



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE



MISSION  
MARQUEE  
PLAZA

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mission Marquee Plaza Welcomes Spring with First Farmers & Artisans Market of the Year on March 21

*Historic Facility Kicks Off 2020 Programming Season with more than 25 Local Vendors, Free Tree Give-Away, and more!*



**SAN ANTONIO (March 11, 2020)** – Fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables, hand-painted art, plant-based products, lavender and bloom bunches, and artisan jewelry are only a few of the finds attendees will discover at the Mission Marquee Farmers & Artisans Market on Saturday, March 21, 2020. More than 25 San Antonio vendors will display their locally sourced produce, plants, handmade wares and crafts, and more to sell at Mission Marquee Plaza, 3100 Roosevelt Ave., 78214, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The event is free to attend and open to the public. Markets are held the third

Saturday of each month from March through November. The facility is pet-friendly.

This month's Farmers and Artisans Market kicks off a new programming season at Mission Marquee Plaza, with nearly 50 events scheduled for 2020. Last year, more than 50,000 people attended 46 events over the nine-month season. This year, several events being held at the facility will commemorate Mission San Jose's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary, including Viva Poesía on Saturday, April 4 and Dia de los Muertos on Sunday, November 1. The popular Outdoor Movie Series will begin on Saturday, May 2, 2020, continuing through November, and will feature – for the first time – movies selected by the community through an open call for recommended films via social media.

“The former Mission Drive In has a long history as a community gathering space. Generations later, Mission Marquee Plaza continues to bring together people of all ages and backgrounds,” said District 3 Councilwoman Rebecca J. Viagran. “This year, as we celebrate Mission San Jose's Tricentennial, it is a time for us to also reflect on our history as a city and the role that places like Mission Marquee Plaza play in keeping that history alive.”

In partnership with various community partners, the City of San Antonio World Heritage Office – which manages Mission Marquee Plaza – will also offer activities for the entire family during the March 21 Farmers & Artisans Market:

- San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department will give away free fruit and nut trees (while quantities last)
- Nearby Harvey E. Najim Family YMCA will offer free Zumba classes beginning at 9 a.m.

- San Antonio Food Bank will feature cooking demonstrations and more on its Mobile Mercado
- San Antonio's DJ Louie will provide musical entertainment
- Local food trucks will have snacks for sale

Since 2015, the Mission Marquee Farmers & Artisans Market has served as a small business incubator for San Antonio entrepreneurs and provided additional access to fresh produce and sustainable products to Southside residents. The World Heritage Office provides booth spaces at no cost to vendors on a first-come, first-served basis. Over the years, collaborative relationships with community partners have helped increase those offerings and helping San Antonio become a more sustainable city, a goal for the city as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy.

“San Antonio, with two world-recognized and respected designations from UNESCO, is positioned to become a global leader in many areas, including sustainability and connecting it to our heritage and traditions,” said Colleen Swain, Director of the World Heritage Office. “Events such as the Mission Marquee Farmers & Artisans Market serve as opportunities for everyone – farmers, partners, and the community – to learn how to work together to achieve our goals.”

Nestled near the historic San Antonio Missions, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Mission Marquee Plaza continues the site's long tradition as a community gathering space by hosting seasonal events including free movie screenings, farmers markets, cultural events, music and literary festivals, and more. In 2007, the City of San Antonio acquired the former Mission Drive-In property. In June 2014, Mission Marquee Plaza officially opened its doors for the next generation of nearby Southside families and all of San Antonio residents and visitors to enjoy.

The complete schedule of events for Mission Marquee Plaza is available at [www.missionmarquee.com](http://www.missionmarquee.com). San Antonio area vendors interested in participating can also find vendor registration information on the website. More information on the World Heritage Office is available at [www.sanantonio.gov/worldheritage](http://www.sanantonio.gov/worldheritage).

**PHOTO:** Hundreds of attendees line up for the tree give-away during a 2019 Mission Marquee Farmers & Artisans Market. This year's market season is scheduled to begin March 21, 2020. *(Courtesy City of San Antonio)*

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*San Antonio is a global city with a dynamic economy and workforce, a deep cultural heritage and diverse communities that are resilient and welcoming. It is one of the strongest fiscally managed cities in the country with a vibrant business climate and a 'AAA' general obligation bond rating from all three major rating agencies. San Antonio is a city that nurtures entrepreneurship, encourages investment and funds infrastructure. America's seventh-largest city offers growth opportunities in bioscience, financial services, aerospace, cybersecurity, energy, transportation, manufacturing and healthcare. In 2015, UNESCO designated San Antonio's 18th century Spanish colonial missions as a World Heritage Site - the first in Texas. Proudly called Military City, USA®, San Antonio is home to one of the largest populations of active duty military, veterans and crucial military commands. In 2018, the city celebrated its 300th anniversary, honoring its rich past and a bright future focused on innovation and livability. For more information, visit [www.sanantonio.gov](http://www.sanantonio.gov).*