

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes welcome all to 60th Annual Indian Festival

FORT HALL, Idaho (August 5, 2025) – It's a celebration 60 years in the making. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes warmly welcomes visitors from near and far to the Annual Indian Festival, taking place Thursday, August 7 through Sunday, August 10. This year's theme is, "Celebrating and Continuing 60 Years of Strength and History."

"For six decades, our Festival has been a cherished tradition, uniting generations through culture, community, and celebration," said Fort Hall Business Council Chairwoman Donna Thompson. "We honor those who came before us and continue to carry forward the spirit and resilience of our people."

First time Festival Coordinator, Leah Tindore added, "Every year when the Festival comes around, it feels like my soul lights up. It's more than just a celebration, it's a reminder of who we are and where we come from. I've grown up watching my community pour their hearts into this weekend, and now I get to be a part of that magic – I hope everyone who joins us feels the beauty of it all, like they're part of something timeless."

The Festival will feature a variety of events and entertainment for all ages. At the heart of the celebration is the competitive powwow at the Delbert Farmer Festival Arbor, featuring champion dancers and drum groups from across Indian Country. Grand Entry for the Children's Powwow is at 7 p.m. on Thursday. Grand Entry times for the main powwow are 7 p.m. on Friday, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

The Annual Festival Parade is at 10 a.m. on Thursday and starts at the east end of Agency Road. It will be led by Adult Grand Marshal Belma Truchot Colter, the first Miss Shoshone-Bannock, and Youth Grand Marshal Keanna Conrad, a two-time High School State Champion wrestler and positive example to youth.

Throughout the weekend, visitors can enjoy softball and golf tournaments, Indian relay races at the home of the sport, Handgames in the new arbor, Horseshoe tournament, an All-Indian Art Show, the Junior and INFR Rodeos, a Fun Run/Walk, a Traditional Salmon and Buffalo Feast, Skate Jam, Hip-Hop Bash, numerous arts and crafts vendors, food booths and more.

One of the most anticipated moments of the weekend is the crowning of Miss Shoshone-Bannock, who is a prestigious role model in the community who serves as a dedicated ambassador of the people. Four outstanding young women — Jasmine Coby, Myke Moore, Danella Murphy and Scarlette Stagner — are vying for the title. The new royalty will be crowned following the Friday night Grand Entry, with a special honoring to follow for past titleholders and current Miss Shoshone-Bannock, Dystnee Rope.

For a full schedule of events, attendees may purchase the Sho-Ban News Festival Edition, which includes a special newspaper and magazine featuring head staff profiles, royalty welcomes and stories highlighting talented Shoshone-Bannock artists. Festival Editions are available at Sho-Ban News stands on the Festival Grounds and at T.P. Gas, Trading Post Grocery Store, Donzia Gift Shop, Blue Corner Store, Fort Hall Museum, Sage Hill Travel Center, and Bannock Peak Truck Stop.

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes extend their heartfelt appreciation to all past, present, and future dancers, drum groups, volunteers, staff, sponsors, vendors and community members who have helped make the Festival possible year after year. Their support ensures that our culture, language and traditions remain strong for future generations.

For more information, visit <u>www.shobanfestival.com</u> or follow the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Festival Facebook page.

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MEDIA PURPOSES ONLY (Tentative) 60th Annual Shoshone Bannock Festival schedule:

Wednesday – August 6, 2025

6 p.m. – Miss Shoshone-Bannock Pageant – Traditional Dish Presentation – Festival Arbor (tentative)

Thursday – August 7, 2025

 $10~\mathrm{a.m.}$ – Festival Parade, "Celebrating & Continuing 60 Years of Strength & History" – East end of Agency Road

10 a.m. – Arts & Craft Vendors open

12 p.m. – Family BBQ — Festival Arbor

1:30 p.m. – Children's Traditional Games — Festival Arbor

2 p.m. – Veterans Honoring — Festival Arbor

4 p.m. – Miss Shoshone Bannock Talent – Festival Arbor

7 p.m. – Children's Powwow Grand Entry – Festival Arbor

Friday – August 8, 2025

8:30 a.m. - Waapi Kani Run/Walk (First 300 get shirts) - Waapi Kani Building

10 a.m. – Arts & Craft Vendors open

11 a.m. – Festival Royality Pageant – Festival Arbor

2 p.m. – Indian Relay Races – Rodeo Arena

4 p.m. – Miss Shoshone-Bannock Pageant, Dance Competition — Festival Arbor

7 p.m. – Powwow Grand Entry & Crowning of Miss Shoshone-Bannock after Honoring Former Miss Shoshone-Bannock Queens – Festival Arbor

Saturday – August 9, 2025

10 a.m. - Art Show opens - Shoshone-Bannock Casino Hotel

10 a.m. – Arts & Craft Vendors open

12 p.m. – Fort Hall Skate Jam begins – Fort Hall Skate Park

1 p.m. – Powwow Grand Entry – Festival Arbor

2 p.m. – Indian Relay Races — Rodeo Arena

3 p.m. – All-Indian Rodeo Finals — Rodeo Arena

6 p.m. – INFR Tour Rodeo – Rodeo Arena

7 p.m. – Powwow Grand Entry – Festival Arbor

Sunday – August 10, 2025

10 a.m. – Arts & Craft Vendors open

11 a.m. – INFR Tour Rodeo – Rodeo Arena

1 p.m. – Powwow Grand Entry – Festival Arbor

4 p.m. – Buffalo & Salmon Feast — Festival Arbor

Media Access: All outside media must obtain a Media Pass from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Public Affairs Office, located at the right on the Tribal Business Center Main Entrance. Pre-event pickup is available from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 7. To apply or coordinate pickup, contact Roselynn Yazzie at roselynn.yazzie@sbtribes.com or text/call 208-589-8595. Passes must be secured no later than half hour prior to Grand Entry. Thank you.