



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Abbot Kinney Festival gives back to Venice!
Community Grants Program now accepting applications**

Venice, CA (March 8, 2016) The Abbot Kinney Festival Association (AKFA) is now accepting applications for its Community Grants Program. Abbot Kinney Festival Association is a 501(c)(3) grant making organization that supports community-based organizations in Venice with an emphasis on youth, community, and the arts.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year, Abbot Kinney Festival, draws crowds of over 100,000 to the most iconic street in Venice. We believe that we can have fun, bring our community together and give back at the same time. In fact that's exactly the spirit of the community we love so much and are committed to supporting.

Funded by festival proceeds, the AKFA Community Grants Program awards funding to selected Venice-based nonprofit organizations that offer services and programs aimed at youth and families. Applications are accepted each year preceding the festival and presented at the festival in September. Since 1984, well over \$300,000 in festival proceeds have been invested into the community of Venice.

Who's benefiting? Past recipients include: Venice Symphony Orchestra, Children's Lifesaving Foundation, LAPD Pacific Area Boosters, Boys and Girls Club of Venice, Friends of Westminster Elementary, Friends of Walgrove Elementary, Venice Arts, 826LA, reDiscover Science Center, The Learning Garden, STEMM Small Learning Center, Friends of Coeur d'Alene, Venice High School Robotics Club, Venice Arts Council, SPARC, A Window Between Worlds,

Electric Lodge, Beyond Baroque, Venice Historical Society, Venice Community Garden, Venice Oceanarium, Venice Skateboard Association, and others. "The festival's free and a lot of fun! But the driving force behind it all is giving back to our community - to Venice", said Donna Humphrey, Director, Abbot Kinney Festival Association.

For more information and details about the AKFA Community Grants Program and the 2016 Abbot Kinney Festival, visit www.abbotkinney.org,

Deadline for applications is August 1, 2016.

THE ABBOT KINNEY FESTIVAL

WHEN: Sunday, September 25, 2016 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Abbot Kinney Blvd ~ Venice Blvd. to Main St. in Venice, California.

WHAT: Southern California's largest FREE community festival - now in its **32nd** year. The festival draws more than 100,000 adults and families. The mile-long stretch of Abbot Kinney Blvd. is lined with FOUR great, live music stages, dozens of artisan food vendors, popular food trucks, 300+ quality artisan and fine art vendors, and three beer gardens. The immensely popular KidsQuad has rides, family entertainment, and fun, interactive activities for all ages. The festival celebrates the diversity of creativity of Venice.

WHY: Raise money for the Abbot Kinney Festival Association (AKFA) Community Grants Program. The AKFA is made up of a primarily all-volunteer board of directors who present the festival while donating the proceeds to organizations that specifically serve Venice.

To become a sponsor, vendor, advertiser or volunteer contact 310-396-3772 or info@abbotkinney.org.