



For Immediate Release
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Downtown Columbus, Inc. Announces 2025 Summer Events

New FREE events and several returning favorites make the ultimate Downtown summer

(Columbus, OH) – Summer in Downtown Columbus calls for dozens of free events. Hosted by Downtown Columbus, Inc., events will run through fall and include free offerings such as free kayak days, UnderCurrent events, fountain activities, musical performances, Dorrian Days, and programming that is fun for all ages. These offerings complement the more than 200 events occurring at Columbus Commons and dozens of festivals and privately produced events that draw thousands to Downtown Columbus.

More information on events can be found [here](#). Photos are available [here](#) with credits.

2025 DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS SUMMER EVENTS:

BICENTENNIAL PARK

- What:** **Scioto Mile Fountain**
When: Daily May 23 through September 1
11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Cool off and make a splash in the Fountain! For information about changes to Fountain hours or closures visit www.DowntownColumbus.com/SciotoMile
- What:** **Scioto Mile Fountain Evening Ambiance**
When: Daily May 23 through September 1
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Every evening, enjoy the ambiance as the Fountain glows and illuminates the night sky with color. For information about changes to Fountain hours or closures visit www.DowntownColumbus.com/SciotoMile
- What:** **Scioto Mile Fountain Sensory Friendly Hour**
When: Mondays, June 2 – August 25 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Enjoy a sensory-friendly splash in the Fountain with reduced loud, sudden sounds and music. All ages welcome. For information about changes to Fountain hours or closures visit www.DowntownColumbus.com/SciotoMile
- What:** **FREE Fountain Fest**
When: Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25
11 a.m. – 10 p.m.



Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Kick off summer with a splash! The Scioto Mile Fountain re-opens for the season at Bicentennial Park this Memorial Day Weekend. Join us for a FREE two-day celebration with music, food trucks, live performances, art, and more surprises. All ages are welcome to splash in the Fountain, and adults can indulge in a drink using the Center City DORA.

What: **FREE Fountain Dance & Fitness Classes**
When: June 12 - August 31
Fitness at 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. | 6/12, 6/19, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 7/31, 8/7, 8/21, 8/28
Dance at 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. | 6/15, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/27, 8/3, 8/17, 8/24, 8/31

Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Hit the (fountain) floor this summer with Free Dance + Fitness Classes at the Scioto Mile Fountain! Get moving and cool off post-workout with a refreshing splash in the Fountain. With lessons designed for all skill levels, everyone is welcome. Advance [registration](#) is recommended but not required. Plus, unwind after Thursday evening classes with the Fountain's evening ambiance.

What: **The Patio at the Scioto Mile Fountain**
When: Starting May 23
Thursday and Friday, 4 p.m. – 10 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Where: 233 S Civic Center Dr
Details: Take a break from the summer sun, sip something cold, and kick back with breathtaking views at "The Patio" at the Scioto Mile Fountain. Grab a house cocktail, beer, or glass of wine. Non-alcoholic drinks are available at The Patio and nearby food trucks. Whether you're grabbing a drink post-walk, feasting from a food truck, or watching kayaks float by on the river, The Patio is the place to be. Please note The Patio will not be selling beverages during major festivals and events.

What: **FREE Scioto Social**
When: Saturday, August 30 at 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
Details: Adults, here's your chance to take an end-of-season splash during the final weekend of interactive play at Scioto Mile Fountain! Enjoy a live DJ and an evening ambiance light show. DORA beverages will be available to purchase from The Patio.

What: **FREE Kayak Days**
When: Saturday, July 12 and Saturday, August 9 | 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Where: Boat launch under the Main Street Bridge, near Bicentennial Park
Details: The views from the Scioto River are priceless, but you can experience them for free. All experience levels are welcome to enjoy a complimentary kayak, tandem kayak or stand-up paddleboard rental on Downtown's FREE Kayak Days. Dates are subject to change based on weather and river conditions.



What: FREE DORA at Dusk
When: June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10 | 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Where: Scioto Mile Fountain / High Water Alley
Details: Kick off your weekend with DORA at Dusk, the ultimate summer ride. Grab a DORA drink (beer and wine only) and hop aboard the FREE Trolley Pub while rolling through Downtown hotspots. Pedal between (or let your neighbors do all the work) The Patio at Scioto Mile Fountain, The Junto, Franklinton Fridays, and Land-Grant Brewing. Plus, score exclusive drink specials from The Patio at Scioto Mile Fountain and The Junto.

What: Wednesdays on the Water
When: Wednesdays | May 28 – July 30
Where: Boat launch under the Main Street Bridge, near Bicentennial Park
Details: Paddle down the Scioto River with a 50% discount on a one-hour watercraft rental. Spots are limited, so book ahead to secure your kayak! Walk-ins accepted but not guaranteed. Check <https://windroseoutdoor.com/> for operating hours.

What: Golden Hour Paddle
When: August 1, 8, 22 | 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
August 29 | 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Where: Boat launch under the Main Street Bridge, near Bicentennial Park
Details: Paddle down the Scioto River with a 50% off discount on a one-hour watercraft rental every Friday in August. Spots are limited, so book ahead to secure your kayak! Walk-ins accepted but not guaranteed. <https://windroseoutdoor.com/>

What: Breakfast at Bicentennial Park
When: Fridays, 7 – 10 a.m. | May – October
Where: Bicentennial Park, 233 Civic Center Dr
What: Start your Fridays off on the right foot! Grab some coffee, waffles or ice cream at the Bean Machine food truck. Plus, join a spirited group jog along the riverfront with a run club. Walkers welcome. The food truck will not be on-site during large festival dates.

For a full list of Scioto Mile events produced by Downtown Columbus, Inc., visit www.downtowncolumbus.com/sciotomile

THE PENINSULA:

Stroll through The Peninsula and partake in a cornhole league, listen to some live music, grab a DORA drink or dine at The Junto. Stay tuned for more event announcements coming to High Water Alley later this summer.

What: FREE Dorrian Days
When: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. | June 10 – Aug. 12. No event July 1.
Where: Dorrian Green, 50 S. Belle Street



Details: Free family fun with giant inflatables, games, the COSI curbside van, a themed activity station, and a food truck. Plus, cool off in the Dorrian Green water feature.

What: **FREE Party on The Peninsula**

When: Friday, June 13 | 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Where: 88 High Water Alley

Details: Summer on The Peninsula starts here, and we're kicking it off with a party! Partake in a pop-up zipline, nosh on food from local vendors, kick back to live music in High Water Alley, and so much more. Whether you're zipping through the alley or sipping on a DORA drink, everyone's welcome to come celebrate the season!

What: **Cornhole Leagues at High Water Alley**

When: Sundays, 5 p.m. -- 9:30 p.m. | June 15 – August 3

Where: 88 High Water Alley

Details: Take part in some competitive bean bag tossing through Go Cornhole's league on The Peninsula this summer. Register your team [here](#). Early bird pricing runs through May 20.

For a full list of events and activations on The Peninsula produced by Downtown Columbus, Inc., visit <https://downtowncolumbus.com/projects-initiatives/peninsula-events/>

GAY STREET:

FREE UnderCurrent Series

This signature street festival series shuts down the street for exclusive pedestrian-only experiences. Enjoy themed events involving art, music, food, dancing, culture, and more all under Janet Echelman's "Current" in the heart of Downtown. Dates include May 15, June 27 and July 13.

What: **FREE UnderCurrent BAM**

In partnership with Columbus Museum of Art

When: Thursday, May 15, 5 – 9 p.m.

Where: 12 W Gay St

Details: BAM Thursdays (Bar, Art, and Music) are back—and we're kicking things off with a special Downtown edition in collaboration with the Columbus Museum of Art. Enjoy the energy of BAM in the heart of the city as part of the UnderCurrent event series. Join us for a one-night-only experience under Janet Echelman's sky-high sculpture, *Current*. Enjoy live music, creative art experiences, and more—all in the open air of Downtown Columbus. Admission is free! Street parking is available in the area as well as at a garage located at [94 N Wall Street](#).

What: **FREE UnderCurrent Silent Disco**

In partnership with Day by Day Project



When: Friday, June 27 | 5 – 8 p.m.
Where: 12 W Gay St
Details: Hit the streets for a one-night-only Downtown Silent Disco! Relive your musical memories with the Day by Day Project and pick between three stations of chart-toppers and hot hits while you dance to the beat in the street! Plus, enjoy free frozen treats while supplies last, have a bite at a food truck, and grab a DORA beverage from a nearby bar or restaurant.

What: **FREE UnderCurrent Bastille Day Celebration**
In partnership with Chouette
When: Sunday, July 13 | 12 – 4 p.m.
Where: 66 N High Street
Details: Journey to Paris without leaving Downtown Columbus! The French celebration of Bastille Day takes place street-festival-style under "Current" and adjacent to Chouette. Experience the joie de vivre with delightful array of French-inspired dishes, live music performances, and a curated marketplace featuring local vendors offering unique French goods.

For a full list of Gay Street events produced by Downtown Columbus, Inc., visit <https://downtowncolumbus.com/projects-initiatives/gay-street-events/>

MORE EVENTS:

What: **FREE Street Beats**
When: Fridays and Saturdays | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. | May 23 – August 30
Where: The Patio at the Scioto Mile Fountain (229 Civic Center Dr), Gay & High Streets
What: Live music will warmly welcome you every Friday and Saturday in the summertime, setting the perfect backdrop for a night out! Whether you're grabbing dinner nearby or just soaking in the summer vibes, Street Beats brings the soundtrack to your weekend thanks to dozens of talented Columbus artists.

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ABOUT DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS, INC.

Downtown Columbus, Inc. (formerly the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation & Capitol South) is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to lead city-changing projects and collaborations that improve the connectivity, livability, and inclusivity of the Downtown Columbus experience. Downtown Columbus, Inc. drives development and progress of the Downtown Columbus Strategic Plan, working across sectors toward the vision for Downtown Columbus to become a neighborhood of connected, people-first urban districts that can be enjoyed by all. Learn more at downtowncolumbus.com.

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