



GATEWAY ARCH PARK
FOUNDATION

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For Immediate Release

**Hundreds of National Park and Downtown St. Louis enthusiasts
to picnic under the Arch in support of conservation efforts**

*On June 11, picnic blankets take over the Arch grounds for **Picnic in Your Park** as Gateway Arch Park Foundation supporters gather to celebrate civic pride and raise funds for the nonprofit.*

ST. LOUIS, MO (May 15, 2023) – Gateway Arch Park Foundation’s popular **Picnic in Your Park fundraiser** is set to return on Sunday, June 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The al fresco event hosted by the Foundation’s Friends Advisory Board has quickly become a popular outing for historic preservation and conservation enthusiasts and supporters of Downtown St. Louis to gather under the Arch in celebration of continued progress.

Event-goers will enjoy a picnic at Gateway Arch National Park, with picnic baskets available in Classic and Deluxe options. Each basket includes a picnic lunch by Butler’s Pantry and a take-home Gateway Arch Park Foundation insulated picnic basket, which includes a QR code with exclusive video messages from the Foundation’s team and the perfect picnic playlist.

The Foundation’s Friends Advisory Board has also planned a variety of activities, including performances by the Black and Red Brass Band, yard games like Build-an-Arch, photo opportunities, and an exclusive discount to the 1:15 p.m. St. Louis Cardinals game against the Cincinnati Reds.

Attendees are also encouraged to explore the Gateway Arch National Park grounds (looking for native plants and animals along the way!), hike the Riverfront Trail, peruse the Museum, or walk the Gateway Mall. Make it a Downtown day and explore other attractions like Union Station, the St. Louis Aquarium, City Museum, Soldiers Memorial, the National Blues Museum or the Campbell House Museum.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation serves as the official philanthropic partner for Gateway Arch National Park. Funds raised for Gateway Arch Park Foundation at the event will support conservation, preservation, education, and community programs.

Friends Advisory Board Chair Joe Mark says this event is not only a great outing for all types of St. Louisans, it’s a celebration of the Foundation’s conservation efforts and the community of supporters, donors and volunteers who help make projects like the recent National Park Week Riverfront Cleanup and historic Old Courthouse renovations a reality.

He shared, “My fellow board members and I are passionate about maintaining and improving Gateway Arch National



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Park, the Riverfront and Kiener Plaza so visitors, workers and residents have somewhere beautiful and inspiring to go. The Foundation also works to make these spaces as accessible as possible to all St. Louisans through programs like the Journey Fund, which subsidizes field trips for under-resourced schools and youth groups. So many St. Louisans love the Arch but might not realize there's a whole national park and Museum here that is beautifully cared for and activated thanks to this nonprofit."

Gateway Arch Park Foundation Executive Director Ryan McClure looks forward to the event every year, saying: "This event is a celebration of progress and community. Right now, we're working alongside the National Park Service to tell a more complete history and make the Old Courthouse more accessible. We've partnered with STL ArtWorks and the National Park Foundation to display murals created by youth artists. We continue to support the National Park Service in maintaining the Museum at the Gateway Arch and drawing in local visitors. We bring vibrancy to Kiener Plaza through our sunrise fitness series and Winterfest, events that brought nearly 40,000 people Downtown last year. We do all of this and more through the support of the community, and look forward to seeing existing and new Foundation supporters at this year's Picnic in Your Park."

Participants enjoying their Picnic in Your Park basket on the Arch grounds should follow Leave No Trace principles to help Gateway Arch Park Foundation keep the national park vibrant and welcoming for generations to come. 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. Pets are welcome and [should follow B.A.R.K. guidelines](#): Bag your pet's waste; Always leash your pet; Respect wildlife; Know where you can go.

Join Gateway Arch Park Foundation in supporting park conservation, preservation, education, and community programs by attending the third annual Picnic in Your Park fundraiser. Purchase your basket today at archpark.org/picnic. Basket sales close May 31.

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About Gateway Arch Park Foundation

[Gateway Arch Park Foundation](http://archpark.org) is the official philanthropic partner and nonprofit 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. It seeks to fulfill its mission by providing for ongoing conservation, preservation and education at the park, in addition to hosting, facilitating and promoting community programs that bring the park and its surrounding areas in Downtown St. Louis to life. 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 <http://archpark.org>.