

GATEWAY ARCH PARK

FOUNDATION

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Enjoy a Gourmet Picnic on the Gateway Arch National Park Grounds While Supporting the Park at Second Annual "Picnic in Your Park" on Sunday, May 15

Hosted by Gateway Arch Park Foundation Friends Advisory Board with Live Music from Red and Black Brass Band

ST. LOUIS (March 22, 2022) – The Gateway Arch Park Foundation Friends Advisory Board invites the St. Louis community to celebrate the beauty of Gateway Arch National Park at **Picnic in Your Park** on Sunday, May 15. The second annual event encourages attendees to choose a spot anywhere on the expansive park grounds and enjoy a pre-purchased picnic basket of delicious food from Butler's Pantry, live entertainment from the Red and Black Brass Band, yard games and more.

"Gateway Arch National Park is an urban oasis—we encourage guests to find their favorite spot and enjoy the beautiful park, then explore Downtown and cheer on the Cardinals as they host the Giants later that evening," said Joe Mark, chair of Gateway Arch Park Foundation Friends Advisory Board.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation is the official philanthropic partner of the national park, and Picnic in Your Park is one of its two major fundraising events of the year. Proceeds support the Foundation's mission of park conservation, preservation, education and community programs.

With the purchase of a deluxe or classic basket, attendees will select either a gourmet fourcourse or traditional picnic lunch including drinks, with the option of adding children's meals. All the baskets are collapsible and insulated, and deluxe baskets also include a blanket.

Between 12-2 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, the baskets will be available for pick up in the North Gateway of Gateway Arch National Park (near the Eads Bridge and Laclede's Landing), ready to enjoy anywhere on the grounds. Complimentary parking is provided.

Picnic baskets are on sale now through May 2 at <u>archpark.org/picnic</u>.

"Our urban national park is filled with beautiful landscaping and photo-worthy views of the Gateway Arch, especially in the spring," said Ryan McClure, executive director of Gateway Arch Park Foundation. "Check out the North Gateway and the Lewis and Clark Explorers' Garden for

native plants, visit the Riverfront via the east slope and Grand Staircase, or take the pond paths to discover tranquil places for picnicking."

Public Wi-Fi is available across Gateway Arch National Park, provided by Gateway Arch Park Foundation. Accompanying each basket will be a QR code that links to the perfect playlist to enjoy while picnicking.

The event is perfect for a St. Louis "day" date, a friends' get-together, or a family afternoon Downtown while supporting a good cause. Make it a whole day by perusing the Museum at the Gateway Arch, taking a tram ride to the top, visiting the playground at Kiener Plaza, or enjoying other downtown sites like the St. Louis Wheel, Aquarium or City Museum.

Additionally, Gateway Arch Park Foundation has teamed up with the St. Louis Cardinals to offer a substantial discount to the game later that evening exclusively for Picnic supporters, with baseball tickets starting at just \$5. Upon reserving a basket, Picnic guests will receive a link to the discounted pricing.

Picnic in Your Park will take place rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather, baskets will be available for curbside pickup to enjoy at home.

Participants enjoying their Picnic in Your Park basket on the Arch grounds should follow <u>Leave</u> <u>No Trace</u> principles to help Gateway Arch Park Foundation keep the national park vibrant and welcoming for generations to come.

WHAT: Picnic in Your Park
WHERE: Gateway Arch National Park grounds
WHEN: Sunday, May 15; 12-2 p.m.
DETAILS: Pre-purchase a picnic basket by May 2 at <u>archpark.org/picnic</u>. Event also includes live music from the Red and Black Brass Band, yard games, exclusive Cardinals discounts and more.

About Gateway Arch Park Foundation

Gateway Arch Park Foundation is the official philanthropic partner and conservancy for Gateway Arch National Park. Its mission is to ensure the Gateway Arch, its grounds, neighboring public spaces, and attractions are a vital, welcoming, well-supported resource to the community and nation for generations to come. The Foundation is part of an alliance that helps meet this mission, which includes the National Park Service, Bi-State Development, Great Rivers Greenway, Jefferson National Parks Association, and the City of St. Louis. For more information, visit <u>ArchPark.org</u>.