

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jan. 13, 2017

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**INDULGE YOUR SWEET TOOTH AT THE 22ND ANNUAL  
GLENDALE CHOCOLATE AFFAIRE FEBRUARY 3-5**  
*Glendale's Own Cerreta Candy Company Presents the Sweetest Event in Town*

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – Glendale will soon host the sweetest event in town. The 22nd Annual Glendale Chocolate Affaire will be a chocoholic's dream, with chocolate and so much more in Historic Downtown Glendale for three days, Feb. 3-5, 2017.

Where else in the Valley can you find nearly 40 chocolate purveyors all in one spot, with chocolate favorites like the ever-popular chocolate-covered strawberries, nuts, cheesecake, bananas, and truffles, but new things you may not have tried, including chocolate lemonade, a chocolate steamed bun, spiced chocolate and a Polar Plunge (hot chocolate with a scoop of ice cream.) and that's just the tip of the chocolate-covered iceberg – partake in a chocolate lover's scavenger hunt to find all of the delicious confections.

If you really want to find out the best of the best at the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, attend the Sweet Tooth competition, in which vendors enter their best chocolate creation and judges vote on the most decadent and delicious ones. The contest takes place on stage Friday evening at 6 p.m. KTVK-3TV television personality Jaime Cerreta will emcee, so it will be an entertaining and informative event.

The Chocolate Affaire is presented by Arizona's famous candy makers, Cerreta Candy Company. Glendale's hometown factory will offer tours all weekend and visitors can expect to find some Willy-Wonka-type magic happening and maybe a free sample of their confections there, as well. Free shuttles, sponsored by SRP, will carry visitors to and from Cerreta's.

Besides the love of chocolate, the other facet of the Glendale Chocolate Affaire is a celebration of romance. The event has become the largest gathering of romance novelists in the Southwest, which means

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## **Chocolate Affaire/ Add 1.1.1**

writers are on site throughout the festival, offering meet and greet opportunities with fans, as well as writing workshops. The author and workshop schedule can be downloaded from the city's website.

Families with children will enjoy a variety of activities, face-painting, carnival rides, a rock-climbing wall and more. Another fun family activity is the Cerreta's chocolate-pizza making booth, which has become an annual tradition for many.

One highlight of the event that has become popular in recent years is the Plein Air Competition, taking place on Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., so attendees can watch as artists paint as the event is taking place around them. For information on the Plein Air Competition, sponsored by the city's Public Arts Program, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/arts](http://www.glendaleaz.com/arts).

Musical entertainment will be happening all weekend, as well. Performers include:

<u>Friday, Feb. 3</u>	7:30 p.m.	The Rich Berra Band (Rich of the John Jay & Rich radio show)
<u>Saturday, Feb. 4</u>	10 a.m.	3Nations
	11:45 a.m.	Vintage Wednesday
	1:15 p.m.	76 <sup>th</sup> Street
	3 p.m.	Desert Dixie
	5:45 p.m.	Lee Perreira Band
	7:30 p.m.	Mandatory Fun
<u>Sunday, Feb. 5</u>	Noon	Ashley Wineland
	2:30 p.m.	Zimis

Event hours are Friday 5-10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. The event is located in the heart of Historic Downtown Glendale, in Murphy Park, located at 58th and Glendale avenues. Free admission! Preferred parking is available in one of two downtown parking garages for \$10, which are both accessible from 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue. For more information on Glendale's festivals, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/events](http://www.glendaleaz.com/events) or call our special events hotline at 623-930-2299.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is presented by Cerreta Candy Company and sponsored by Valley Buick-GMC Dealers, SRP, 3TV-KTVK, KMLE, KOOL, Live 101.5, The Arizona Republic and Camelback Ranch-Glendale.