



Glendale is known for the exciting, traditional events and festivals that we hold each year. These events draw visitors to our city and help to promote our downtown businesses. One of our most popular traditions is the Chocolate Affaire Festival. The Chocolate Affaire has been listed in the top 100 events in North America by the Washington Post, the Seattle Times and American Bus Association. The event was also given the 2003 Governor's Tourism Award for the best Special Event in Arizona.

The Chocolate Affaire will feature over 30 chocolate purveyors, with everything from chocolate-covered potato chips to chocolate chile pecans to goat milk fudge. There will be numerous family events, including hands-on arts and crafts, a rock climbing wall and face painting. There will be live entertainment and historic horse-drawn carriage rides through historic Catlin Court. The Chocolate Affaire has also become the largest gathering of romance novelists in the southwest, providing attendees the chance to meet with authors and to attend free writing workshops given by the experts.

The Chocolate Affaire will be held on Friday, February 6 from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Saturday, February 7 from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM, and Sunday, February 8 in the heart of historic downtown Glendale at Murphy Park, located at 58th and Glendale Avenues. Free parking is available throughout downtown Glendale.

The Chocolate Affaire Festival is sponsored each and every year by Cerreta Candy Company, a family owned and operated business that has become a landmark in downtown Glendale. Every year, the Cerretas donate a 300 pound chocolate heart to my Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission (MYAC) to be raffled off. Because of Cerretas' generosity, MYAC is able to raise money that will go back into the community through MYAC's numerous community outreach projects.

In the past MYAC has been able to use their fundraising dollars for such projects as a public service announcement (PSA) about graffiti, a PSA about street racing, a toy drive at Banner Thunderbird Hospital, a pet food drive and Operation Thunderbox, which was a collection of comfort items for Luke Air Force Base troops that were deployed overseas during the holidays.

[\(Click Here\)](#) for more information about the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, including the entertainment lineup and a list of authors making appearances. You can also [\(Click Here\)](#) to learn more about my Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission.