



City of Yakima

# **News Release**

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**Subject: 2016 Yakima Cinco de Mayo Cultural Festival**

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**Release Date: Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

## **Yakima Cinco de Mayo Cultural Festival Marks Milestone**

The Cinco de Mayo Cultural Festival, which has long been one of Downtown Yakima's most popular signature events, consistently drawing 20,000 or more visitors over the last several years, will celebrate a significant milestone during its 2016, two-day run. The free, family-friendly festival organized by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce marks its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016, making it one of Downtown Yakima's longest running signature events as well.

The 2016 Cinco de Mayo Cultural Festival will begin welcoming visitors at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The event will run until 9:00 pm on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The festival grounds will be open on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 7:15 pm.

Booths featuring delicious food, fun kids' activities, one-of-a-kind handmade crafts, and more will fill the festival grounds, which will include Yakima Avenue between 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from about a half block north of Yakima Avenue to about a half block south of Yakima Avenue, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Chestnut and Yakima Avenue.

The festival's main stage will feature a wide variety of activities and performances including dancers, musicians, and various elements of the 2016 Ms. Cinco de Mayo Pageant. The culmination of the pageant will be the crowning of the 2016 Ms. Cinco de Mayo, which will take place on the main stage at 1:30 pm on Sunday. The pageant will award \$5,000 in post-secondary education scholarships this year.

Street soccer and street basketball tournaments will be taking place throughout the festival. A parade featuring dancing horses and charros (traditional Mexican horsemen) will make its way down Yakima Avenue from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the festival grounds beginning at 1:30 pm on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Sunday's activities will also include the 2016 Mother's Day Cinco de Mayo Custom Car Show. The show, which is free to attend, will showcase lowrider cars and bikes, classics, imports, motorcycles, trucks, hot rods, and more, will take place in the parking lot north of Chestnut Avenue between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street as well as on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Chestnut and Yakima Avenue.

To see a complete schedule for the 2016 Cinco de Mayo Cultural Festival taking place in Downtown Yakima on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, visit the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.yakimahispanicchamber.com/cinco-de-mayo.html>.