boyhood Home & Museum Properties; The Mark Twain Riverboat; Mark Twain Cave; Rockcliffe Mansion; Mark Twain Himself Theater Performance

CONTACT: Megan Rapp, (573) 221-2477, (866) 263-4825; megan@visithannibal.com; www.visithannibal.com



During National Tom Sawyer Days, kids from across the country try their hand at whitewashing fences.

MAY & JUNE INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Holland Tulip Time Festival

Holland, Michigan

MAY 1 – 8

Tulip Time began in 1929 with the purpose of celebrating Dutch culture and heritage while beautifying our community with tulips. Today the fun continues with entertainment, local music and nationally touring artists, variety shows, a Dutch market, three parades, klompen dancing, art and craft fair, fireworks, six million tulips, and much more.

CONTACT: Contact: Sara VanderZee, (616) 396-4221, ext. 107, (800) 822-2770, ext. 107; groupsales@tuliptime.com; www.tuliptime.com

Indianapolis 500 Festival

Indianapolis, Indiana

MAY 1 – 29

The 500 Festival's celebration captivates race fans and garners community and civic involvement. Through its nearly 50 annual events and programs, the 500 Festival celebrates the Indianapolis 500® while showcasing Indianapolis' cultural, educational, and social contributions. Its signature events, like the OneAmerica 500 Festival Mini-Marathon, showcase the city on a world stage.

CONTACT: Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association, (800) 642-4639; ljones@indianapolis.org; www.500festival.com; www.indy.org

Canadian Tulip Festival

Gatineau, Québec

MAY 7 – 24

Since 1953, the beauty of spring has been celebrated each May when Canada's Capital region is ablaze with over three million tulips. The Festival is expanding with more activity and locations along the Tulip Route, at Festival Plaza outside City Hall, and at Lansdowne Park in addition to the traditional activity sites at Major's Hill Park, Commissioner's Park, and Dows Lake.

CONTACT: Kim Morissette; (800) 265-7822 ; (819) 778-2530 ext. 208; kmorissette@tourisme-outaouais.ca; www.tulipfestival.ca; www.outaouaisgroup.com

Preakness Celebration

Baltimore, Maryland

MAY 15

The Baltimore area celebrates the Preakness Stakes, the second jewel in horse racing's Triple Crown, with a series of events leading up to race day. The festival usually includes a 5K Run/Walk and a kid-friendly Pee Wee Preakness race. The event offers concerts, a fireworks display, a Crab Derby at Baltimore's famed Lexington Market, and the Preakness Balloon Festival.

CONTACT: D. Morales, (410) 659-7077; dmorales@baltimore.org; www.preaknesscelebration.org; www.baltimore.org

Portland Rose Festival

Portland, Oregon

MAY 28 – JUNE 10

The Portland Rose Festival is planning events and activities that will capture the imagination and pay homage to our city's flower with the 2010 theme, "Rose Spirit." The festival's cornerstone event, the KeyBank Grand Floral Parade on June 12, is one of the top five parades in the United States and includes all-floral floats, bands, and equestrian units.

CONTACT: Carol Ross, (888) 591-7673, (503) 227-2681; carolr@rosefestival.org; www.rosefestival.org

Country Music Association – CMA Music Fest

Nashville, Tennessee

JUNE 10 – 13

The annual CMA Music Festival is Nashville's signature music event, consisting of four days filled with more than 100 hours of live music, autograph signings by country music's biggest names and up-and-comers, and thousands of worldwide fans. For the past five years, the ABC television special "CMA Music Festival: Country's Night to Rock," has been filmed at the event.

CONTACT: Scott Stem, (615) 244-2840; www.cmaworld.com

RCMP Sunset Retreat Ceremony

Regina, Saskatchewan

July 1 – August 17

Join the world-renowned Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as they participate in the RCMP Sunset Retreat Ceremonies, presented by the RCMP Academy, "Depot" Division. This event runs every Tuesday night from July 1 until August 17. Experience this slice of Canadiana, as troops dressed in the traditional scarlet tunic of the RCMP, take part in the 45-minute ceremony featuring the firing of a cannon, a troop drill display, and more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: RCMP Heritage Centre; Saskatchewan Legislature; Casino Regina; Royal Saskatchewan Museum; Eco-Party Dragon Boat Tours

CONTACT: Communications & Events Management Services, (306) 780-5900; depot.division@rcmp-grc.gc.ca; www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/depot/visitors-visiteurs/sunset-crepuscle-eng.htm

Mount Rushmore National Memorial Independence Day Celebration

Rapid City, South Dakota

July 3

Each year, Mount Rushmore National

Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota has the privilege of launching the nation into the Independence Day weekend with all-day patriotic entertainment and a dramatic display of fireworks in the evening. A 28-minute state-of-the-art display will light up the sky. The show kicks off with a dramatic B-1 Bomber flyover followed by one of the world's highest-rated fireworks shows. This year, more than 20,000 people will view the fireworks from the Memorial grounds, and millions of additional viewers will participate from locations throughout the Black Hills area and via nationwide broadcasts.

Celebrations continue July 4 with music and cultural entertainment.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Crazy Horse Memorial; Badlands National Park; 1880 Train; Bear Country USA; Reptile Gardens

CONTACT: Diana Saathoff, (605) 341-8883; mrnms@mtrushmore.org; www.nps.gov/moru; www.mountrushmoresociety.com

Festevents - Harborfest Norfolk, Virginia

July 3 – 5

Tall ships from all over the world frequently call on the City of Norfolk, and nearly half a million visitors gather on the waterfront each

year for a celebration of the region's nautical heritage. Harborfest is three days of free entertainment, fireworks, and the biggest outdoor dock party in Hampton Roads. Celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated Town Point Park and enjoy the 27th annual 4th of July Great American Picnic and Fireworks all in one spectacular weekend.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Nauticus; American Rover; Spirit of Norfolk; Chrysler Museum of Art

CONTACT: Pat Vargo, (757) 441-2345; vargop@festevents.org; www.festevents.org

Annual Grandfather Mountain Highland Games & Gathering of Scottish Clans Linville, North Carolina

July 8 – 11

Brawny athletes, delicate dancers, noisy bagpipe band parades, rocking Celtic music, and a spectacular highland setting makes this colorful celebration of Scottish culture the best highland games in America.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Grandfather Mountain; Linville Caverns; Tweetsie Railroad

CONTACT: Frank Vance, (828) 733-1333; frank_gmhg@yahoo.com; www.gmhg.org

Winnipeg Folk Festival Winnipeg, Manitoba

July 8 – 11

The Winnipeg Folk Festival has become one of the premiere outdoor music festivals in the world. With an operating budget of more than \$3.5 million, attendance exceeds 62,000, including performers, volunteers, and guests. About 250 artists perform on seven stages around the festival site throughout the weekend. These daytime stages give festival-goers a rare opportunity to see performers in an up-close and personal setting, allowing a glimpse into the musical creative process. In the evening, everyone gathers at the main stage to enjoy an eclectic assortment of music against the backdrop of a prairie sunset. As the stars take over the night sky, blues, celtic, bluegrass, and world music brings dancers out of the crowd.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Birds Hill Provincial Park; The Forks National Historic Site; Radisson Resort Hecla Oasis; Winnipeg Beach Arts & Co-op; Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site

CONTACT: Tutu Ilelaboye, (888) 655-5354, (204) 231-0096; marketing@winnipegfolkfestival.ca; www.winnipegfolkfestival.ca

National Folk Festival Butte, Montana

July 9 – 11

The National Folk Festival, one of the nation's largest and most prestigious celebrations of the arts, has taken up residence in Butte, Montana until 2010. First presented in 1934, it is the oldest multicultural festival in the nation. The National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA), the organization that has produced the National Folk Festival since its creation, recognized Butte's and Montana's unique natural resources, cultural assets, and strong community spirit. The National Folk Festival is a three-day free outdoor event that celebrates the roots, richness, and variety of American culture. The festival features music and dance performances, dancing, workshops, children's activities, regional and ethnic foods, storytelling, parades, craft exhibits and demonstrations, and more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Glacier National Park; Yellowstone National Park; Pintler Scenic Highway; Montana Scenic Loop

CONTACT: Jan Watkins, (800) 956-6537, (406) 532-3231; gcmarketing@montana.com; www.glaciertm.com

Tall Ship Celebration: Bay City Bay City, Michigan

July 15 – 18

Tall Ship Celebration: Bay City sails into mid-

Philadelphia's Global Fusion Festival features multicultural headline talent.



Michigan, attracting thousands of people to the banks of the Saginaw River. Bay City serves as Michigan's port of call and the only official host port in the state for the American Sail Training Association's Tall Ships Challenge Great Lakes fleet. A two-time national "Port of the Year" award winner, Tall Ship Celebration: Bay City offers guests the chance to board and tour visiting ships and to interact with the young crews of the vessels that race from port to port. While Tall Ships are at the heart of the world-class event, the celebration also hosts an international Maritime Music Festival showcasing some of the best shanty musicians in the world. An art festival, craft making, small boat building, live concerts, vintage baseball games, storytellers, pirates, and more round out the entertainment.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Alden B. Dow Home in Midland; Japanese Tea House; Frankenmuth; Birch Run Outlet Shopping; Soaring Eagle Casino

CONTACT: Shirley Roberts, (888) 229-8696, (989) 893-1222; shirley@chartermi.net; www.tallshipcelebration.com

Global Fusion Festival Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

July 17

Global Fusion Festival (GFF) Week is an annual multicultural performing arts festival. This free event offers a combination of cultural performances and headline talent with food,

merchandise, and information vendors representing African Diaspora, Asian, Hispanic, Caribbean, and Native American cultures. Previous national headline talent included nationally syndicated host Tom Joyner, Eric Benet, and Jazmine Sullivan. With award-winning local cultural talent rounding out the entertainment, GFF exceeds expectations as the "don't miss" summer event. In addition, this family-friendly event will showcase the best of Philadelphia's performing arts organizations, museums, and interactive play exhibitors within its Cultural and Children's Pavilion.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: African American Museum in Philadelphia; Liberty Bell; National Constitution Center; Independence Seaport Museum; The President's House

CONTACT: Tanya Hall, (215) 636-4433; tanyah@pcvb.org; www.globalfusionfestival.com

Vectren Dayton Air Show Vandalia, Ohio

July 17 – 18

Dayton, the Birthplace of Aviation and much more, is also home to the fabulous Vectren Dayton Air Show. Dayton is conveniently located at the "Crossroads of America," the intersection of I-70 and I-75, making it easily accessible for bus groups and tours. The Dayton Air Show offers something to please everyone. Each year a

jet team such as the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds or the U.S. Navy Blue Angels dazzle crowds with their breathtaking performances. Also see world-class civilian aerobatic pilots, such as Sean D. Tucker or Patty Wagstaff. Thrilling single-ship fighter jet demonstrations from our military along with spectacular flyovers also round-out a blockbuster line-up. While most of the action takes place up in the air, there are plenty of interesting displays and aircraft on the ground available for touring.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: National Museum of USAF; Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park; Aviation Trail; National Aviation Heritage Area

CONTACT: Brenda Kerfoot, (937) 898-5901; brenda@daytonairshow.com; www.daytonairshow.com

**Oswego Harborfest
Oswego, New York**

July 22 – 25

For three and a half days in July the city of Oswego hosts Harborfest, central New York’s favorite summer festival. The festival brings more than 100 choices of free entertainment to performing stages located throughout the city. The Oswego River showcases a venue of juried arts and crafts. The festival’s musically choreographed fireworks Spectacular lights up the Oswego Harbor skyline in fabulous color.

Harborfest officials added a new venue in 2009, the Novelis Family Park at Fort Ontario. Public parks and the Fort Ontario State Historic Site provide the perfect background for Lake Ontario’s stunning sunsets and summer breezes.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Fort Ontario State Historic Site; Safe Haven Museum & Education Center; H. Lee White Marine Museum; Richardson-Bates House Museum; Salmon River Falls

CONTACT: Tom Van Schaack, (315) 343-6858; info@oswegoharborfest.com; www.oswegoharborfest.com

**New Brunswick
Highland Games
Festival**

Fredericton, New Brunswick

July 23 – 25

The New Brunswick Highland Games Festival has two equally important halves—the Highland Games and the Scottish Festival. The event draws hundreds of competitors and performers from across Atlantic Canada, Ontario and the Eastern seaboard. Listed as one of New Brunswick’s “Top Festivals,” the New Brunswick Highland Games Festival is one of the largest events of its kind in Atlantic Canada. The event has twice been named an Attractions Canada award winner, including Best Provincial Sporting Event.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: National Historic Site: Historic Garrison District; Beaverbrook Art Gallery; Kings Landing Historical Settlement; National Historic Site: Government House; National Historic Site: Christ Church Cathedral

CONTACT: Melanie Laird, (888) 368-4444, (506) 452-9244; highlandgames@nb.aibn.com; www.highlandgames.ca

**Loto-Québec
International
Fireworks Competition**
Québec City, Québec

July 24 – August 11

Imagine a majestic natural amphitheater formed by a thundering wall of water that tumbles 272 feet into a basin enclosed by the rocky walls of the Cote-de-Beaupre plateau. Well designed and easy to get to, Montmorency Falls Park is only 10 minutes from Quebec City downtown. It boasts a full complement of facilities and considerable visitor capacity.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Manoir Montmorency; Old Quebec; Island of Orleans; Sainte Anne de Beauvre Basilica—Pilgrimage; Petit-Champlain area

CONTACT: Manon Boissinot, (888) 523-3389, (418) 692-3736; mboissinot@quebecfireworks.com; www.quebecfireworks.com

Maine Quilts 2010
Augusta, Maine

July 30 – August 1

Maine Quilts 2010 will be Pine Tree Quilters Guild’s 33rd annual quilt show, which has grown into a conference. Ten internationally known teachers will present more than 30 workshops. Maine Quilts opens with a champagne reception and show preview from 7-9 p.m. More than 500 quilts will be on exhibit; these include antique, contemporary, and judged quilts. The Merchants Mall features 37 vendors from across the United States selling fabric, tools, and quilts. There will be daily lectures, free demonstrations, quilt appraisals, and a silent auction of quilted items.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Portland Head Light Cape Elizabeth; Hallowell, a National Historic District; Redington Museum and Colby College’s arboretum, bird sanctuary, and art museum; The Old Port; Augusta, the state capital, home to the Maine State Museum and Historic Fort Western

CONTACT: Nancy Zienkiewicz, (207) 415-4417; info@mainequilts.org; www.mainequilts.org/Quilt_Show

Dodge City Days
Dodge City, Kansas

July 30 – August 8

 Dodge City’s heritage comes to life during Dodge City Days. Each year the festival boasts a western theme

JULY INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

**29th Boston
Harborfest
2010**

Boston, Massachusetts
JUNE 30 – JULY 5

Boston’s rich colonial and maritime history of America’s Revolutionary birthplace is celebrated annually by the six-day celebration of Boston Harborfest. Featuring more than 200 events, including historical reenactments, walking tours, sunset harbor cruises, and Chowderfest.

CONTACT: Larry Meehan, (617) 867-8231, lmeehan@bostonusa.com; www.bostonusa.com

**Royal Nova
Scotia
International
Tattoo**

Halifax, Nova Scotia
JULY 1 – 8

The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo is one of the world’s premiere cultural and entertainment spectacles, with more than 2,000 first-class Canadian and international military and civilian performers. Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Navy in 2010.

CONTACT: Thomas Grotrian, (800) 563-1114, (902) 420-1114; tgrotrian@nstattoo.ca; www.nstattoo.ca

**Festival
International de
Jazz de
Montréal**

Montréal, Québec
JULY 1 – 11

This music celebration features 11 days of entertainment in the heart of downtown Montréal, as well as cafes, street performers, and a musical park for children. It’s a place for musical discoveries with influence such as jazz, blues, Brazilian, Cuban, African, reggae, contemporary, and more.

CONTACT: Normand Paquette, (514) 525-7732; normand.paquette@equipespectra.ca; www.montrealjazzfest.com

**National
Independence
Day Celebration**

Washington, DC
JULY 4

The nation’s Capital celebrates the 4th of July with a party that starts with a parade of more than 100 marching units. Afternoon concerts at historic sites feature local and military music groups. The National Symphony Orchestra performs patriotic songs to set the stage for the spectacular fireworks display over the Washington Monument.

CONTACT: Destination DC, (800) 422-8644; george.cooley@destinationdc.com; www.destinationdc.com

and hosts more than 50 events including a western concert featuring major country artists, parades, a barbecue contest with plenty of food for everyone, western art show, chuckwagon breakfast, a classic car show, and a two-day arts and crafts fair with crafters from 10 states. The Dodge City Days Rodeo, one of the Top 10 Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association events in the country is a highlight along with its Miss Rodeo Kansas and Miss Teen Rodeo pageants and coronation.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Boot Hill Museum; Boot Hill Casino & Resort; Home of Stone; Moore Ranch; Dalton Gang Hideout

CONTACT: Gina Broeckelman, (620) 227-3119; gbroeckelman@dodgechamber.com; www.dodgecitydays.com; www.dodgechamber.com

Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival Canton, Ohio

July 30 – August 8

The Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival consists of 15 events over a 10-day celebration, which surrounds the Enshrinement Ceremony. The Enshrinement Ceremony is a once in a lifetime opportunity to honor the newest class of football greats as they are formally inducted into the Pro Football Hall of

Fame. Nearly 700,000 people travel to the city of Canton to experience activities surrounding the Enshrinement Ceremony, including a Balloon Classic, 5-mile and 2-mile races, First Play Football Toss, National Ribs Burnoff, Fashion Show Luncheon, Enshrinees Dinner, community parade, large-scale fan tailgate parties in the Hall of Fame's parking lot, plus the first game of the NFL Pre-Season—the Pro Football Hall of Fame Game.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Pro Football Hall of Fame; McKinley Museum; First Ladies Library; Harry London Chocolate; Ohio's Amish Country

CONTACT: Allyson Bussey, (330) 458-2086; allyb@visitcantonstark.com; www.VisitCantonStark.com

Edmonton Heritage Festival Edmonton, Alberta

July 31 – August 2

35th Anniversary
Edmonton Heritage Festival 2010 marks the 35th annual of this premier three-day showcase of Canada's vibrant multicultural heritage. Featuring more than 60 pavilions representing more than 75 cultures from all over the world, festival-goers can sample culinary delicacies, see creative performances, or shop for crafts, artwork, and clothing.

There is a special drop off zone for all attendees that are then shuttled on local transit to the festival area.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: West Edmonton Mall; Royal Alberta Museum; Elk Island National Park; Fort Edmonton Park; Muttart Conservatory

CONTACT: Leanne Letourneau, (780) 488-3378; info@heritage-festival.com; www.heritage-festival.com

Festival acadien de Caraquet Caraquet, New Brunswick

August 1 – 15

For nearly 50 years, the Festival acadien de Caraquet has celebrated Acadian heritage and culture with concerts, shows and popular or traditional activities culminating with the Acadian National Day on August 15. The festival presents between 200 and 400 artists annually, mostly in the field of popular music but also in classical music, jazz, and other genres, as well as visual arts, theatre, and other art forms. More than 100,000 people attended its various activities in 2008, with 25,000 crowding Boulevard Saint-Pierre, Caraquet's main street to celebrate our famous Tintamarre, a noisy and highly colorful display of "joie de vivre" and pride in heritage.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Acadian Historical Village; Aquarium and Marine Center; Popes Museum

CONTACT: Daniel Theriault, (506) 727-2787; info@festivalacadien.ca; www.festivalacadien.ca

Vermont Festival of the Arts Mad River Valley, Waitsfield, Vermont

August 1 – 31 and September 4 – 5

August is Art: We entertain the soul, enlighten the mind, and energize the spirit with more than 125 exhibits, workshops, and demos by a variety of Vermont artists. From the summit of Sugarbush Resort to the Mad River Valley, the festival hosts events ranging from free demonstrations to philharmonic performances in 50 venues. That adds up to plenty of ways to craft your way through one of the premier Vermont Festivals. While the visual and performance arts are the core of the Vermont Festival of the Arts, there are workshops, garden, house and studio tours, kids' activities, community celebrations, culinary classes, literary excursions, and musical masterpieces that happen every day all month long.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Ben & Jerry's; Cold Hollow Cider Mill; Green Mountain Coffee Roaster Visitor Center; Sugarbush; Stowe Mountain

CONTACT: Beverly Keoh, (802) 496-6682; info@vermontartfest.com; www.vermontartfest.com



Elvis Week in Memphis, Tennessee features the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest.

JULY INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS



Just for Laughs, The Montréal International Comedy Festival stars artists from 10 countries.

Calgary Stampede

Calgary, Alberta
JULY 9 – 18

Located in the heart of the Canadian West, this 10-day celebration, otherwise known as “the greatest outdoor show on Earth,” hosts more than 1.2 million visitors each year. The first day kicks off with a parade throughout downtown Calgary. Highlights include the rodeo, chuck-wagon races, rides, live music, and fireworks.

CONTACT: Lindsay Jardine, (403) 261-0366; ljardine@calgarystampede.com; www.calgarystampede.com

Just for Laughs, The Montréal International Comedy Festival

Montréal, Québec
JULY 15 – 25

The world’s largest comedy festival features more than 1,500 indoor and outdoor shows. Starring artists from 10 countries perform in English and French. The line up features the biggest names in comedy and the brightest newly discovered talent.

CONTACT: Julie Desmarais, Just for Laughs, (888) 244-3155, (514) 845-2322; tourism@hahaha.com; www.hahaha.com

Cheyenne Frontier Days

Cheyenne, Wyoming
JULY 23 – AUGUST 1

Cheyenne Frontier Days, known as the “Daddy of ‘em All,” started in 1897 as a weekend event. Today, events span 10 fun-filled days of Western entertainment and include: rodeos, concerts, parades, pancake breakfasts, Native American Indian Village, USAF Thunderbirds, Wild Horse Gulch Western town, carnival midway, chuck wagon cook-off, Western art show, and much more.

CONTACT: Nicole Gamst, (307) 778-7200, nicole@cfdrodeo.com; www.cfdrodeo.com

Pilgrim Monument Centennial Anniversary/100 Years-First Landing Place of the Pilgrims Provincetown, Massachusetts

August 5

100th ANNIVERSARY The Pilgrim Memorial Monument, which commemorates the first landing of the Mayflower Pilgrims and the signing of the Mayflower Compact in Provincetown Harbor in 1620, has occupied a prominent place on Cape Cod since 1910, when it was completed and dedicated by President William Howard Taft. The 252-foot structure, designed after the Torre Del Mangia in Siena, Italy, is part of Provincetown’s Historic District. It has been visited by millions of people from every state in America and more than 40 countries. On August 5, 2010, PMPM will host a public rededication of the completion of this historic monument.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Dune Tours; National Seashore; Whale Watching; Provincetown Art Association and Museum; Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies

CONTACT: James Bakker, (508) 487-1310; jimbakker@pilgrim-monument.org; www.pilgrim-monument.org

Elvis Week Memphis, Tennessee

August 10 – 16

Elvis Week features a week of fun activities, including concerts, the semifinal and final rounds of the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest, special events with those who knew and worked with Elvis, live musical entertainment, and much more. In addition, while at Elvis Week, guests can enjoy tours of Graceland mansion and other Graceland attractions and special exhibits. One of the highlights of Elvis Week is the annual Candlelight Vigil, which begins on August 15 and lasts until the early morning hours of August 16. After an opening ceremony at the gates of Graceland, fans are invited to walk up the driveway to Meditation Garden carrying a candle in quiet remembrance of Elvis.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Sun Studio Tour; Beale Street; Memphis Rock ‘n’ Soul Museum; Stax Museum of American Soul Music; Elvis’ Birthplace in Tupelo
CONTACT: Graceland Group Sales, (800) 238-2000, (901) 332-3322; graceland@elvis.com; www.elvisweek.com

Montana Cowboy Poetry Gathering Lewistown, Montana

August 12 – 15

Montana Cowboy Poetry & Western Music Rendezvous is dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of the open range of the Montana territory before the wire. Ninety percent of the cowboy poets, musicians, and vendors are ranchers, stockmen, descendants of original homesteaders, and settlers. Montana Cowboy Poetry is the second-oldest cowboy poetry gathering in the United States. The event was selected as one of the “1,000 Places to See in the U.S. and Canada Before You Die,” in the travel directory by Patricia Schultz. The gathering is produced by the Lewistown Art Center, a non-profit serving central Montana since 1971.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Bear Gulch Pictographs; gold mining ghost towns; Hutterite Colony; Rock hounding in surrounding mountains; Crystal Lake
CONTACT: Lewistown Art Center, (406) 535-8278; lac@midrivers.com

Iowa State Fair Des Moines, Iowa

August 12 – 22

One of the oldest and largest agricultural expositions in the United States, the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines is the state’s great celebration, a salute to its best in agriculture, industry, entertainment, and achievement. It is

Iowa's biggest event and tourist attraction and is the home to the largest arts show in the state, the most extensive foods department of any state fair, and one of the world's largest livestock shows. More than 600 exhibitors and concessionaires feature quality merchandise and tasty foods—more than 40 of them served on a stick. Several ground stages feature spectacular entertainment free with gate admission. Internationally acclaimed performers and dynamic track events thrill thousands of fans in the grandstand. Hundreds of displays, demonstrations, exhibitions, unique attractions and all kinds of competition make Iowa's Fair one of the biggest and best.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Living History Farms; Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino; Iowa Cubs; Salisbury House Attraction; Bridges of Madison County

CONTACT: Megan Grandgeorge, (515) 262-3111; mgrandgeorge@iowastatefair.org; www.iowastatefair.org

2010 Canadian-American Police-Fire Games

Dublin, Ohio

August 15 – 22

This international event will draw 2,500 of the strongest police and firefighters from across North America to take part in an Olympic-type competition. Spectators will cheer as competitors face-off in 40-50 events including archery, tug-of-war, wrestling, skeet, skyscraper climb, basketball, weight lifting, canine police, track and field, toughest firefighter, and other events. All events are free to spectators.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Columbus Zoo & Aquarium; Olentangy Indian Caverns; Historic Dublin, Ohio; Franklin Park Conservatory; German Village

CONTACT: Joshua Bricker, (800) 245-8387, (614) 792-7666; jbricker@IrishisanAttitude.com; www.dublincanamgames.com

Cupids 400

Cupids, Newfoundland and Labrador

August 17 – 22



Prepare for a celebration 400 years in the making. In 1610, John Guy led a ship of intrepid English settlers across the Atlantic to a sheltered inlet named Cupers Cove in what was then known as the New Founde Land. It was the first English settlement in what would become Canada. The community he founded is known today as Cupids, Newfoundland, and Labrador. In Cupids, experience the archaeological wonders that were discovered at our excavation site and lose yourself in the lure of history at our museum. It is a tradition

in Cupids to commemorate the heritage of our ancestors and with a history as long and colorful as ours it will take a mighty party to give them their due.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: National Historic Site—Hearts Content Cable Station; Colony of Avalon at Ferryland; Cupids Interpretation Centre; Historic St. John's; Hawthorn Cottage; Wooden Boat Museum

CONTACT: Mike Buist, (709) 722-3507; mike@cupids400.com; www.cupids400.com

Canadian National Exhibition

Toronto, Ontario

August 20 – September 6

The Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) is Canada's largest fair and the fourth largest in North America. For more than 131 years, it has offered Torontonians and visitors from afar a wide variety of unique and interactive entertainment experiences. Highlights of the annual event include the ever-popular President's Choice SuperDogs show, a three-day air show, as well as concerts and attractions including hypnotists, ventriloquists, exhibits, a casino, international shopping and food, Kids' World, a working farm, rides, and games.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: CN Tower; Ontario Place; Centreville/Toronto Islands; Art Gallery of Ontario; Royal Ontario Museum

CONTACT: Joanne Benerowski, (416) 263-3813; jbenerowski@theex.com; www.theex.com

Québec City International Festival of Military Bands

Québec City, Québec

August 24 – 29

World-renowned military bands join forces for this prestigious event, held over six days at the end of August. The Québec City International Festival of Military Bands is a unique musical event with its wealth of culture and heritage. The cradle of French America and a UNESCO World Heritage City, Old Québec is proud to welcome the best Canadian Military Bands and other major Military Bands from Europe and the Americas. During the festival, don't miss the Québec City Military Tattoo, a whirling kaleidoscope of music and display featuring 800 musicians in a stunning mix of music and spectacular choreographies. You will be enthralled by the drums and pipes, the drill teams and the mass band performances. Moreover, bands will perform in various events, such as the popular free outdoor concerts, the Festival Parade and the Big Band Nights. The festival also presents two days with animation for families.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Citadelle; Parliament buildings;

Plains of Abraham; Old Québec; Petit-Champlain

CONTACT: Marie-Ève Jacob, (888) 693-5757, (418) 694-5757; mjacob@fimmq.com; www.fimmq.com

Tall Ships® Chicago! 2010

Chicago, Illinois

August 24 – 29

Navy Pier® will host 20-25 Tall Ships from around the world for a six-day extravaganza, kicking off with cannon blasts and foreign national anthems against the backdrop of the Chicago skyline. Tall Ships® Chicago 2010 offers something for everyone, including international music, ship exhibits, crew challenges, arts and crafts, nightly fireworks, historical, and maritime lecture. General admission ranges from \$15 – \$25.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Museum Campus – Adler Planetarium, The Field Museum and the John G. Shedd Aquarium; John Hancock Observatory; Sightseeing boat tours and cruises of Lake Michigan and the Chicago River; Museum of Science and Industry; Odyssey, Spirit of Chicago, or Mystic Blue

CONTACT: Katie McCarthy, (800) 595-7437, (312) 595-5063; kmccarthy@mpea.com; www.navypier.com

Western Legends Roundup

Kanab, Utah

August 27 – 28

In August of each year, a small town in Kane County, Utah steps back in time to the days of cowboys and Indians to host the Western Legends Roundup. You can meet some of the movie stars from the 150 movies that were filmed there; watch a shoot out in the Old West style on the shooting range three miles north of town; and enjoy the High Noon Parade through town with a cattle drive along with horses and floats. Experience the Native American culture as tribal members display their dancing, music, and weaving skills. Taste the dutch oven cook's offerings, and the variety of food booths, cheer at the tractor pull, tour movie sets, admire the skills of the Quilt Show exhibitors, and cheer at the rodeo.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Zion National Park; Bryce Canyon National Park; Little Hollywood, Kanab; Capitol Reef National Park; Cedar Breaks National Monument

CONTACT: Carla Avant, (435) 644-5053; info@westernlegendsroundup.com; www.westernlegendsroundup.com

Champlain Valley Fair

Burlington, Vermont

August 29 – September 6

The Champlain Valley Fair has been providing "Summer's Last Blast" for thousands of visitors

each year since 1922. The 10-day event, which is Vermont's largest fair, showcases the best of summertime activities. From traditional agriculture to free entertainment, top-name performers in the grandstand, and great fair food, the Champlain Valley Fair provides a wonderful exclamation point to the summer for family members of all ages. The fair has become a destination for many visitors from throughout New England and the Northeast, as it provides the perfect run up to the Labor Day weekend. In 2008, the Champlain Valley Fair hosted more than 2,100 animals in its livestock competitions, awarded more than \$55,000 in premium to competitors in a wide array of disciplines, and provided the concert venue for acts ranging from A Prairie Home Companion's Garrison Keillor to the Jonas Brothers.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Echo; Shelburne Museum; Shelburne Farms; Ben & Jerry's

CONTACT: Tim Shea, (802) 863-3489; tim@vermont.org; cvexpo.org/2007Fair.aspx

Oceana Air Show **Virginia Beach, Virginia**

September 1

The Oceana Air Show represents a unique opportunity for the public to get an up-close and personal look at the mission of NAS Oceana. The first show was held May 21, 1953 to celebrate Armed Forces Day, and has been held almost every year since. Over the years it's grown tremendously, adding new acts and drawing more visitors. One mainstay has been the Navy's Blue Angels aerobatics team, which performed at the inaugural 1953 show, flying F9F-5 Panthers. Other highlights have included the first flight of F/A-18 Hornets, the debut of the Navy's Leap Frogs parachute team and the first and last flights of F-14 Tomcats. The event also includes many tactical demonstrations. The show is free and open to the public, and attendees get a chance to interact directly with the men and women of the United States Navy.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center; Sandler Center Theatre; Military Aviation Museum; Virginia's Jewel Cruise; Old Cape Henry Lighthouses

CONTACT: Kelley Stirling, (757) 433-3155; kelley.stirling@navy.mil; www.oceanairshow.com

Gold Rush Days **Sacramento, California**

September 3 - 6

Organized by the Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau each Labor Day weekend, Gold Rush days is a four-day celebration of California's rich gold rush history. Modern-

day sights like cars and parking meters are eliminated from Sacramento's Historic Old Town and the streets are covered with 200 tons of dirt for an authentic Old West look. Plus, a colorful cast of Old West living history players are set loose on the streets to entertain the crowds including miners, bandits, pony express riders, and an "ethnic village" celebrating the cultures which came together to shape the West. Gold Rush Days is perfect for groups: There's entertainment, music, delicious food, and excellent history lessons, and, best of all, no admission fee.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: California Gold Country; California State Capitol and Museum; The California Museum for History, Women and the Arts; Frasinetti's Winery

CONTACT: Linda Eldred, (916) 808-8989; leldred@cityofsacramento.org; www.discovergold.org/goldrush

National Buffalo Wing Festival **Buffalo, New York**

September 4 - 5

The National Buffalo Wing Festival features more than 100 different flavors of chicken wings from restaurants throughout the country, live music, and contests, including the

U.S. Chicken Wing Eating Championship. Founder Drew Cerza says the National Buffalo Wing Festival paved the way for the Chicken Wing Hall of Fame, which will further solidify Buffalo as the birthplace of America's most popular finger food. In 2008, more than 78,000 people attended the festival, with 560,000 wings served.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Anchor Bar; Erie Canal Harbor; Albright Knox Art Gallery; Pierce Arrow Museum; Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park
CONTACT: Drew Cerza, (716) 565-4141; wingking@buffalowings.com; www.buffalowings.com

Scottish Highland Gathering and Games **Pleasanton, California**

September 4 - 5

The annual Scottish Highlands Gathering and Games presented by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco is one of the oldest and largest ethnic festivals in the United States. It has grown from a small picnic in 1886 to a multi-day cultural festival that draws more than 50,000 people each year. A highlight of the festival is the Grandstand Show featuring more than 800 bag pipes. "Amazing Grace" begins with one lone piper, joined by 800 more. The weekend spectacle includes the U.S. Invitational Heavy Athletic



Spice up your life with more than 100 flavors of chicken wings at the National Buffalo Wing Festival.

The Atlantic International Balloon Fiesta features 30 hot air balloons flying twice daily.



Championships, Western U.S. Open Highland Dancing Championships, piping and drumming competitions, the U.S. Marine Marching Band, and traditional foods.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Blackhawk Auto Museum; Alviso Adobe Historic Park; Niles Canyon Railway; Livermore Valley Wine Country; Forest Home Historic Farm

CONTACT: Alan Purves, (925) 462-8490; ajpurves@comcast.net; www.caledonian.org

Colorado Balloon Classic Colorado Springs, Colorado

September 4 – 6

The Colorado Balloon Classic, a previous ABA Top 100 event, will celebrate 34 years in Colorado during the 2010 event. The Balloon Classic has been named the state's largest air show and hot air balloon event in Colorado. The Balloon Classic hosts approximately 100 balloons and 250,000 spectators each year in Memorial Park in Downtown Colorado Springs.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Air Force Academy; Garden of the Gods; Pikes Peak Cog Railway; Pikes Peak; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo

CONTACT: Patsy Buchwald, (719) 471-4833; balloonclassic@balloonclassic.com; www.balloonclassic.com

Fiestas de Santa Fe Santa Fe, New Mexico

September 4 – 12

Fiestas commemorates the peaceful 1692 resettlement of Santa Fe. The 1712 proclamation establishing the first Fiesta de Santa Fe, was signed by Governor Marquez de La Pezuela. The document specified a mass, vespers, and a sermon, setting the religious tone that characterizes modern fiestas. The plaza is filled with food and retail vendors, parades, music, and dancing. La Fiesta de Santa Fe, a time of prayer, rejoicing, and hospitality for all.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Will Shuster's Zozobra; Visiting Museums; Gallery Hopping; Visiting Historic Sites; Shopping & Relaxation

CONTACT: Gabby Montoya, (505) 204-1535; info@santafefiesta.org; www.santafefiesta.org

Navajo Nation Fair Window Rock, Arizona

September 9 – 12

As the largest Indian fair in the country, Navajo Nation Fair offers cultural experiences with the Contest Pow-Wow, traditional songs, and dances performed in the arena by various Indian tribes. The Navajo Nation Fair is similar to a county fair in that it has a rodeo, a parade, concerts, dances, exhibits, competition, amusement rides. Navajo arts and crafts, known for their beauty and quality,

are abundant at fair time.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Navajo Nation Museum; Hubbell Trading Post National Historical Site; Canyon de Chelly National Monument; Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park; Hopi Tribal Villages

CONTACT: Kathie Curley, (928) 810-8504; kathiecurley@hotmail.com; www.discovernavajo.com

Atlantic International Balloon Fiesta Sussex, New Brunswick

September 10 – 12

25th ANNIVERSARY The 25th annual Atlantic International Balloon Fiesta is "Atlantic Canada's Most Colorful Festival." Featuring 30 hot air

balloons flying twice daily, the Fiesta has been rated top festival, and voted the "Most Celebrated Local Festival" in Atlantic Canada. We are Atlantic Canada's community choice. Visitors enjoy powered paragliding demonstrations, a renowned craft fair, antique car show. The all-weekend bandstand features the best of maritime talent in all genres. Please join us as we celebrate 25 years in the air.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: FundyTrail; Heritage Tours; Artisans; Sussex Murals; Covered Bridge

CONTACT: George Horton, (506) 432-9444; atlbf@nb.aibn.com; www.atlanticballoonfiesta.ca

Hampton Beach Seafood Festival Hampton, New Hampshire

September 10 – 12

A spectacular Seaside Festival featuring more than 50 of the Seacoast's top restaurants serving an abundance of mouthwatering seafood—choose from favorites like fried clams, shrimp, and lobster to non-seafood items like BBQ ribs, blooming onions, and sumptuous desserts; 80 arts and crafts vendors promoting locally made products and hundreds of Ocean Boulevard merchants offering end-of-the-season sidewalk sales; continuous entertainment on two stages featuring 15 bands and orchestras playing a variety of music—blues, jazz, the oldies but goodies, and even a little rock and roll.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Jumper Classic

CONTACT: Ginni McNamara, (603) 926-8718; info@hamptonchamber.com; www.hamptonbeachseafoodfestival.com

Biloxi Seafood Festival Gulfport, Mississippi

September 11 – 12

The Biloxi Seafood Festival focuses on the rich seafood heritage of Biloxi, which was once known as the "Seafood Capital of the World." Culinary highlights include boiled shrimp, fried shrimp, fried fish, seafood po-boys,

shrimp salad, seafood jambalaya, shrimp spaghetti, and even alligator sausage. The gumbo competition invites the public to sample many delicious recipes of seafood gumbo. In addition to fabulous food, the Biloxi Seafood Festival will feature continuous live entertainment from jazz, blues, zydeco, country, and contemporary bands, and will include arts and crafts booths. This festival has been honored as a Best Mississippi Event by the Mississippi Tourism Association and as a Top 20 Event by the Southeast Tourism Society.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Beauvoir, Jefferson Davis Home; Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art; Biloxi Shrimping Trip; Biloxi Schooners; Gulf Coast Gaming

CONTACT: Rachael Seymour, (228) 604-0014; rachael@mscoastchamber.com

Old Car Festival **Dearborn, Michigan**

September 11 - 12

The nation's oldest car show is held at America's greatest historical attraction: the Henry Ford. But it's not just the age of the car festival that makes it different. Most car shows are static events. The cars arrive, they park and visitors walk around and look. However, at the Old Car Festival in Greenfield Village, the vehicles drive all through the village. In fact, there are so many vehicles—cars, trucks, and high wheel bicycles—that it is common to have vintage vehicle traffic jams on the village streets. The entire weekend is full of entertainment and more than 80 historic homes, costumed presenters, artisans, historic rides, and working farms are included in the Old Car Festival.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: The Henry Ford (Greenfield Village—Museum and Ford Dodge Factory Tour); Fox Theatre; Three Auto Baron Mansion Tours; The Parade Company; Institute of the Arts

CONTACT: Vickie Evans, (800) 835-5237, (313) 982-6008; vickiee@thehenryford.org; www.thehenryford.org/events/oldCarFestival.aspx

GrapeFest **Grapevine, Texas**

September 16 - 19

The 24th annual GrapeFest is the largest wine festival in the Southwest. It celebrates Texas as a leader and trendsetter in the wine industry and is the perfect spot for culinary and wine enthusiasts. Festivities include Culinary Pavilion, GrapeFest Tennis Classic, GrapeFest Golf Tournament, the People's Choice Wine Tasting Classic—the largest consumer-judged wine competition in the nation, and much more. Traditional fun will delight all festival guests throughout the weekend including non-stop entertainment on five stages featuring a variety of music from jazz and country to rock.

GrapeFest will also feature several wine pavilions featuring Grapevine, Texas and international wines. Enjoy arts and crafts, exhilarating carnival rides, and the Grapevine Vintage Railroad. Admission is free to everyone all day September 16 and until 5 p.m. on September 17.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: People's Choice Wine Tasting Classic; Grapevine Vintage Railroad; Grapevine Excursions Duck Rider Tours; Grapevine Mills & Gaylord Texan Resort; Grapevine Wine Trail

CONTACT: Heather Kisabeth, (800) 457-6338, (817) 410-3185; hkisabeth@grapevinetexasusa.com; www.grapevinetexasusa.com/GrapeFest

World War II History Weekend at Eisenhower National Historic Site **Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

September 17 - 19

This World War II history weekend features an authentic re-creation of both Allied and German army camps, complete with original World War II vehicles. More than 200 living history enthusiasts will portray military personnel from the European Theater in 1944 and present programs on World War II medical services, weapons and equipment, communications, military vehicles, and the life of the common G.I. Exhibits about life on the home front, 1940s fashions and Civil Defense air raid wardens are also presented. A highlight of the weekend is the Saturday night World War II style "USO" dance held at the US Army Reserve Center featuring 1940s big band music by the Gettysburg Big Band. Admission to the Eisenhower National Historic Site is by shuttle bus departing every 15 minutes from the National Park Service Visitor Center.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Gettysburg National Military History Park Battlefield Visitors Center; David Willis House; Gettysburg National Soldiers Cemetery; Gettysburg Battlefield Tour; Shriver House Museum

CONTACT: Carol Hegeman, (877) 874-2478, (717) 338-9114; carol_hegeman@nps.gov; www.nps.gov/eise

PEI International Shellfish Festival **Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island**

September 17 - 19

It's Atlantic Canada's biggest kitchen party. A celebration of PEI shellfish including oysters, mussels, and clams. Featuring great entertainment, the PEI/World Invitational Oyster Shucking Championships, the PEI/International Chowder Championships, culinary demos, and much more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Province House National Historic Site of Canada; Prince Edward Island National Park;

Peakes Wharf Merchants; Founders' Hall; Charlottetown Driving Park Entertainment Centre

CONTACT: Lee Gauthier, (866) 955-2003, (902) 629-1864; info@walkandseacharlottetown.com; www.peishellfish.com

Buffalo Roundup and Arts Festival **Custer, South Dakota**

September 25 - 27

Feel the thunder, and join the fun at the annual Buffalo Roundup and Arts Festival at Custer State Park in the Black Hills of South Dakota. On Saturday and Sunday enjoy two days of Arts in the Park where regional artisans display and sell Western and Native American items, enjoy the ongoing entertainment under the big top and buffalo burgers hot off the grill. Check out the annual Buffalo Wallow Chili Cook-Off on the festival grounds. On Monday, watch as park staff, cowboys, and cowgirls roundup the park's 1,500 head of buffalo and drive them into the corrals. Following the Buffalo Roundup, view the branding and sorting of the herd in preparation for the annual buffalo auction in November. Last year, more than 11,000 guests from around the world came to watch this event, including 29 motorcoaches from across the United States.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Mount Rushmore National Memorial; Crazy Horse Memorial; Custer Stampede; Wind Cave National Park; The Mammoth Site

CONTACT: Craig Pugsley, (605) 255-4515; custerstatepark@state.sd.us; www.custerstatepark.info

2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games **Lexington, Kentucky**

September 25 - October 10

The 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games are the world championships for eight equestrian sports—dressage, driving, endurance, eventing, jumping, para-dressage, reining, and vaulting. Approximately 600,000 tickets will be available for this event, and visitors from around the world are expected to come to Kentucky's famous Bluegrass region to experience the first World Equestrian Games in the United States. Groups, families, equestrian clubs, sports buffs, and horse lovers from all backgrounds will be able to purchase venue tickets beginning September 25, 2009, for each of the discipline competitions. During the games you can shop hundreds of vendors in the trade show, enjoy the Kentucky Experience pavilion, see equine demonstrations and displays, and explore the world-famous Kentucky Horse Park.

The PEI International Shellfish Festival features oysters, mussels, and clams.



OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Bourbon Trail; Keeneland Horse Track; Shaker Village; Kentucky Horse Park; Horse Farms
CONTACT: Dani Landolt, (888) 934-2010, (859) 255-2010; dlandolt@feigames2010.org; www.alltechfeigames.com

Annual Okanagan Fall Wine Festival Kelowna/Penticon, British Columbia

September 30 – October 10

The Annual Okanagan Fall Wine Festival is an experience for all who love fabulous wine accompanied by great food and unique events. Autumn in Okanagan Wine Country is the perfect time to watch the grapes ripen and indulge yourself in the harvest celebrations. This is the only wine festival in North America that takes place during the heart of grape harvest. During this festival, experience vineyard tours, lunches, dinners, and the fall wine harvest.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Wineries; Golfing; Cultural; Hiking/Biking; Galleries/Museums

CONTACT: Jackie Frederick, (250) 860-5999; jfrederick@totabc.com; www.totabc.org; www.owfs.com

Feast of the Hunters' Moon Lafayette, Indiana

October 2 – 3

The Feast of the Hunters' Moon is held on the grounds of the Historic Fort Ouratenon Park,

a primitive country setting on South River Road just four miles southwest of West Lafayette. The grounds stretch across more than 30 acres along the banks of the Wabash River. It is a re-creation of the annual fall gathering of the French and Native Americans which took place at Fort Ouratenon, a fur trading outpost in the mid-1700s and is held annually in early fall. Thousands of participants reenact this event creating a feast for your senses—smell the wood smoke, hear the report of the rifles, savor authentic food, and more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Tippecanoe Battlefield; Wolf Park; Purdue University; Red Crown Mini Museum; Prophetstown State Park and Historic Prophetstown

CONTACT: Ashley Simpson, (800) 827-6648, (765) 447-9999; asimpson@homeofpurdue.com; www.tcha.mus.in.us/feast.htm

Fort Ligonier Days Ligonier, Pennsylvania

October 8 – 10

Fort Ligonier Days is the biggest of all events on the Ligonier calendar held in observance of the most significant battle of the French and Indian War in 1758. The town-wide commemoration includes battle reenactments and artillery demonstrations at Fort Ligonier with historical units traveling hundreds of miles to participate. More than 150 craft vendors in three locations

are set up around town. More than 25 local organizations set up food booths that ring the Diamond area. The live entertainment includes something for everyone: oldies, country, jazz, gospel, and rock. Saturday offers one of the largest parades in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Fort Ligonier; Compass Inn Museum; Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art; Idlewild and SoakZone; Old General Store and Pie Shoppe

CONTACT: Rachel Roehrig, (724) 238-4200; thechamber@ligonier.com; www.ligonier.com

Celtic Colours International Festival Sydney, Nova Scotia

October 8 – 16

The Celtic Colours International Festival has featured hundreds of musicians from all over the Celtic world and attracted tens of thousands of visitors. For nine days, Cape Breton Island is home to a unique celebration of music and culture as the Celtic Colours International Festival presents dozens of concerts all over the island, an extensive line-up of workshops, a visual art series of exhibitions, and a nightly Festival Club. Over the years, artists have traveled from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England, Spain, Denmark, Germany, and Cuba as well as from across the United States and Canada to join the finest of Cape Breton's musicians, singers, dancers, and storytellers for the annual fall celebration.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Cabot Trail; Cape Breton Highlands National Park; Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site of Canada; Celtic Music Interpretive Centre; Gaelic College

CONTACT: Dan Coffin, (877) 285-2321, (902) 562-6700; dan@celtic-colours.com; www.celtic-colours.com

Carolina Renaissance Festival Huntersville, North Carolina

October 9 – November 21

The Carolina Renaissance Festival is a 16th century European-style art and entertainment festival combining outdoor theater, circus entertainment, arts and crafts marketplace, a jousting tournament, and more. The festival was introduced in 1994 with six acres of exhibits, attractions, and entertainment. The event has grown into a 22-acre theme park filled with charming cottages and castles, kitchens and pubs, and a most unusual collection of people-powered rides and games of skill. The Carolina event has grown to be one of the largest Renaissance fairs nationwide. More than 500

costumed characters roam the festival village singing sea-faring songs. Carolina Renaissance Festival is a great event for groups with things to do for all ages and very motorcoach friendly.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Rural Hill Amazing Maze; Latta Plantation Ghost Walk; Latta Folklife Festival; NASCAR Fan Festivals; Carolina Raptor Center

CONTACT: Matt Siegel, (877) 896-5544, (704) 896-5544; matt@royalfaires.com; www.royalfaires.com/carolina

Autumn Glory Festival McHenry, Maryland

October 13 – 17

Maryland's annual Autumn Glory Festival in Garrett County landed in the international spotlight in 2007, when msn.com listed it top among fall festivals in the world. More than 50,000 guests from Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Washington, DC come to view the stunning fall foliage and take part in this annual fall celebration.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Deep Creek Lake; Wisp Resort, offering chairlift rides and pontoon boat rides; Pleasant Valley Dreamrides, bonfires, and hayrides; Spruce Forest Artisan Village; Penn Alps Restaurant & Craft Shop; Deep Creek Cellars

CONTACT: Garrett County Chamber of Commerce, (301) 387-4386; info@garrettchamber.com; www.visitdeepcreek.com

New River Gorge Bridge Day Oak Hill, West Virginia

October 16

Bridge Day celebrates everything that's great about the Mountain State with West Virginia's largest festival. Food, culture, and community come together for an amazing experience, centered around the daredevil sport known as BASE jumping. Skydivers launch themselves from the bridge, as more than 100,000 onlookers enjoy and explore the amazing New River Gorge. There are 200 vendors, providing everything from folk art to funnel cakes. The area's outdoor outfitters are in full force, taking raft trips down into the New River Gorge for a rapid's-eye-view of the festivities.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: New River Jetboat; Tamarack; Beckley Exhibition Coal Mine; Canyon Rim Visitors Center; Historic Fayette Theatre

CONTACT: Cindy Dragan, (800) 927-0263, (304) 465-5617; cindy@officialbridgeday.com; www.officialbridgeday.com

Christmas at Hagley Wilmington, Delaware

November 1, 2010 – January 1, 2011

Christmas traditions at Hagley illustrate traditions during the 19th and 20th centuries and include decorations in Eleutherian Mills, the first du Pont residence in America. Follow the growth of the Christmas tree from its novelty in the Victorian era to its popularity in the Colonial Revival period. See a three-foot goose feather Christmas tree that took six hours to make and a tree decorated completely with dried flowers, ribbon, and lights. Get inspired for your own decorating.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Winterthur Museum & Country Estate; Longwood Gardens; Delaware Art Museum; Brandywine River Museum; DuPont Theatre

CONTACT: Meg Marcozzi, (302) 658-2400; mmarcozzi@hagley.org; www.hagley.org

Branson Veterans Week Branson, Missouri

November 5 – 11

Each year, Branson honors veterans with Veterans Homecoming, the largest homecoming celebration in the nation. During this week, which concludes with a Veterans Day parade in historic downtown Branson, thousands of veterans, active duty military personnel and their families attend more than 50 special events honoring their service and sacrifice.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Veterans Memorial Museum; Tony Orlando Veterans Day Show; Broadway! The Star-Spangled Celebration; Oak Ridge Boys; Rankin Bros. Classic Music Review

CONTACT: Lynn Berry, (800) 272-6766, (417) 334-4084; lberry@bransoncvb.com; www.explorebranson.com

Aviation Nation Las Vegas, Nevada

November 13 – 14

Presented by the U.S. Air Force and the men and women serving their country from Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, Aviation Nation is a world-class aerial event. Aviation Nation is the premier air show of the Air Force and one of the largest aviation events in North America. Las Vegas's own U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron "Thunderbirds" perform each year as the featured aerial demonstration in their homecoming show and last public show of the season. Since 1953, the Thunderbirds have thrilled millions of air show fans around the world. Each year, attendance at the two-day aerial event surpasses 100,000, with more than 150,000 additional viewers tuning into the live webcast provided by Aviation Nation.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Grand Canyon; Hoover Dam; Redrock Canyon

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Folklorama – Canada's Cultural Celebration

Winnipeg, Manitoba

AUGUST 1 – 14

As Folklorama ends 40 years of celebration in 2009, we begin the next 40 with a new look. Join the festival of Folklorama as it represents cultures from around the world in a two-week extravaganza of ethnic richness and traditions in culture, food, entertainment, and art.

CONTACT: Murray Greenfield, (800) 665-0234, (204) 982-6215; greenfieldm@folklorama.ca; www.folklorama.ca

The Big E

West Springfield,
Massachusetts

SEPTEMBER 17 –

OCTOBER 3

Each September, more than one million guests enjoy top-name entertainment, Big E Cream Puffs, Mardi Gras Parade, major exhibits, the Big E Super Circus and Horse Show. More than 800 motorcoaches visit the Big E each year.

CONTACT: Jessica Castro, (800) 334-2443, (413) 205-5047; groupsales@thebige.com; www.thebige.com

CONTACT: John Meyer, (877) VISITLV, (702) 892-0711, jmeyer@lvca.com; www.aviationnation.org

Red Rock Fantasy Sedona, Arizona

November 18, 2010 – January 1, 2011



Nestled within the world-renowned red rocks of Sedona, Red Rock Fantasy is a festival of nearly a million lights providing a man-made marvel within the scenic beauty that has drawn visitors for the past 100 years. Now in its 20th year and boasting 30 displays created by families from the Southwest, the festival promises never-before-seen marvels of light. It brings cartoon favorites to life, challenges children to scavenger hunts within the displays, and illuminates a 25-foot swan in dazzling, blue moonlight.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Pink Jeep Tours; Verde Valley Railroad; Dinner at Joey Bistro inside Los Abrigados where the event is held; Sedona Trolley that takes guests on a city tour

CONTACT: Ronnie Moore, (928) 282-1777 for tour information; or Lori Lo Duca for contestant information at (928) 282-4161; lلودuca@ilxresorts.com; www.redrockfantasy.com

Winterfest of Lights Ocean City, Maryland

November 18, 2010 – January 2, 2011

The Mid-Atlantic's favorite beach resort, Ocean City, is especially enticing during the holiday season with Maryland's Winterfest of Lights. This award-winning festival features thousands of twinkling lights on hundreds of animated displays. The avenues of Ocean City, along with the hotels and restaurants, are dressed in their holiday finest. The Northside Park recreation area is transformed into a winter wonderland of sparkling lights. Themed displays, such as the "Twelve Days of Christmas" will delight visitors and take you back in the time of old-fashioned holidays. A heated tent provides a warm atmosphere while you visit the gift shop or listen to holiday music. Ocean City's hotels offer attractive group rates and restaurants offer seasonal menus for those attending Winterfest.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Wildlife viewing; Outlet shopping; Christmas show; Rural Museums

CONTACT: Norma Dobrowolski, (800) 626-2326, (410) 289-2800; ndobrowolski@ococean.com; www.ococean.com

Gettysburg Remembrance Day Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

November 19 – 20

The anniversary of the Gettysburg Address and the Dedication of the Soldiers' National

Cemetery was formally designated as Dedication Day by a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in 1946. Events include a wreath-laying ceremony at the Soldiers' National Monument at the Soldiers' National Cemetery, and the 147th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, immediately following the Dedication Day Ceremony, which is held in the northern area of the Soldiers' National Cemetery. An annual event held in conjunction with the Gettysburg Address anniversary will be the Remembrance Day Parade of Civil War living history groups on Saturday, November 20.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Gettysburg Battlefield; David Will House; Gettysburg Battlefield Museum; Shriver House Museum; Hall of Presidents

CONTACT: Tina Grim, (717) 337-6590; tgrim@gettysburg.edu; www.gettysburg.edu/civilwar; www.palincoln.org

Rock City Gardens- Enchanted Garden of Lights

Lookout Mountain, Georgia

November 19, 2010 – January 1, 2011

Rock City's 16th annual Enchanted Garden of Lights features a million lights brightening the mountain with 30 holiday scenes along the Enchanted Trail. This Southeast award-winning light extravaganza has become a family tradition for tens of thousands of

groups every Christmas season. Enjoy traditional gingerbread cookie decorating and nightly entertainment in the pavilion, next to a warm fireplace with a hot cup of cocoa. Also available are Sugar Plum Fairy Makeovers for children to enjoy face painting or dress up in costume and be a magical fairy for the night. A portion of ticket proceeds for the Enchanted Garden of Lights goes to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities. So far, Rock City has donated \$92,000 to this organization through this event's ticket sales. The goal this season is to surpass the \$100,000 mark.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Ruby Falls; Incline Railway; Tennessee Aquarium; Chattanooga Choo Choo Terminal Station; Southern Belle Riverboat

CONTACT: Meagan Jolley, (877) 820-0759, (706) 820-2531; meagan@rockruby.com; www.seerockcity.com

ICE!® at Gaylord Hotels Nashville, Tennessee; Kissimmee, Florida; Grapevine, Texas; and National Harbor, Maryland

November 2010 – January 2011

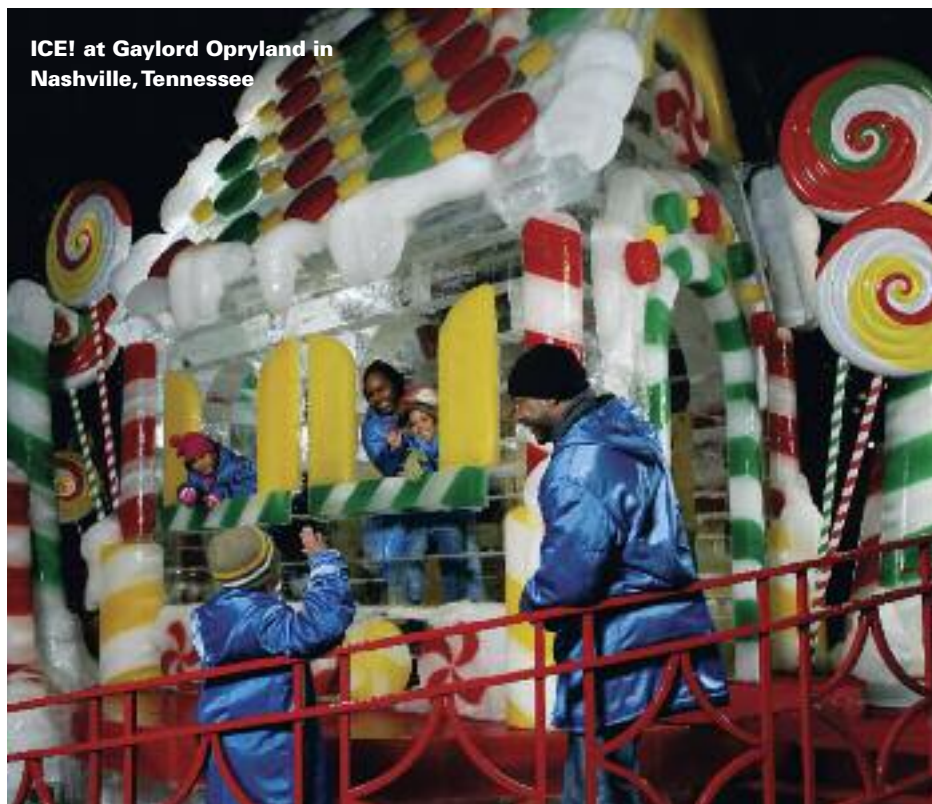
Chill out at ICE!—a winter wonderland carved from two million pounds of ice. The only places in the U.S. to experience ICE! are the four Gaylord Hotels locations. Each unique ICE! attraction features favorite holiday characters and themes, all of which you can actually walk through. These memorable Christmastime experiences are created by world-class artisans from Harbin, China, and are incredible works of art that continue to amaze visitors year after year. Children ride down the gigantic ice slides or stroll through the magical icy wonderland and enjoy the artistry and variety of the intricate carvings. Two million pounds of ice can get pretty cold, but complimentary warm parkas are handed out to all visitors for the tour.

Gaylord Opryland Nashville, Tennessee

November 19, 2010 – January 2, 2011

This 27-year Nashville tradition is filled with live music and shows including the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the world-famous Radio City Rockettes, Louise Mandrell's "Joy To The World" Christmas Dinner & Show, ICE! featuring "A Charlie Brown Christmas" by Charles Schulz, the Grand Ole Opry, carriage rides, General Jackson Showboat lunch and dinner cruises, photos with Santa, decorations galore, nearly two million Christmas lights, and more.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: General Jackson Showboat; Grand Ole Opry; Wildhorse Saloon; Ryman Auditorium; Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum



ICE! at Gaylord Opryland in
Nashville, Tennessee

CONTACT: Tina Abellanos, (615) 458-2821, (888) 976-6779; tabellanos@gaylordhotels.com; www.gaylordopryland.com

Gaylord Palms Kissimmee, Florida

November 14, 2010 – January 3, 2011

Gaylord Palms Resort presents Best of Florida Christmas, an annual Christmas celebration featuring live entertainment, unique attractions and holiday activities held to commemorate the Christmas season. This year's Best of Florida Christmas program will include 51 days of holiday revelry, including several new or revised events: ICE!, Christmas in Florida—The County Wreath Collection, "Luminescence" stage show, Hidden Holiday Gnome Hunt, Visit Santa, and Brunch with Mrs. Claus.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party at Magic Kingdom; Candlelight Processional at Epcot; Osborne Family Spectacle of Dancing Lights at Disney's Hollywood Studios; Grinchmas at Universal Studios Islands of Adventure; Polar Express at SeaWorld Orlando

CONTACT: Amy Grimes, (407) 586-4423; agrimes@gaylordhotels.com; www.gaylordpalms.com/ice

Gaylord Texan Grapevine, Texas

DATES – TBA

The ICE! attraction is just one of many activities taking place this holiday season during Gaylord Texan's annual Lone Star Christmas event. Visitors to the resort will also enjoy breathtaking holiday décor including 1.5 million holiday lights and 30 seven-foot tall ornaments strung from the top of its glass roof; a 50-foot tall rotating Christmas tree; multiple miniature train sets; 14-foot tall decorated cowboy boots; a life-size gingerbread house; Santa's workshop including a cookie conveyor belt and control station; and dozens of lavish holiday displays including 2,300 feet of garland, 5,600 wreaths, and 10,000 ornaments.

CONTACT: Gaylord Texan, (817) 778-2000; www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-texan

Gaylord National National Harbor, Maryland

November 20 – December 31

It's all part of the ultimate holiday event—Christmas on the Potomac, a 45-day celebration of entertainment, activities and fun. And, it's only at the new Gaylord National Resort in National Harbor, Maryland.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: National Christmas Tree; National Harbor Holiday Market; Nina's Dandy Dinner Cruises; Spirit Cruises; DC Sites

CONTACT: Amie Gorrell, (301) 965-2111; agorrell@gaylordhotels.com; www.gaylordnational.com

OCTOBER INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENT

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Albuquerque, New Mexico

OCTOBER 2 – 10

For nine days in October, the New Mexico skies are painted as hundreds of balloons lift off from Albuquerque's Balloon Fiesta Park. Nothing rivals the power of Mass Ascension on crisp early mornings as these graceful giants leave the ground to take their place in the azure desert sky. For ballooning fans worldwide, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is a pilgrimage. There is something for everyone to enjoy—whimsical shapes filled with equal parts hot air and wonder, and Balloon Glows that create a magical night landscape for spectators to wander.

CONTACT: Tania Armenta, (800) 733-9918, (505) 222-4339; trade@itsatrip.org; www.itsatrip.org; www.balloonfiesta.com

UBS Parade Spectacular Stamford, Connecticut

November 21

Celebrated as the only helium balloon parade in the state of Connecticut and as one of the largest in the country, the UBS Parade Spectacular draws hundreds of thousands of spectators each year. The annual UBS Parade Spectacular features more than 22 gigantic helium balloons, plus more than 40 award-winning marching bands, spectacular floats, dance troupes, marching units and special guests.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Bush-Holley Historic Site; Stamford Town Center Mall; Lockwood Mathews Museum; Radio City Christmas Spectacular; Bruce Museum

CONTACT: Annette Einhorn, (203) 348-5285; events@stamford-downtown.com; www.stamford-downtown.com

Carlsbad Christmas on the Pecos Carlsbad, New Mexico

November 25 – December 31

Experience a truly unique holiday event in Southeastern New Mexico. Board a pontoon boat and cruise along the Pecos River where you will view more than 105 homes fully decorated for the holidays. It was voted outstanding event in 2007 for the state of New Mexico. Grab a bite to eat, shop for the holidays, or take a picture with Santa. Event runs Thanksgiving through New Years Eve. Groups love this event.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Carlsbad Caverns National Park; Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park; Sitting Bull Falls State Park; Pecos River Recreation Area; Guadalupe Mountains National Park

CONTACT: Lisa Boeke, (575) 887-6516; lboeke@carlsbadchamber.com; www.christmasonthepecos.com

Coeur d'Alene Resort Holiday Light Show

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

November 26 – December 31

More than 1.5 million lights sparkle across Lake Coeur d'Alene as the Holiday Light Show—the largest on-the-water resort holiday light show in America—comes to life each evening during the holiday season. Ride aboard one of the Lake Coeur d'Alene Cruise Boats and get ready for a magical trip across the water to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus at the North Pole workshop—with snow showers guaranteed every night. The show was featured on Good Morning America in 2007 as one of the nation's best holiday light shows.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Shopping; Lighting Ceremony; Festival of Trees; Spa; Carriage Rides

CONTACT: Business & Activities Center, (800) 688-5253, (208) 765-4000; info@cdaresort.com; www.cdaresort.com

Christmas Capital of Texas Grapevine, Texas

November 26, 2010 – January 1, 2011

Every holiday season, Grapevine is blanketed with millions of lights, decorations, animated characters, and more. With all of this plus great shopping for everyone on your list, Grapevine truly is the "Christmas Capital of Texas." The festivities begin in November at the Gaylord Texan Resort with "ICE!," an extraordinary and magical display of elaborate, life-sized ice sculptures. Christmas on Main features Santa, jolly Christmas characters, carriage rides and decorations adorning the mile-long stretch of Grapevine's Historic Main Street. Grapevine's Palace Theatre features live, holiday musicals that bring fantasy to life in a spectacular holiday production. Thousands of children will turn fiction into reality each holiday as they hop aboard the North Pole Express.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Christmas Musical at the Palace Theatre; Parade of Lights; Grapevine Opry's Christmas Spectacular; Grapevine Wine Trail; ICE! at the Gaylord Texan

CONTACT: Heather Kisabeth, (800) 457-6338, (817) 410-3185; hkisabeth@grapevinetexasusa.com; www.grapevinetexasusa.com/Christmas

Purdue Christmas Show Lafayette, Indiana

December 1

Come start the Christmas season off right by joining in on the fun at one of the Purdue Christmas Show's seven performances at the famed Elliott Hall of Music. Since 1933, Purdue University students have been entertaining audiences with the Purdue Christmas Show. These students sing because they love it as they do not receive academic credit. Construction on the sets begins in the summer and it takes three months to build the set, two weeks to put it together on stage and fine tune everything, hundreds of gallons of paint, and nearly 1,000 yards of fabric to create the sets, props, floor drop, screens, and custom curtain.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Purdue University Tour; Frank Lloyd Wright Home "SAMARA"; Inspired Fire Glass Studio and Gallery; Twin Rocker Handmade Paper Company; Clay Critters

CONTACT: Steve Schlenk, (765) 496-6091; sschlenk@purdue.edu; pmjojo.com/events/Christmas-show

Warm Beach Christian Camps & Conference Center—"The Lights of Christmas"

Stanwood, Washington

December 1

More than 500,000 people have experienced the wonder of The Lights of Christmas, a Northwest tradition celebrating its 13th season. This one-of-a-kind holiday tradition features more than one million dazzling lights, stunning larger-than-life nativity, live music, crafts, food, pony rides, petting farm, Polar Express train rides, dinner theatre, dessert theatre, and overnight getaway packages.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Future of Flight and Boeing Tour; Christmas Parlour Tour by Snohomish Historical Society; Flying Heritage Collection; Lavender Hills Farm; Tulalip Resort Casino

CONTACT: Warm Beach Camp, (800) 228-6724, (360) 652-7575; registration@warmbeach.com; http://warmbeach.com/articles.php?tPath=36

The Billy Graham Library "Christmas at the Library"

Charlotte, North Carolina

December 1 - 23

"Christmas at the Library" special activities take place Monday through Saturday nights during December. Activities include a live Nativity with real animals; horse-drawn carriage rides to view lights and hear musical

performers; Christmas decorations and lights, inside and out of the library and the Graham Family Home; special exhibits featuring Christmas memorabilia from the Graham family; and seasonal treats offered in the Dairy bar.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens; U.S. National Whitewater Center; Levine Museum of the New South; Narroway Productions; NC Blumenthal Performing Arts Center

CONTACT: Diane Wise, (704) 401-3255; dwise@bgea.org; www.billygraham.org/library

Zoolights at the Calgary Zoo

Calgary, Alberta

December 3, 2010 - January 9, 2011

Zoolights at the Calgary Zoo presented by Enmax is one of western Canada's most spectacular holiday light shows. Surround your family with the beauty and splendor of more than 1.5 million twinkling lights. This interactive light show immerses you in the spirit of the season and will tempt all five senses. Chat live with Santa direct from the North Pole with our exclusive Santa Vision. Our creamy hot chocolate will always hit the

spot on a cool night, while our cracking firepits will keep you toasty warm.

CONTACT: Tanya Kaynes, (403) 232-9383; tanyak@calgaryzoo.ab.ca; www.calgaryzoo.ab.ca

Grand Illumination

Williamsburg, Virginia

December 5

Visitors can experience the rich traditions and exquisite decorations of Williamsburg's romantic interpretation of Christmas two centuries ago. A highlight of Colonial Williamsburg's Christmas season is Grand Illumination, a spectacular evening when candles twinkle in the windows of Historic Area homes and buildings, fatwood crackles in street-side cressets, and the heavens explode in a magnificent spectacle of fireworks. As the celebration begins, outdoor stages throughout the Historic Area fill with festive entertainment.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Busch Gardens Williamsburg; Jamestown Settlement; Yorktown Victory Center; Prime Outlets; National Park Service

CONTACT: Renee White, (888) 293-5627, (757) 229-1000; rwhite2@cwf.org; www.history.org

NOVEMBER INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN EVENTS

Christmas at Biltmore Estate

Asheville, North Carolina

NOVEMBER -
DECEMBER

Be inspired by Biltmore's grand holiday celebration during Christmas at Biltmore. Miles of ribbon and lights, sparkling ornaments, fragrant evergreen swags, and dozens of traditional Christmas trees decorate Biltmore House and the entire Estate during the November and December holiday season.

CONTACT: Group Sales/Leslie Brewer, (866) 851-4661, (828) 225-1413; groupsales@biltmore.com; www.biltmore.com

Ozark Mountain Christmas

Branson, Missouri

NOVEMBER 1 -
DECEMBER 31

Just like the ending of a live music show, this nationally acclaimed holiday destination, with its broad mix of world-class entertainment, lakes-area recreation, and Christmas spirit, creates a grand finale for the year. This festival features the Branson Area Festival of Lights, which illuminates the night sky with millions of twinkling lights.

CONTACT: Lynn Berry, (800) BRANSON, (417) 334-4084; lberry@bransoncvb.com; www.explorebranson.com

Winter Festival of Lights

Niagara Falls, Ontario

NOVEMBER 6, 2010 -
JANUARY 3, 2011

Canada's foremost illumination festival makes the nights sparkle with more than three million lights and more than 120 animated displays including the world-famous Enchantment of Disney® displays and the world's largest illumination American-Canadian Flag in celebration of the nearly 200 years of interrupted friendship between our great nations.

CONTACT: Janet Wilson, (800) 563-2557, (905) 374-1616; janet@wfol.com; www.wfol.com

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

New York, New York

NOVEMBER 25

This annual tradition signals the beginning of the Christmas holiday season. The Tom Turkey float leads the parade of more than 200 elements, with Santa Claus in his sleigh as the grand finale. In between are giant balloons, marching bands, and floats. Performers and marchers include celebrities, clowns, and costumed characters.

CONTACT: Ray Zagorski, NYC & Company, (212) 484-1237; rzagorski@nycgo.com; www.nycgo.com