



Last year's Metro Rail opening drew unprecedented crowds to NoHo Festival

MTA Promotes Metro Rail for Travel To Noho Theatre & Arts Festival

By ED SCANNELL

(June 7, 2001) With gasoline prices still hovering around the \$2 per gallon mark, the MTA is promoting Metro Rail as the perfect way to reach the NoHo Theatre & Arts Festival, scheduled June 16 and 17, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Now in its ninth year, the NoHo Theatre & Arts Festival's free celebration of the arts takes place on Lankershim Boulevard between Cumpston Street and Magnolia Boulevard. The second largest festival in the City of Los Angeles, this year's festival promises to deliver a feast for the senses.

The festival will include free performances at 14 local theatres. Avant garde art will be on display.

A main stage at the north end of the festival will highlight well-known entertainers, while another main stage at the south end will be dedicated to an eclectic mix of rock n' roll tribute bands, pop and jazz dance, body painting, a selection of exotic animals and much more.

This year's festival will be marked by the return of the highly popular children's area, Kid's Kourt, an activity area where children can see magic, listen to storytelling, paint, watch a play or meet cartoon characters.

More than 200 booths will be featured this year. In addition to a wide variety of arts, crafts and commercial items, food vendors will feature a panoply of cuisines from traditional to ethnic to gourmet.

Last year's festival coincided with the opening of the Metro Red Line North Hollywood extension and attracted a quarter-million people. With Metro Rail ridership soaring to new heights, festival organizers are looking toward another record-breaking crowd.

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