

Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association
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www.strawberryfestival.org

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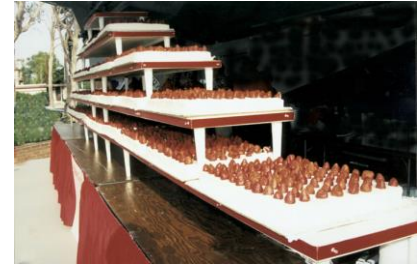
AVAILABLE AT <http://strawberryfestival.org/>

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**TV AND FILM STARS TO SERVE UP FREE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
AT GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL ON MAY 26TH**

-- Charity Fundraising Booths Selling Strawberry Treats and other Fun Food --

GARDEN GROVE, CA (May 19, 2017) – Since 1958 the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival has treated the community to free strawberry shortcake at its grand opening ceremony. It will be held this year in the Showmobile Friday, May 26th at 6 p.m. at Main and Acacia streets in Garden Grove. The giant cake will be created by French's Pastry Bakery in Costa Mesa. In the past as many as 2,000 have come out for free cake.



Some of the Saturday parade celebrities, who cannot resist having a taste, will be there to say a few words and help pass out cake to the crowd. Depending upon their availability, they may include Celebrity Grand Marshal Burt Ward (Batman), Mekia Cox (Chicago Med), Kate Flannery (The Office), Raphael Alejandro (How to Be a Latin Lover), Alicia Willis (7th Heaven), Dalila Bela Anne; The Odd Squad), Trinitee Stokes (KC Undercover), Tom Choi (Teen Wolf), Grace Kaufman (Man with a Plan), Daniel DiMaggio (American Housewife), Ryan Ochoa (Pair of Kings), Beth Hall (Mom), Bruce Saloman (The Odd Squad), Brandon Russell (Halloween: the Night Evil Died), Mary Scheer (iCarly; Bunk'd) and California Miss Outstanding Teen Jenna Tower. Many local dignitaries also attend. Theme Grand Marshal Randy Barth may attend as well.



Garden Grove Mayor Stephen Jones will cut the first piece and present the giant strawberry cake top to **Miss Garden Grove Missy Mendoza**.

During the 4-day Memorial Day weekend event over 300,000 annual attendees head for the festival's 200+ food and commercial booths where they find treasures to buy and all kinds of treats to try. Booths open at 1 p.m. on Friday May 26th and at 10 a.m. on May 27th through the 29th.

CHARITIES BENEFITTING FROM FOOD BOOTHS

The 2017 Festival Theme is "Honoring Our Community Superhero Volunteers." This year 12 charities will be selling food to fill their coffers: Garden Grove's Assistance League, Boys and Girls Club, Emblem Club, High School Band Boosters, High School Baseball Boosters, Kiwanis Club and Lions Club, in addition to the Guardettes of Orange County, Job's Daughters, Pacifica High School Girls Softball and Shakespeare of Orange County. Collectively, the food booths bring in approximately \$90,000 for their charities.

Offerings include strawberry treats such as strawberry smoothies, cheesecake, crepes, bowls of strawberries with soft ice cream, strawberry sundae, strawberry shortcake, strawberry bread, strawberry royals, tart cups, chocolate covered strawberries and boxes of strawberries. Fairgoers will also find nacho supremes, pizza, chicken wings, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, carne asada, chicken tacos, cheese quesadillas, funnel cakes, baked potatoes, breakfast muffins, corn on the cob, hot dogs, chillitos, BBQ beef sandwiches, and popcorn chicken.



SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROCEEDS HELP NEEDY FAMILIES

La Casa Garcia is donating food for the festival's annual pre-parade breakfast Saturday, May 27th at 7:30 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue at Euclid. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, fried potatoes, plus orange juice, milk and coffee will be served for \$7.00 cash per person paid at the door with all proceeds benefiting *We Give Thanks*, a charity annually providing Thanksgiving dinners for thousands of needy people.

Sponsorship comes from Great Wolf Lodge, Munchkins, Sam's Club, GGTPC, Great Destinations, Clear Channel Outdoor, Parenting OC, El Panamericano, Korea Times, Nguoi Viet Daily News, OC News and its community newspapers, OC Weekly, Farandula USA, Miniondas, and radio stations 103.4 MYfm, KOST, JACK FM, KDAY-FM, KWVE, KWIZ, KABC, KLOS, KDAY, KSWD the Sound LA, KLYY, KSSE, Radio Centro 94.7, The Wave and KEARTH 101.

The Festival has donated over \$6.5 million to local charities since 1958. For more information, visit www.strawberryfestival.org.