



News Release

For Immediate Release

Jennifer L. Morgan
Media Contact
813-752-9194
jennifer@flstrawberryfestival.com

Florida Strawberry Festival Announces New Foods and Free Entertainers

PLANT CITY, Fla. (Feb. 15, 2019) –The Florida Strawberry Festival announced today the new food items and free entertainment that visitors can expect at the 2019 event.

Singers, musicians, exhibits and animals comprise this year's lineup of new free entertainment. An assortment of hamburgers, desserts and sweets top the list of new foods.

"Our guests come back year after year to try new foods and see the latest and greatest in entertainment," said President Paul Davis. "We like for them to have a fresh experience each year."

The lineup of new free entertainers is as follows:

2019 Florida Strawberry Festival Battle of the Bands

The top nine bands have been chosen from a field of 20 during the online voting portion of the festival's first official battle. Preliminary battles will take place in the Publix Showcase Tent on Thursday, February 28, Tuesday, March 5 and Thursday, March 7. The final battle event will take place on the Wish Farms Sound Stage on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. with the winning band receiving over \$10,000 in cash and prizes!!!

Pompeyo Dog Show

Jorge, Natalya and their wonderful dogs have been performing together for over 10 years throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean with extraordinary success. They have been featured in such venues as Circus Sarasota, Lone Star Circus, Circus Vazquez, and as of more recent, the hit television show "America's Got Talent" season 12 and finished as a semi-finalist.

The Kandu Magic Show

The Kandu Magic Show has traveled nationwide entertaining family audiences performing at conventions, fairs, festivals and symphony orchestras and even at a zoo! Kandu and Jill, "The Music Lady," create a show like no other. Incorporating live music, sound effects, sight gags, slapstick comedy and audience participation, this show captivates both the young and the young at heart.

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Paul Bunyan Lumberjack vs. Lumberjills Show

The Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show is returning to the Florida Strawberry Festival with a brand-new act! Joining the Big Burly Lumberjacks will be the Lumberjills who are ready for fun and friendly competition. This will be a battle royale you don't want to miss!

Mr. & Miss Berry

Mr. Berry and Miss. Berry, the Florida Strawberry Festival's official mascots, love meeting festival guests and having their picture taken! There is no better way to commemorate a visit to the festival than by getting a picture with the berry best. Mr. and Miss Berry meet and greets take place each day.

Monster Jam Truck

Come see and take pictures with the original designed Monster Jam World Finals truck. This truck is a preview for the Monster Jam World Finals that will take place, for the first time ever, in Orlando in May.

Little Mansion

Little Mansion is an original alternative/indie rock project featuring some of the best musicians in Tampa Bay, including recording artist Logan Grant on lead vocals. Influences include Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, Weezer, The Bleachers and Third Eye Blind.

Ladies of Lee

This ensemble has given numerous students the opportunity to utilize their desire to sing for the glory of God and the edification of the Church. The Ladies of Lee is comprised of women representing a variety of majors at Lee University. Come and enjoy the fellowship and sounds of the Ladies of Lee.

Kari & Billy

Kari & Billy are a husband and wife country music duo from Nashville, Tenn. They formed as a duo in 2011 and have since opened for several top 40 artists including Florida Georgia Line, Brett Eldredge, Scotty McCreery, Rodney Atkins, Chris Young, Kellie Pickler, Montgomery Gentry and Collin Raye. With two singles released to radio, Kari & Billy have been featured on Music Row's Country Breakout Chart.

Paul Jr. of "American Chopper"

Motorcycle master Paul Teutul, Jr. has been molding metal into shape since the age of 12, when he began his apprenticeship at his father's steel business. He's widely recognized as the chief designer and fabricator of some of the world's most famous motorcycles and is featured in the hit television series "American Chopper" on the Discovery Channel.

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Dakin Dairy Farmers Milking Show

Dakin Dairy Farms mission is to produce superior quality farm fresh milks, cheeses and butters. Owned and operated by a multi-generational Florida dairy farm family, we invite you to visit the exhibit to taste the difference in Dakin Dairy Farms products.

Mike Alstott

Come and meet the “A-Train.” The former Tampa Bay Buccaneer fullback spent his entire 12-year career with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and was a six-time pro-bowler and a Super Bowl champion.

The new food items are as follows:

Maple Cotton Candy

Meig's Concessions has created a one-of-a-kind sweet treat that is sure to be a crowd favorite. The fluffy mounds of maple deliciousness will melt in your mouth.

Black Forrest Funnel Cake

Voted best all-around funnel cake layered with chocolate whipped icing and fresh cut strawberries.

Hawaiian Honey Cones

This gluten-free and organic treat is made with Hokkaido Style vanilla ice cream and is a healthy alternative to traditional sugar-based cones. The unique J shape cone is a sight to see and taste!

Strawberry Dole Whip

A refreshing, cool and creamy strawberry whip that is kosher and vegan!

Strawberry Blast Burger

Featuring a strawberry doughnut, this burger is sure to hit the sweet spot! Layered with Gouda cheese, bacon, lettuce, onion and drizzled with a strawberry relish and sweet strawberry mayo, it's also available nestled between two toasted brioche buns.

The Happy Dough Company

Calling all cookie dough lovers! This vendor offers an edible cookie dough which is sure to please. For our fried food lovers, this treat also comes dipped and piping hot straight from the fryer. They also offer a crispy, crunchy cookie dough crumble cannoli.

Strawberry Cheesecake Quesadilla

A traditional quesadilla gets a twist- filled with layers of cheesecake, strawberry glaze and graham crackers. The dish is topped with a mound of whipped cream, sprinkled with graham cracker crumbles and topped with a delicious, red ripe strawberry.

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About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its strawberry shortcake. The 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival where "It's a Hit!" will take place February 28 - March 10 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest19).

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