



Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Kentucky Exposition Center

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Kentucky Derby Festival Events Fill the Halls of the Kentucky Exposition Center

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The Kentucky Derby Festival will offer four long-running favorites at the Kentucky Exposition Center this year.

- The **Kentucky Derby Festival Basketball Classic Presented by Papa John's** is the longest-running all-star basketball game in the country. Played in Freedom Hall on Friday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m., this event brings many of the future stars of college and professional basketball to Louisville. Started in 1973, former participants include Jamal Mashburn, Rex Chapman, Pervis Ellison, Derek Anderson and Michael Beasley. Tickets are \$18 for reserved lower arena and \$50 for reserved courtside. All prices increase \$2 the day of the show.
- Always popular, the **U.S. Bank Great Balloon Glow** will be held on Friday, April 29, 9:00 p.m. The balloons will inflate in parking lots C and D, but do not ascend. The pilots fire their burners and the colorful balloons will glow in synchronization to a special musical score. Visitors can talk to the pilots and get close to the giant hot-air balloons.
- The **Thorntons Great Bed Race** returns to Broadbent Arena on Monday, May 2 at 6 p.m. One of the most entertaining and lighthearted races in the country, the Great Bed Race is run by teams pushing a decorated bed in a 600 yard dash to the finish line.
- The **Republic Bank Pegasus Parade Preview Party**, held May 3 in South Wing C offers visitors the opportunity see the floats that will be in the annual Pegasus Parade.

With the exception of the Basketball Classic, all festival events at the exposition center are free with a 2016 Kentucky Derby Festival Pegasus Pin.. Parking at the Kentucky Exposition Center is \$8 per vehicle and \$20 per bus.

For more information, visit <http://kdf.org>.

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ABOUT THE KENTUCKY EXPOSITION CENTER

One of the top 10 largest public facilities of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center features 1.2 million square feet of contiguous exhibit space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The facility's class "A" exhibit space totals 677,000 square feet and accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round. The expo center is the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, Kentucky Hoopfest and the North American International Livestock Exposition. For more information, go online to www.kyexpo.org.

ABOUT PARKING

Conveniently located adjacent to the Louisville International Airport and near the junction of three major interstates, the Kentucky Exposition Center is easily accessible and just five minutes south of downtown Louisville. The spacious grounds have 19,000 parking spaces and is accessible from six gates surrounding the facility. Gates are located off of Phillips Lane, Crittenden Drive and Preston Highway. Parking at the Kentucky Exposition Center is \$8 per vehicle and \$20 per bus.