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For Immediate Release

The Fourth Annual Picnic in Your Park returns to Gateway Arch National Park on June 9, raising critical awareness and funds for Gateway Arch Park Foundation

All are invited to attend the Foundation's annual fundraiser to enjoy a catered picnic lunch, live music, family-friendly activities, all while supporting the organization's mission to uplift St. Louis' hometown national park and Downtown.

ST. LOUIS, MO (May 14, 2024) — On June 9, 2024, hundreds of St. Louisans will head to Gateway Arch Park Foundation's fourth annual [Picnic in Your Park](#) fundraiser at Gateway Arch National Park, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Foundation's Friends Advisory Board, who hosts this annual event, invites supporters of Downtown St. Louis and park conservation enthusiasts to gather in the North Gateway for an al fresco lunch and live entertainment.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation serves as the nonprofit conservancy and official philanthropic partner for Gateway Arch National Park. Generous contributions in all forms, including basket purchases for Picnic in Your Park, benefit the Foundation's mission to uplift St. Louis' hometown national park and the region.

Thanks to last year's more than 220 picnic-goers, the Foundation raised vital funds in support of its mission, allowing the organization to create meaningful impact for the Arch grounds and the St. Louis region. In 2023, Gateway Arch Park Foundation:

- Brought more than 77,000 people to Downtown St. Louis for its marquee events, Blues at the Arch Festival and Winterfest;
- Digitally preserved more than 125 original submissions from the architectural competition for the design of what is now the Gateway Arch and made them digitally available to the public, for free;
- Matched a grant from the National Park Foundation to commission youth-led, community murals displayed on the construction fencing of the Old Courthouse;
- And so much more ([see the Foundation's 2023 Impact Report](#)).

"The Arch is a catalyst for our entire region. It draws people to St. Louis, and when they have a world-class experience there, they'll seek out all the great things our metro area has to offer," says Ryan McClure, executive director of Gateway Arch Park Foundation. "It's for that reason that the support of our members, donors, and generous contributions from champions at Picnic in Your Park are imperative and vital. We would not be able to make the impact we make today without their support."

Guests attending the fourth annual Picnic in Your Park will enjoy a picnic lunch, thoughtfully curated by premium catering group, Butler's Pantry, available in Deluxe and Classic basket options with kid-friendly lunch add-ons. Those



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who upgrade to the Deluxe basket option will also receive a picnic blanket to lounge on as they enjoy a four-course lunch.

In addition to a delicious meal, the Picnic in Your Park experience itself will be unforgettable, with live music entertainment from the Red and Black Brass Band; yard games, like Build-an-Arch and cornhole; the “What’s in Bloom” cart, where guests can learn about the park’s seasonal, native flora; and the ability (as always!) to explore the 91-acres of Gateway Arch National Park to find the perfect picnic spot with iconic views. Plus, anyone who reserves a Picnic in Your Park basket will receive exclusive access to purchase discounted Cardinals tickets to any game against the Rockies during the weekend of June 7 to 9.

“Gateway Arch Park Foundation’s Friends Advisory Board is pleased to host Picnic in Your Park to raise funds for this incredible organization and celebrate all the Foundation does to uplift our hometown national park and our region,” says Joe Mark, chair of Gateway Arch Park Foundation’s Friends Advisory Board. “From meticulous maintenance of the Museum at the Gateway Arch to the free community events held to bring people together and activate Downtown spaces, every picnic basket purchased at this event helps the Foundation continue to make a monumental impact. It’s going to be a great time!”

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. Learn more about this event and purchase your basket at archpark.org/picnic.

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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>.