

THE MUSHROOM FESTIVAL, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 5, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

KATHI LAFFERTY, MUSHROOM FESTIVAL COORDINATOR, 610 925-3373

The 31st Annual Mushroom Festival Brings the Fun(ge) Back in 2016

Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, the Mushroom Capital of the World, bursts with fun and fungi at the 31st Annual Mushroom Festival on September 10 and 11, 2016.

Enjoy your time in the Mushroom Capital of the World with tasty mushroom foods and mushroom-inspired art from over 200 vendors lining the mile-long Street Fair. Contests include the Amateur Mushroom Cook-Off, the National Fried Mushroom Eating Championship, and Mushroom Judging. Special Saturday events include the Antique and Classic Car show. Special Sunday events include the Soup and Wine Fest and the Mushroom Run and Fun Gus Walk. There's cooking demonstrations, the Growers' Exhibit, entertainment and rides for children, the Painted Mushroom Silent Auction, and the Old Fashioned Carnival on both days of the Festival.

New this year, the Amateur Mushroom Cook-Off is a qualifying event of the World Food Championships. The winner of the Amateur Mushroom Cook-Off will win a Golden Ticket to compete in the World Food Championships this November. The theme for the Cook-Off and the World Championships is Breakfast!

Be sure to drop by the Cute-As-A-Button (Mushroom) Baby Photo Contest and drop some pocket change to vote for your favorite photos. All proceeds will benefit the A. I. Dupont Children's Hospital this year.

Once the Street Fair closes on Saturday evening, the Special Events Tent opens for a special Christine Havrilla and Mason Porter concert. Get tickets now ([link at mushroomfestival.com](http://mushroomfestival.com)) and extend your Saturday evening in Kennett Square.

The Mushroom Festival runs Saturday, September 10 (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) and Sunday, September 11 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Details, schedules, a brochure and map are available on the Mushroom Festival website: www.mushroomfestival.org. For more information call 610-925-3373.

#####

Located in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, The Mushroom Festival is always the weekend after Labor Day. Attendance estimates are about 100,000 visitors over the two-day event. The Mission of The Mushroom Festival, Inc. (a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation), is to promote the mushroom, educate consumers about the health benefits of mushrooms and to promote tourism in Southern Chester County, all while financially supporting local and regional charities through a grant process. The Festival awarded \$85,000 to 47 local non-profits this year from the Festival's 2015 proceeds. In total over \$805,000 has been given through grants and partnerships since 2000.

High resolution jpgs are available under the Media tab at www.mushroomfestival.org

P.O. Box 1000 ▪ KENNETT SQUARE, PA 19348 ▪ (610) 925-3373 ▪ www.mushroomfestival.org