

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 7, 2010

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Event: Emerald Queen Casino Taste of Tacoma®
Website: www.tasteoftacoma.com
Date: June 25-27, 2010
Location: Point Defiance Park, Tacoma, Wash.

The Emerald Queen Casino Taste of Tacoma® celebrates 25 years in 2010 and is pleased to bring the celebration to the public at the most affordable family fun festival at Point Defiance Park on June 25-27, 2010. Special activities and discounts to celebrate the Taste's birthday are a highlight of this year's festival. This year, the Taste of Tacoma® offers the Pierce Transit \$3.50 Taste Express round-trip transportation to and from the event. The Taste It! Discount Meal Ticket allows patrons to purchase \$20 worth of food for \$17- a 15% savings. This year, the Taste features 32 different restaurants, four unique entertainment stages with music to complement all taste, a laugh packed line-up comedy club, three beer gardens, a covered dining area, over 100 arts and crafts vendors and the spectacular *Wine & Jazz* wine tasting event. A **no-pet policy** will be enforced in the food court at the Taste this year. The public is encouraged to leave dogs and other pets home for the health and safety of both the animals and the public.

Note to editor: For more information regarding specific events and activities, please refer to the enclosed news releases.

Overall Festival Hours Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26:
11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday, June 27:
11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Admission FREE!

Special Features of 2010:

Taste it all!

As always, the Taste of Tacoma® showcases old favorites and new flavors throughout the weekend! Notable newcomers such as Mick Kelly's Irish Pub and Hindquarter BBQ join festival favorites such as Bambuza Vietnamese Bistro and Southern Kitchen to offer the public a selection of 32 restaurants and multiple other food booth choices. Greek, Italian, American, Caribbean and more- you'll find it all at the Taste of Tacoma®!

-more-

Taste It All

Happy 25th Birthday!

Celebrate 25 tasty years! Special events and discounts are available all weekend long as a thank you to the public for supporting us for all these years. From Friday's wine tasting happy hour to free cake on Saturday (while supplies last) and kids' activities like Radio Disney's Kids' Karaoke, The Reptile Man and tile painting courtesy of Home Depot, we're bringing the celebration to the whole family! NOTE- Please see attached Birthday release for a complete list of events.

Right Bite

Each year, the Taste has a list of quality restaurants offering up everything from gyros to alligator. This year, all restaurants offer a Hope Heart "Right Bite." The Right Bite is a menu item that is a healthier (less fat, calories or sodium) choice for consumers who want great taste with no guilt! With items like Vegan Gyros, Grilled Salmon and delicious Tofu Spring Rolls, the Right Bite makes healthier choices an easy option. Look for the Right Bite symbol on every restaurant's menu.

The \$3 Taste

Each restaurant booth at the Taste will offer a food item for only \$3! Taste more for less!

TASTE IT! Discount Meal Tickets

Participants can receive \$3 off for every \$20 spent- a 15% discount on food and beverages. Purchase your TASTE IT! Discount coupon book for \$17 at the TASTE IT! Discount Meal Ticket booth at the entrance of the Taste while ticket supplies last. NOTE- from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday only, the TASTE IT! Discount coupon book will sell for \$15 as a part of our 25th Birthday promotion.

Hop on the Pierce Transit Taste Express

Skip the traffic and the parking fees and climb aboard the Taste Express. The Taste Express leaves Tacoma Community College Transit Center at South 19th and Mildred and travels straight to Point Defiance Park. Taste visitors ride for only \$3.50 roundtrip and parking is FREE. The Taste Express will operate on Friday, June 25, and Saturday, June 26, from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and on Sunday, June 27, from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The designated areas for the event will be clearly marked and the buses will run every 15 minutes from the TCC Transit Center to Point Defiance Park. Taste Express parking is free at TCC.

The Comedy Club presented by 96.5 JACK FM

Showcasing the region's top comedians, the Comedy Club presented by 96.5 JACK FM will keep you laughing all weekend long. Come enjoy a free show and an assortment of available beverages. Must be 21 or older to enter. Located next to the Rose Garden.

Great Music!

There will be a variety of musical entertainment to suit all music Tastes! Visitors can enjoy everything from country music found at the 94.1 KMPS Country and Blues Music Stage, to retro and current hits stage with KZOK 102.5. The KJR FM stage will present popular covers and originals. Also be sure to stop by the 98.9 Smooth Jazz Stage in the Rose Garden adjacent to *Wine & Jazz!*

Wine & Jazz presented by The News Tribune

Sit back, relax and enjoy yourself at *Wine & Roses*, an enchanting wine-tasting affair. *Wine & Roses* is located in the Rose Garden and features a variety of regional wines. Proceeds from the event benefit the Bates Technical College Culinary Program.

Art a la Carte

Supported by the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, this area will feature more than 100 juried arts and crafts vendors. Handcrafted items, woodwork, gallery art, photography, jewelry and more will be on display. Don't miss out on this opportunity to purchase items from this talented group. Located just north of the Midway.

Funtastic Carnival and KMPS Team Up to Offer Discount

Feed your carnival appetite and pick up a Discount Coupon at the 94.1 KMPS booth. Coupons are good for any 6 rides for only \$13, an almost 50% discount on full-ticket pricing. Purchase carnival tickets at the Funtastic Carnival ticket window.

Title Sponsor Emerald Queen Casino

The Emerald Queen Hotel and Casinos is proud to present the 25th Annual Taste of Tacoma. For twenty-five years the festival has brought family, fun, and sun together in majestic Point Defiance Park. As the Entertainment Capital of the Northwest, the Emerald Queen Casino is excited to present a staple of summertime in the Pacific Northwest. Summer is greeted with joy year after year here in Washington and we know that it's a time to make memories and enjoy friends and family. We strive to present entertainment for just that reason and look forward to not only seeing you at the Taste of Tacoma, but also in our I-5 Showroom. Our summer line-up includes artists such as: MC Hammer, Styx, Michael Bolton, Professional Boxing and Cagesport! Like the Festival, we have a little bit of everything for you to sample. Visit us at our booth during the Taste of Tacoma and learn more about all of the entertainment coming soon the Emerald Queen, the Entertainment Capital of the Northwest. On behalf of all of us, enjoy the Taste and your summer!

Media Sponsors:

KOMO 4 Television
KZOK 102.5 FM
94.1 KMPS

95.7 KJR FM
96.5 JACK FM
98.9 Smooth Jazz

KISS 106.1 FM
Showcase Magazine
The News Tribune

Sponsors that make this event possible:

Emerald Queen Casino, BECU, Crystal Springs, Coors Light, Wahl, Smuckers Toppings, Wyndham, Washington's Lottery, Hope Heart Institute, GEICO, Bacardi, Western Washington Toyota Dealers, Dave's Killer Bread, Evan's Glass, Trex, Penguin Windows, Jones Soda, West Coast Vinyl, Bath Fitter, Broadview Security, American Family Insurance, Yoplait, American Heart Association, Cutters Point Coffee, Matheny Chiropractic, Mahatma, Northwest Home Improvement, Restore Vision Centers, Washington State Kitchen and Bath, JH Sunglasses, Home Depot, Triamp

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