



NEWS RELEASE

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Ribs, wine, racing and art – summer has arrived Downtown!

Summer is just around the corner, and that means the return of many fun Downtown festivals! Don't miss any of the summer festivities, featuring a variety of food, music and entertainment. For more information, call Indianapolis Downtown, Inc. at 237.2222 or log on to www.indydt.com.

Kids' Day on the Canal presented by Radio Disney 2008

Kids will love this event designed especially for them! Be part of an interactive environment with enrichment participants including Pacers Kids Club, Wonderlab, Silly Safari, Indianapolis Colts Kids Club and more! Don't miss special performances on the Radio Disney stage, the Indianapolis Symphony Petting Zoo, magicians, stilt walkers and face painting. The event will take place **June 7** from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in The Canal and White River State Park Cultural District. Call 317.347.0180 for more details or visit www.buggsevents.com.

Christ Church Strawberry Festival

Strawberry-lovers will take over Monument Circle **June 12** for the Christ Church Strawberry Festival! Enjoy the "Works" for \$6 which includes traditional strawberries, ice cream and whipped topping on a shortcake biscuit. Variations are available for less. Be sure to stop by Monument Circle between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and take part in this great summer tradition! Check out www.cccindy.org for more details.

Italian Street Festival

Enjoy more than 25 different pastas, Italian meats, desserts and more at this delicious celebration of Italian culture! Be sure not to miss it **June 13 & 14** at the corner of East Street and Stevens Street. On the Saturday of the festival, there is an early afternoon Mass held at Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Later in the day an Italian religious procession takes place, which is followed by a second mass. Call 317.636.4478 or visit www.italianheritage.org/streetfestival.htm for more details.

Indy Jazz Fest presented by Kroger

Jazz music and good company – it doesn't get any better than this! **June 13-15** in Military Park means the best of jazz with performances by music legends Buddy Guy, John Legend, Dave Koz and other great artists! Ticket prices are \$25 in advance and \$35 on event days. Three-day passes are available for \$65 and children 14 years and under will be admitted free when accompanied by a ticket-holding adult. For more details, call 317.940.9944 or log on to www.indyjazzfest.net.

Add one- Summer Festivals

Indy Pride Festival

Enjoy the Pride Parade down Mass Ave **June 14** at 10 a.m. Afterwards, spend the afternoon in University Park enjoying live music, informational booths, dancing and food from various vendors. For more information, log on to www.indyprideinc.com/Pride.html.

Talbot Street Art Fair

Walk down Talbot Street **June 14** from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. & **June 15** from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. for an art selection like none other! Browse and buy art from more than 250 artists around the United States. Enjoy live entertainment and food booths lining the historic street all for FREE. Log on to <http://www.talbotstreet.org> for more information or call 317.745.6479.

Marsh Cookout on the Circle

Show your support for scouting and enjoy lunch on Monument Circle **June 19** from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. This is the 17th year for Marsh Supermarkets to partner with the Crossroads of America Council and Boy Scouts of America, to help send less fortunate Scouts to local camps. “Celebrity cooks” will prepare and serve grilled chicken breasts or bratwurst served on buns, potato salad, cookies and a drink! Tickets are \$6 in advance at Marsh Supermarkets and \$7 the day of the event. Call 317.925.1900 for details.

Let’s Meet PBS Kids in the Park

Gather the family and spend quality time together with fun activities for the entire family! On **June 21**, American Legion Mall & Veterans Memorial Plaza will be the site of the WFYI Public Broadcasting’s 15th annual Let’s Meet PBS Kids in the Park, a fun afternoon ideal for families looking to get out in the summer sunshine. The festival boasts live entertainment on two stages, hands-on educational activities and a scrumptious selection of festival foods from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information, log on to www.wfyi.org or call 317.715.2006.

Phoenix Theatre Brew-Ha-Ha

Brew-Ha-Ha is an annual benefit for the Phoenix Theatre – a professional, non-profit theatre presenting contemporary, issue-oriented plays and musicals. The outdoor block party features samples of the best brews from local, regional and national microbreweries, as well as entertainment from the hottest local bands. This year’s event will take place on **June 21** from 3 – 7 p.m. in the 700 block of North Park Avenue between Mass Ave and St. Clair Street. Tickets are \$25 at the gate and \$20 in advance through the Phoenix Theatre box office. Call 317.635.PLAY (635.7529) for tickets.

16th Annual Indian Market

Indianapolis welcomes approximately 140 Native American artists from 60 tribes around the United States **June 21& 22**. Dive into the artwork, food and traditions of Native American cultures at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians & Western Art. Participants will showcase some of the finest traditional and contemporary pottery, painting, sculpture, jewelry and cultural items. Admission is \$10; \$8 in advance & members; children 17 and under are FREE. For more information, log on to www.eiteljorg.org or call 317.636.9378.

-more-

Add two- Summer Festivals

El Dia De La Familia

Military Park will be buzzing with action **June 28!** Festivities will take place between noon and 11 p.m. Summer Latino Fun Fest offers the Hispanic community a day of music from national, regional and local entertainers. Visitors can sample cuisine from Mexico, Peru, the Caribbean and various other places. A family area with pony rides, food and activities will also be available. Call 317.924.1071 for details or check out www.wedjfm.com.

Regions Bank Freedom Blast

Celebrate Independence Day with a bang ... or a blast! On **July 4** see Indy's largest fireworks display, shooting from the top of the Regions Bank Tower! This fantastic fireworks show is a local tradition and favorite activity! Bring the entire family Downtown for food, music and fun that lasts all day and ends in an amazing fireworks display after dusk.

Indiana Black Expo Summer Celebration

The Indiana Black Expo presents the 38th annual Summer Celebration **July 10 – 20** at the Indiana Convention Center and various Downtown venues. Enjoy everything from live music at the Music Heritage Festivals to exciting youth activities. Also take advantage of business workshops, employment opportunities, health fairs, cultural pavilions, various exhibits and more! For more information, log on to www.indianablackexpo.com.

Indiana Avenue Blues and Bar-B-Q Family Reunion Festival

This FREE festival is a rebirth of the glory days of Indiana Avenue. It all takes place on **July 11** from noon to midnight on the grounds of the historic Madame Walker Theatre Centre. Individuals that remember this golden age can reminisce and celebrate the progress made, while new comers can connect with the rich history of an era gone by. The day will be filled with exciting activities for families as well as performances by Rhythm and Blues legends. [Log on to www.walkertheatre.com for more details.](http://www.walkertheatre.com)

Allstate 400 at the Brickyard

Indianapolis is the perfect place for race-lovers! Cheer on your favorite driver at the Allstate 400 at the Brickyard **July 27**. Downtown will celebrate with several special events including Dodge Racers on the Circle **July 24** from 4 – 10 p.m. Check out www.brickyard.com for more information.

Taste of Downtown

Don't miss the Taste of Downtown, a FREE Downtown street festival on **Aug. 9** from 4 - 10 p.m. The festival takes place on College Avenue between Ohio and New York streets. Enjoy delicious wine, specialties from numerous Downtown restaurants and live music featuring Tastes Like Chicken, Toy Factory and The Tides. Families can enjoy the Kid's Zone and the celebrity dunk tank benefiting various local charities. For more information call 636.4516 or visit www.easleywinery.com

Mass Ave Theatre and IndyFringe Festival

IndyFringe Festival is a big, bold and bodacious celebration of alternative theatre and performance arts on Mass Ave! This splashy spectacle takes place over ten days of summer **Aug. 22 – 31**. Enjoy more than 300 artists perform more than 50 unique, cutting-edge stage productions in six theatres featuring dance, drama, comedy, music, magic

Add three- Summer Festivals

and cabaret. Ticket prices for IndyFringe are \$10 per person, per show. A \$3 one-time festival badge is required onsite during the festival, good for all 10 days. For more Fringe fun, visit www.indyfringe.org.

13th annual Rib America Festival

Stop by and smell the barbeque ... and taste it while you are there! Award-winning vendors, including Smokin' Joe's Hog Wild BBQ, Sgt. Oink's BBQ, Pigfoot BBQ, Chicago BBQ, Squealer's BBQ and more will offer the best-of-the-best ribs! Be sure to head to Military Park **Aug. 29 – Sept. 1** for a fulfilling weekend. Don't miss Peter Frampton, The Elms, Ted Nugent and other performances all weekend long. Admission is FREE before 1 p.m. A \$5 admission charge will apply after 1 p.m. Children 12 and under receive FREE admission at all times. For more information, log on to www.ribamerica.com.

HANK's Advantage Health SkyConcert

Celebrate the end of summer on **Aug. 30** with great food, cold drinks, entertainment and even a play area for the kids! This FREE annual celebration will take place in White River State Park from 4 – 10 p.m. More information is available online at www.hankfm.com or by calling 266.9700.

Red Bull GP

The inaugural Red Bull Indianapolis GP promises to be one for the books! Don't miss out on one of the most advanced racing series held on one of the most famous race tracks in the world! Race day is **Sept. 14** at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. For more race information, log on to www.redbullindianapolisgp.com.

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Downtown has more than 70,000 convenient, affordable parking spaces, making it easy to get where you need to be. To help plan your route Downtown, visit <http://www.indydt.com/dtmap.html>.