



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jessica Campbell | 505-382-8721

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**Mayor Keller: Fireworks and Summerfest Return to the Duke City**

*Spectators return to Balloon Fiesta Park, other popular summer gatherings are back*

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM** – Today, Mayor Tim Keller announced the return of fireworks and spectators for a July 4<sup>th</sup> event at Balloon Fiesta Park. The Mayor and City leaders also announced plans to bring Summerfest celebrations back to neighborhoods around the city, public health orders permitting. Last year, the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County partnered to bring Independence Day fireworks displays to each quadrant of the metro area—a move that gave people a chance to watch from home wherever they live and avoid congregating. These displays were so popular, that the City and County will once again be launching fireworks across the metro. All displays will be set to music and broadcast on AM and FM radio.

“We have so much to celebrate this summer, and now, we are bringing fireworks and Summerfest back, making this summer of recovery even more special,” said **Mayor Tim Keller**. “For Fourth of July this year, we are excited to offer events for different comfort levels – fireworks and picnicking at Balloon Fiesta Park for those who want to attend an event, and firework displays across the metro for those who would prefer to watch with friends and family from their own backyard.”

Tickets for the spectator event at Balloon Fiesta Park must be purchased in advance for \$20 per vehicle. Gates open at 6:00 pm, and fireworks will launch at 9:15 pm. Security will be screening spectators for glass containers, firearms and fireworks. All firework information, including how to purchase tickets, can be found here: [cabq.gov/id4](http://cabq.gov/id4).

Fireworks will also launch from the following locations at 9:15 pm:

- Ladera Golf Course
- North Domingo Baca Park
- EXPO NM
- Tom Tenorio Park (Bernalillo County)

“We are excited to partner with the City of Albuquerque again this year to bring fireworks displays to people around the metro – including those in unincorporated parts of Bernalillo County,” said **Bernalillo County Fire Department Deputy Chief Zach Lardy**.

**The sites above will be closed to the public several hours ahead of the planned launch time of 9:15 p.m. (weather permitting) for safety reasons.** The City is strongly discouraging residents from gathering near the launch sites. The Albuquerque Police Department, Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Office, and the Metro Security Division of the Department of Municipal Development will have personnel at each launch site. Street parking around each site will also be restricted in the hours leading up to the launch time and throughout the event.

Albuquerque Fire Rescue reminded the public today that the City is in Stage 1 fire restrictions, which means no open flames, campfires, no smoking, no fireworks, no motor vehicles off of public roadways. Extreme drought conditions around New Mexico have made this fire season especially dangerous. The public is reminded that legal fireworks are 10' high, 6' wide and no louder than a pop gun, and sold within City limits. Illegal fireworks can be reported to 311 or online at [cabq.gov/fireworks](http://cabq.gov/fireworks).

CUMULUS MEDIA is partnering with the City to simultaneously broadcast on their flagship stations - KKOB's AM and FM channels, 96.3 KRST and 99.5 Magic FM, and others - a musical soundtrack during the fireworks displays. On-air personalities from several of CUMULUS' stations will also broadcast a one-hour pre-show leading up to the fireworks displays.

### **SUMMERFEST AND SUMMER EVENTS**

The Department of Arts & Culture announced their plans to bring Albuquerque Summerfest is back to neighborhoods across this summer, public health orders permitting. With a focus on local performers, Albuquerque Summerfest will take place on July 31 at North Domingo Baca Park, August 7 in Nob Hill, and August 14 at Ventana Ranch Community Park. The event series will reunite communities with local bands, breweries, food trucks, kids' entertainment, and more. In addition, Old Town will be the spot for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. The 44<sup>th</sup> Army Band featuring the Jazz Collective and Breaking Brass from New Mexico's own National Guard will perform on Saturday, July 3 from 5-7 p.m. and the Westside Sound Big Band will perform on Sunday, July 4 from 1-3 p.m.

Live music will also be returning to the ABQ BioPark. Once available, all event information can be found at [cultureabq.com](http://cultureabq.com).

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**Jessica Campbell**

marketing and communications coordinator

o 505.768.5303

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