

For Immediate Release – May, 2023

THE SOUTH 9TH STREET
ITALIAN MARKET
FESTIVAL
MAY 20-21, 2023 · 11am to 6pm

PRESENTING SPONSORS



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S. 9th Street Italian Market Festival is back
May 20 and 21, 2023 from 11am to 6pm
S. 9th Street between Wharton and Fitzwater Streets

Philadelphia: Bigger, better, bolder than ever before!

This year's Festival promises to be a celebration of culture, gastronomy, art and music with an unmatched energy and enthusiasm. Seven city blocks are filled with crafters, services, souvenirs, activities, music, beverages, and food.

The Festival, is one of Philadelphia's most popular events and attracts visitors from all over the city and beyond. Featuring over 100 area vendors showcasing a range of cuisine, beverages, arts, crafts and souvenirs., visitors will have the opportunity to sample and purchase these culinary delights. In addition to the food, the Festival will feature a wide range of music, artists, and crafters.

"We are thrilled to host the S. 9th Street Festival again this year" said Michele Gambino, Festival Producer. "We look forward to welcoming visitors back to this iconic Philadelphia landmark, and sharing the rich culture, food and entertainment, that make this event so special."

The S. 9th Street Festival is a perfect way to spend a day with family and friends. Everyone can once again be part of the S. 9th Street community. The nation's oldest outdoor continuous market hosts this annual family event, which is Philadelphia's largest block party. Come and join us!

Live Entertainment

On Saturday May 20 at the 9th & Washington Stage; DeerPark's Cheesesteak Competition, Tribute to Jerry Blavat hosted by Eric Bartello and Jukebox Dayz

On Sunday, May 21 at the 9th & Washington Stage, The Company, The Juliano Brothers
The 9th & Christian Street corner welcomes back DJ Timmy DeSimone.

Festival Highlights

The John Marzano Half Ball Tournament takes place in the Christopher Columbus Charter Schoolyard at 916 Christian Street on Saturday May 20 starting at 10am. Proceeds benefit the John Marzano Wood Bat Scout League. Teams can register at the Italian Market Visitor Center at 919 S. 9th Street or online at www.italianmarketfestival.com. Or on-site the morning of the event.

DeerPark's CheeseSteak Competition takes place on Saturday May 20 at 11am at the Washington Avenue Stage. The top cheesesteak-makers will be invited to participate in the inaugural Deer Park Philly Cheesesteak of the Year contest. Philadelphia area residents can nominate their favorite cheesesteak place. The winner will not only earn all-important bragging rights but will also receive a significant trophy to display in their shop. In addition, Deer Park will donate \$5,000 to the charity of the winner's choice.

Tribute to Jerry Blavat on Saturday May 20 starting at 12:30 pm at the Washington Avenue Stage. Starring Billy Carlucci (Billy and the Essentials), ChiChi (Memory Lane), and Remember Then and a "Geator Gold" Dance Party with DJ Eric Bartello.

Procession of Saints held Sunday, May 21 at 11 am, is an annual tradition. The St. Paul Parish Procession of Saints starts at Saint Mary Magdalen Church (712 Montrose Street) and pauses for the Blessing of the Market at 9th and Washington Avenue, ending at Saint Paul Catholic Church (corner of S. Hutchinson and Christian Streets).

Cornhole at the Festival will be on Sunday May 21 at 2pm on Christian Street between 9th & 10th Streets. All skill levels and ages are welcome. This is a double elimination tournament. Teams can register on site day of the event.

The Grease Pole 30 feet high, greased with lard, located at the 9th & Montrose Piazza, teams will compete both Festival Days for prizes of meats, cheeses, gift cards and money, hanging from the top of the pole. More importantly the winning team will have bragging rights for the entire year. Teams can register on-site day of the event.

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S. 9th Street Festival May 20-21, 2023
