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Arts, Music, Sports and Celebration Heat Up Summer in Boise

[June 17, 2015]— The sun is shining in Boise, and the calendar is full of ample opportunities to get out and enjoy the sunshine. During June, July and August, Boise will enjoy a variety of exciting activities for those who love art, sports, food, music and fun. Get out the calendar and start planning—there is something for everyone. For a complete listing of area events and happenings, visit www.Boise.org.

Here are some highlights for Boise this season:

WalkAbout Boise Tour; Saturdays at 11 a.m., June—Oct.

During the summer months, Preservation Idaho hosts a 1.5-hour guided walking tour through 150 years of history and architecture, highlighting the uniqueness of Boise. The tour is ideal for Idaho residents and visitors alike who want to learn more about how the city's vibrant downtown developed. Visit <http://www.preservationidaho.org/boise-walking-tours-historic-boise>. Tours are \$10 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit: <http://www.preservationidaho.org/boise-walking-tours-historic-boise>.

Idaho Shakespeare Festival; June—Sept.; Idaho Shakespeare Festival Pavillion

Summer is the start of the 2015 Idaho Shakespeare Festival. The 39th season plays include: Dial "M" for Murder, The Tempest, The Secret Garden, King Lear and The Fantasticks. The festival is dedicated to producing great theater that entertains and educates. To purchase tickets, visit <http://idahoshakespeare.org/>.

Outlaw Field Summer Concert Series; June—Sept.; Idaho Botanical Garden

The Idaho Botanical Garden has kicked off the seventh year of its Outlaw Field Summer Concert. The outdoor venue is a great setting to listen to popular performers. Picnics are welcome, although food, beer and wine are offered on-site for purchase. Eight evening concerts include: Lindsey Stirling, Greg Allman, The Decemberists, Third Eye Blind and Dashboard Confessional, Barenaked Ladies, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Alabama Shakes, Slightly Stoopid, Brandi Carlile and Iron and Wine. Prices, dates and start times vary. Visit <http://idahobotanicalgarden.org/outlaw-field-summer-concerts/>.

The Sculpture of Paul Vexler & Richard Elliot; June 19, 5:30-8 p.m.; Boise Art Museum

Celebrate the opening of the Boise Art Museum's newest exhibitions: "Ribbons: The Sculpture of Paul Vexler" and "Richard Elliott: Language of Light." Vexler, a Seattle sculptor, has created undulating ribbons of wood more than 40 feet in length for a dynamic installation. His art will float suspended in the air. The late Richard Elliott is a nationally-recognized mixed-media artist whose work includes sculpture, paintings, neon and ceramics. To learn more, visit http://www.boiseartmuseum.org/bam_event/summer-exhibitions-opening-celebration/.

Idaho Dance Theatre Presents: “Flight;” June 20, 7:30 p.m.; Ming Studios

“Flight” is a celebration of Idaho Dance Theatre’s past and present but also offers a glimpse of the future. The benefit show features new choreography, some of Idaho’s finest dancers and the music of Hollow Wood. To purchase tickets, visit <http://idahodancetheatre.org/>.

Idaho Statesman Chalk Art Celebration; July 4, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.; Ann Morrison Park

Beautiful, temporary works of art will decorate the sidewalks for the sixth annual Idaho Statesman Chalk Art Festival. The event is in conjunction with the City of Boise’s Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration. Local artists will develop unique pieces of art while children ages 11 and under can enjoy “Chalk Land.” Spectators are encouraged to view the art and vote for their favorite drawings for the People’s Choice Award. Visit <http://chalkart.webspecialdeal.com/>.

Albertsons Boise Open; July 6-12; Hillcrest Country Club

This PGA Tour event is an annual event at Hillcrest Country Club, now in its 26th year. The tournament brings some of the best players on tour and raises money for charity; in 2014, it generated \$1.45 million for Treasure Valley nonprofits. Over the course of its history the tournament has contributed more than \$17 million to various charities. Visit <https://www.albertsonsboiseopen.com/>

Boise Twilight Criterium; July 11; Downtown Boise

The 28th annual Boise Twilight Criterium is a fast-paced, high-stakes bicycle race in the heart of downtown Boise. Cyclists from around the world compete for a cash prize and bragging rights. More than 20,000 spectators are expected to watch from the downtown streets. Visit <http://www.boisewilightcriterium.com/>

Campfire Stories; July 13, 8-10 p.m.; The Modern Hotel

Join the Modern Hotel on their campfire-lit patio throughout the summer for stories presented by local authors. July will feature fiction shared by Joel Wayne and Matthew RK Haynes. The series is produced by Christian Winn, who also produces Storyfort, the literary component of the Treefort Music Fest. Winn has invited storytellers from around the world to present original fiction, nonfiction, poetry and screenplays. To learn more, visit <http://themodernhotel.com/campfire-stories-at-the-modern-hotel/>.

Adult Night – Cycling Science; July 16, 6-10 p.m.; Discovery Center of Idaho

Pedal to the Discovery Center of Idaho for an evening steeped in the science of Boise’s favorite mode of transportation. Discovery Center adult nights allow for science exploration paired with wine and refreshments. Cost is \$15 or \$12 for members. To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.dcidaho.org/happening/adult-night-cycling-science/>

Basque Soccer Friendly; July 18, 7 p.m.; Albertsons Stadium, Boise State University

A professional yet friendly soccer match is taking place for the first time in the United States, in Boise. Teams from La Liga’s Athletic Club de Bilbao in Spain and Liga MX’s Club Tijuana Xoloitzcuintles de Caliente from Mexico will compete at Albertsons Stadium on the campus of Boise State University. Tickets are available at <http://www.basquesoccerfriendly.com/>.

“The Book of Mormon;” July 21-26; Morrison Center

The New York Times calls it the “best musical of this century” and now, the Broadway show “The Book of Mormon” is coming to Boise. The performance will run six times on the Morrison Center stage and

promises to bring laughs to audiences. The show has sold out but some new tickets or shows may be added. Visit <http://mc.boisestate.edu/events>.

Run Wild at Zoo Boise; July 25, 8 a.m.-Noon; Zoo Boise

The fifth annual Run Wild at Zoo Boise is a fun run designed for kids ages 2-12. Two races—one quarter-mile race for children age five and under, or 1 mile for six and older—allow kids to run on zoo paths and zip around exhibits. Families can register online at <http://www.zooboise.org/>.

Jaialdi; July 28–Aug. 2; Downtown Boise Basque Block

Jaialdi is one of the largest Basque festivals in the world and happens once every five years. Festival participants will be able to watch traditional Basque sports, like soccer and handball, as well as traditional Basque dancing. For the week-long festival, Basque music, food and drink will take over the city of Boise. More than 40,000 Basques and non-Basques from throughout the United States and Europe attended the event in 2010. See a full list of performances, vendors, a schedule of events and purchase tickets at <http://www.jaialdi.com/>

International Food Festival; Aug. 1, 10 a.m.–9 p.m.; Julia Davis Park

Authentic cuisines from around the world created by local restaurants as well as children’s activities, cultural arts, crafts, workshops, a beer garden, music and cultural entertainment are all on the agenda for the International Food Festival. The event is designed to help spread awareness about the many cultures present in the Treasure Valley community. Visit http://events.ktvb.com/International_Food_Culture_Festival/310357487.html.

Tour de Fat; Aug. 15; Anne Morrison Park

After a bicycle parade through the streets of downtown Boise, costumed participants will enjoy 11 different New Belgium beers at the annual Tour de Fat celebration. The event, put on by New Belgium Brewing, raises funds for local non-profit partners, including the Southwest Idaho Mountain Biking Association, Treasure Valley Cycling Alliance and the Boise Bicycle Project. Visit <http://www.newbelgium.com/events/tour-de-fat/boise.aspx>

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About The Boise Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Boise Convention and Visitors Bureau is a non-profit organization, founded in 1982, by the Greater Boise Auditorium District. Its mission is to enhance the City of Boise’s economy through the marketing, promotion and selling of the city and region as a site for conventions, corporate meetings, trade shows, leisure travel, and cultural, sports and special events.