

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Coming Soon to Austin: Cultural, Sports and Music Events
Austin Features Lively Events in 2009

Austin, TX – The Live Music Capital of the World® comes alive in 2009 with unique festivals and events. Creative minds can dress up and get down to funky samba rhythms at Carnaval Brasileiro. Athletes can sprint alongside nearly 15,000 other participants in the Austin Marathon and music lovers can always find something playing including the *Austin City Limits* Music Festival at Zilker Park.

Contact the Austin Convention & Visitor's Bureau at (866) GO-AUSTIN or www.austintexas.org for more information. All listed events are subject to change.

January

1/19 Martin Luther King Jr. March and Festival

Huston-Tillotson University

This outdoor festival celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with performances by some of the city's finest jazz, blues and gospel musicians.

512-505-3006 www.mlkcelebration.com

1/31 Carnaval Brasileiro

Palmer Events Center

Flamboyant costumes, Brazilian samba music, and the uninhibited, spirited atmosphere make Austin's Carnaval one of the biggest such festivals outside of Brazil.

512-452-6832 www.sambaparty.com

February

2/15 Austin Marathon

Downtown Austin

One of the country's premier races attracts nearly 15,000 participants from around the world. Athletes run alongside 40 bands and spectators can stay after the marathon to enjoy good eats, cool drinks and live music.

512-560-4802 www.youraustinmarathon.com

March

3/13- 3/28 Star of Texas Fair & Rodeo

Travis County Exposition Center

Austin goes cowboy as competitors hit the arena and area agriculture students exhibit prize livestock. Headline entertainers perform in concert nightly.

512-919-3000 www.rodeoaustin.com

3/13-3/22 SXSWWeek

Austin Convention Center and more than 80 venues

Noted filmmakers, musicians and multi-media artists from around the world converge to showcase music, film and interactive media during this internationally recognized event.

512-467-7979 www.sxsw.com

3/29 Capitol 10,000

Congress Avenue to Auditorium Shores

Texas' largest race and one of the nation's top 10K runs draws some 10,000 serious and not-so-serious runners.

512-472-3254 www.statesman.com

April

4/1- 4/4 Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays

Mike A. Myers Stadium, UT campus

The premier track & field event brings together the best high school, college and professional athletes from Texas, the U.S. and the world.

800-687-8379 www.texasports.com

4/3 Urban Music Festival

Auditorium Shores

This outdoor event features live music and social activities along the banks of Lady Bird Lake.

512-314-5433 www.urbanmusicfest.com

4/16- 4/19 Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival

Hilton Austin, Hill Country wineries and other venues

The best Texas chefs and wineries pair their culinary creations and fruits of the vine at a variety of venues, ranging from an exotic game ranch to a family festival in the park.

512-249-6300 www.texaswineandfood.org

4/25 Eeyore's Birthday Party

Pease Park

Join the birthday party for Austin's favorite Winnie The Pooh character, Eeyore. His 46th birthday includes live music, face painting, maypoles and costumes.

512-448-5160 www.eeyores.sexton.com

4/25- 4/26 Art City Austin

Downtown Austin

Nearly 200 national artists, top local restaurants, two music stages and hands-on art activities make this one of the city's favorite festivals.

512-458-6073 www.artallianceaustin.org

May

5/1- 5/31 Latino Music Month

Various Venues

Latino artists showcase diverse genres during performances on the Plaza at City Hall each Friday at noon as well as other special events throughout the month.

www.austinlatinomusic.com

5/2 -5/3 Old Pecan Street Spring Arts Festival

East Sixth Street

Musicians, food vendors, artists and craftspeople turn Sixth Street, originally named Pecan Street, into a lively street fair.

512-443-6179 www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com

5/21- 6/7 Kerrville Folk Festival

Quiet Valley Ranch

Singers and songwriters hit the stage at this outdoor music festival that includes arts, crafts and workshops.

830-257-3600 www.kerrvillefolkfestival.com

June

6/11- 6/14 Republic of Texas Biker Rally

Travis County Exposition Center and Sixth Street

The state's largest motorcycle gathering attracts thousands of bikers for rides, parades and music. Guests must be 18 or older to attend.

214-904-8456 www.rotrally.com

6/19 Central Texas Juneteenth Celebration

Various locations around Austin

Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of slaves in Texas following the end of the Civil War. Festivities include pageants, parades, a carnival and a battle of the bands.

512-542-9823 www.geaya.net/Juneteenth.htm

July

7/4 Fourth of July Fireworks & Symphony

Auditorium Shores

The Austin Symphony hosts an annual concert of patriotic music that culminates in a spectacular fireworks display over Lady Bird Lake.

512-476-6064 www.austinsymphony.org

August

8/22 Bat Fest!

Congress Avenue Bridge

Bat Fest celebrates North America's largest urban bat colony with food, drink and entertainment. Activities include a "bat wing" eating contest, bat watching and bat education, carnival rides, bridge bungee jumping and more.

512-441-9015 www.roadwayevents.com

8/30 Austin Chronicle Hot Sauce Festival

Waterloo Park

Join amateurs and pros alike as they compete their hottest, sweetest and most original sauces in a taste-off.

512-454-5766 www.austinchronicle.com

October

10/2-10/4 Austin City Limits Music Festival

Zilker Park

One of the country's largest celebrations of music, the three-day festival brings the magic of the famed public TV series Austin City Limits outside the studio and into Austin's most beloved park with more than 130 musical acts on 8 stages.

877-FEST-ACL www.aclfestival.com

10/22–10/29 Austin Film Festival

Paramount Theatre and various locations

Recognized as one of the top film festivals in the country, this cinematic event shines the spotlight on top-billed films and indies alike.

512-478-4795 www.austinfilmfestival.com

10/31 Halloween on Sixth Street

East Sixth Street

More than 60,000 costumed revelers make this one of the country's largest All Hallow's Eve celebrations.

www.6street.com

November

11/1-11/2 Texas Book Festival

Texas State Capitol

Hear readings and attend signings with some of your favorite authors; visit the children's chapter tent; and enjoy live music and poetry readings.

512-477-4055 www.texasbookfestival.org

11/28 Chuy's Christmas Parade

Congress Avenue

A procession of giant balloons, marching bands, vintage cars, celebrities and floats usher in the season of giving.

888-439-2489 www.chuysparade.com

12/13 – 12/23 Zilker Tree Holiday Festival

Zilker Park

This free, family-friendly event runs from 6-10 p.m. nightly. The highlight is the 153-foot-tall Zilker Tree; the festival also offers a glittering, lighted footpath display, holiday concerts, concessions and holiday fare. <http://www.cityofaustin.org/tol>

December

12/11-12/24 Armadillo Christmas Bazaar

Austin Convention Center

Shades of old Austin are reflected at this market of eclectic gift items and local entertainment.

512-447-1605

www.armadillobazaar.com

12/31 First Night Austin

Downtown Austin

A public celebration of the arts, the evening includes street performances, a parade and other family-friendly activities.

www.firstnighaustin.org

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