

Contact: Nick Hernandez  
Phone: (620) 441-4415  
Fax: (620) 441-0869  
[nhernandez@arkansascityks.gov](mailto:nhernandez@arkansascityks.gov)

City Manager's Office  
City of Arkansas City  
118 W. Central Ave.  
Arkansas City, KS 67005



# News Release

## 2018 Family Movie Series set to conclude Dec. 21 at Ag Building

*Free admission for 'Muppet Christmas Carol' at 6 p.m.; doors open at 5:30*

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (December 12, 2018) — The 2018 Family Movie Series season will conclude Dec. 21 in Arkansas City with a holiday favorite at the Agri-Business Building, 712 W. Washington Ave.

The free showing of "The Muppet Christmas Carol" will start at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

This G-rated film is sponsored by the Optimists of Arkansas City. It is an hour and 25 minutes long.

In this beloved Disney musical, the Muppet characters tell their version of the classic tale of an old and bitter miser's redemption on Christmas Eve — as narrated by Charles "Gonzo" Dickens.

Free cocoa will be provided to all who attend by the Ark City Beautification and Tree Advisory Board.

"We are so appreciative of the generous sponsors who make these wonderful events possible," said City Manager Nick Hernandez. "If you are interested in being a sponsor in 2019, please call myself or Andrew Lawson at 441-4415 to discuss pricing options. There will be many opportunities available!"

### About the Outdoor Family Movie Series

The 2015 Outdoor Summer Movie Series was a huge success in the debut season for the new V.J. Wilkins Memorial Stage at the rotunda, with particularly large crowds viewing "Big Hero 6" and "Frozen."

The projection equipment, sound system and stage all were made possible by a grant received three years ago from the V.J. Wilkins Memorial Foundation, in order to promote arts throughout the city.

A special fall showing of "Inside Out" drew more than 300 people to the rotunda in November 2015, despite colder temperatures. Plans were launched then for more autumn showings in 2016 and 2017.

**For immediate release**

*more*

Various weather impacted attendance often in the spring and summer of 2016, but the season's highlight undoubtedly was in June 2016, when more than 700 people packed Paris Park Pool for a special doubleheader, consisting of "Finding Nemo" and "Jaws," during a free swim-in night at the pool.

The sequel event, featuring "Finding Dory," drew more than 500 visitors to the pool on July 21, 2017.

The 2018 season kicked off May 5 with the first-ever Saturday night movie, "Coco," which drew more than 150 people back to the rotunda following the inaugural Cinco de Mayo Salsa Fest event.

Nearly 75 attended the June 12 showing of "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," the first-ever Tuesday movie, which was shown in conjunction with the Arkansas City Farm and Art Market's monthly festival.

During the last three years, the City of Arkansas City has shown a wide variety of movies, including:

- '80s classics — "Back to the Future," "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," "Ghostbusters," "The Great Outdoors," "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" and "¡Three Amigos!"
- Classic Disney films — "The Fox and the Hound," "The Jungle Book," "The Little Mermaid," "Mary Poppins" and "Pete's Dragon"
- Disney animated features — "Big Hero 6," "Frozen," "Moana" and "Zootopia"
- Disney live-action remakes — "Beauty and the Beast," "Cinderella" and "Maleficent"
- Disney-Pixar animated collaborations — "Coco," "Finding Dory," "Finding Nemo," "The Good Dinosaur" and "Inside Out"
- Marvel Cinematic Universe films — "Black Panther," "Doctor Strange," "Guardians of the Galaxy," "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" and "Thor: Ragnarok"
- Other animated films — "Despicable Me 3," "The Lego Batman Movie," "The Lego Movie," "The Lorax," "Minions," "The Secret Life of Pets" and "Sing"
- Star Wars movies — "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story," "Star Wars: A New Hope" and "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"
- Summer and holiday blockbusters — "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," "The Greatest Showman," "Jaws," "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," "Jurassic Park," "Jurassic World," "Monster Trucks," "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows" and "Wonder"

The Outdoor Family Movie Series is only possible with the assistance of many generous donors:

- Civic and service clubs such as the Arkansas City High School KAY Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Optimists and Soroptimists of Arkansas City;
- Local businesses such as Ark City Daily Bytes, Ark Valley Credit Union, Community National Bank & Trust, Elite Advertising, Grass Clippings, Mitch Reichle—Farm Bureau Financial Services, Munson Insurance, A Perfect Day (located in Newkirk, Oklahoma), Plumber Bob's,

RCB Bank, Reedy Ford, Rogers Family Dentistry, The Stock Exchange Bank, Union State Bank, United Agency, and WB Meats;

- Governmental entities such as the Arkansas City Convention and Visitors Bureau, Arkansas City Public Library, and City of Arkansas City;
- Nonprofit organizations such as the Arkalalah Executive Committee, the Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce, the Fraternal Order of Police, Newkirk (Oklahoma) Main Street, Newman's Quest and the Young Professionals of Cowley County.

For more information on becoming a sponsor for a movie in 2019, call Lawson at (620) 441-4415 or email [alawson@arkansascityks.gov](mailto:alawson@arkansascityks.gov).

###