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"Civic Plaza Presents" Kicks-off Summer Season

Civic Plaza Presents offers a series of free events in the Heart Of The City for the second year.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM - <u>Civic Plaza Presents</u> starts off its summer season this Friday, May 13 with ABQ Food Friday and Movies on the Plaza, a series of weekly events that will run through the entire summer season. The Creative 505 festival will take place on Saturday May 20. These family-friendly community events are free and open to everyone.

ABQ Food Fridays is a weekly, open-air pop-up happy hour on Fridays from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For the season opener on May 13, Robert Punya from Sushi King restaurants and Chef Elvis Bencomo of Pasión Latin Fusion Restaurant will be serving up Hawaiian style tuna poke, Latin ceviche and tacos so you can sample their new restaurant, Poki Poki Cevicheria! Fine craft beer from many of the city's breweries and wine will be served. Each ABQ Food Friday also features live entertainment from a different local band. Hometown musical hero, Alex Maryol and his band, will kick off this year's season on May 13. Restaurants that have signed on for ABQ Food Fridays include Farm & Table, Slate Street Café, Savoy, Tucanos, M'Tucci's Italian Kitchen among many others. The chefs will be working out of the Silver Spoon - a top of the line mobile kitchen in beautiful, newly renovated Airstream trailer! All entrees will have a fixed price point of \$10 or less. Upcoming bands include the Cali Shaw Band, The Green Billies, Sol de la Noche, Merican Slang and others. There is no cover charge and it is family-friendly so all are welcome to come and enjoy the music and fun atmosphere on Civic Plaza.

Movies on the Plaza is an open-air series of family friendly movies on Civic Plaza also starting on Friday, May 13 and continuing every week through the end of September. The line-up features varied programming including recent titles like Zootopia and Inside Out along with best loved favorites like The Princess Bride, Goonies and Grease. All the movies are free and open to all residents of the city. Movies on the Plaza features one of the largest outdoors screens in Albuquerque. Movies start at dusk right after sunset and the conclusion of the live music from ABQ Foods Fridays where moviegoers can have dinner prior to show time. Some seating is available but moviegoers can bring their own portable seats, blankets, and lawn chairs. Movies on the Plaza takes place on Fridays and on some Wednesdays. The entire schedule for the season is listed below.

The **Creative 505** festival takes place on Saturday, May 21 from 6:00 PM to 10:00PM. It is an arts focused festival with arts & crafts vendors, exhibitors, live music, local craft beer, interactive exhibits, strolling entertainment and food trucks. The full evening of music features The Real Matt Jones, Sol de la Noche, Jade Masque and Lone Piñon. Creative 505 also has plenty of child-friendly elements including face painting, chalk art, free jumpers and other activities for kids. Everyone is invited to bring family and friends and converge on Civic Plaza for this fun and casual community event. The next Civic Plaza Presents festivals after Creative 505 will be the ABQ Kids Rock Fest on July 30 and Downtown Winterfest on November 26.

Civic Plaza Presents Movies on the Plaza Summer Series:

- May 13 (Fri) Labyrinth (In tribute to David Bowie)
- May 20 (Fri) Inside Out
- May 27 (Fri) The Jungle Book (1968)
- June 3 (Fri) Grease (special "Sing-along" presentation)
- June 15 (Wed) Guardians of the Galaxy
- June 22 (Wed) Back to the Future

June 29 (Wed) - The NeverEnding Story July 8 (Fri) - Goonies July 13 (Wed) - E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial July 22 (Fri) - Zootopia July 29 (Fri) - The Avengers August 5 (Fri) - Big Hero 6 August 12 (Fri) - Selena August 19 (Fri) - The Sandlot August 26 (Fri) - Beetlejuice September 2 (Fri) - Smoke Signals September 9 (Fri) - Frozen September 16 (Fri) - The Princess Bride September 23 (Fri) - Aladdin September 30 (Fri) - A League of Their Own

All Civic Plaza Presents events are family friendly / dog friendly / bike friendly. Civic Plaza is in close proximity to the Downtown Rail Runner station and a BICI bike share station is located across the street at the Convention Center front doors. <u>Civic Plaza Presents</u> events are produced by the <u>Albuquerque Convention Center</u> with ongoing support <u>DowntownABQ MainStreet Initiative</u>. In case of inclement weather, the events may be cancelled.

Additional information about Civic Plaza Presents events can found on <u>CivicPlazaPresents.com</u> and on the <u>Albuquerque Civic Plaza Facebook</u> page or by calling (505) 768-4575.

CONTACT: Damian Lopez-Gaston, Director of Event Services, SMG managed Albuquerque Convention Center; (505) 768-3818, dlopez-gaston@albuquerquecc.com.



