



Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association

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www.strawberryfestival.org

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MEDIA ALERT

59th ANNUAL GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL SPECIAL KIDS DAY

2,000 Special Needs Kids Enjoy Day of Free Fun & Food

(PLEASE, NO ADVANCE COVERAGE! DAY-OF COVERAGE ONLY, SINCE THIS EVENT IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND WE WANT TO PREVENT CRASHERS.)

WHAT: The Strawberry Festival, a tradition since 1958, will host its annual Special Kids Day, opening its event one day early to over 2000 mentally and physically challenged children for a day of FREE rides, food, fun, stuffed animals and entertainment! Also, **KNOTT'S BERRY FARMS SNOOPY WILL BE ON HAND TO CHARM THE CHILDREN.**

WHO: More than 2000 special needs children bussed in from Garden Grove and surrounding communities will share in a special day just for them. This event is chaired by Garden Grove Strawberry Festival board director Dawn Miller.

WHEN: Thursday, May 25, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Village Green, Garden Grove, California
12862 Euclid Avenue (Exit Euclid/Garden Grove Freeway)

2017 FESTIVAL DATES: Friday, May 26 through Monday, May 29, 2017.

OVERVIEW OF EVENT: The Festival is held annually over Memorial Day weekend, with proceeds benefiting local charities. Admission is free. It's the **second largest city festival in the Western United States**, held at the Village Green between Main Street and Euclid Avenue in downtown Garden Grove. Annual attendance is over 300,000 people. The festival features **35 big carnival rides**, contests, food booths, games, celebrity autograph signings, and live musical entertainment, plus **over 200 vendor booths** and lots of delicious strawberry treats. Low-cost, one-price ride-all-day wristbands are available for each day.

Friday at 6:00 p.m. is the cutting of the **world's largest strawberry shortcake** which is served free to over 1,000 people. **Four contests** include the Berry, Berry Beautiful Baby Contest, Redhead Roundup, Strawberry Idol Karaoke, and Tiny Tots King and Queen. Contestants can sign up an hour before each event. They draw hundreds to the festival's 550-seat amphitheater every year. There is also free live music and performances.

Fifteen film and TV celebrities, plus Theme Grand Marshal Randy Barth and Celebrity Grand Marshal Burt Ward will ride in the **Saturday parade** at 10:00 a.m. adding to the fun. For more information, call 714-638-0981 or visit: www.strawberryfestival.org.

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