The More You NOLA: Free Fourth of July events

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"Go Fourth" on Independence Day with free events around New Orleans. (Sally Asher photo)

As Independence Day approaches, locals will honor the holiday at community celebrations throughout Greater New Orleans. Check out some of our favorite free Fourth of July events below.

Go 4th on the River.

On Monday, July 4, at 9 p.m., the 26th annual dueling barges fireworks show will light up the New Orleans riverfront with a vivid Independence Day display set to a classic patriotic score. The free, family-friendly spectacle can be seen from both the East and West banks of the Mississippi River. Go 4th on the River has also partnered with Crescent Park to feature food trucks Mr. Choo and Diva Dawg, a dance party led by DJ Magic Mike on the Mandeville Wharf, and a <u>fireworks photography workshop</u> held by Zack Smith, a staff photographer for <u>The Murphy Institute</u> at Tulane University.

Join the July 3 festivities at New Orleans City Park.

On Sunday, July 3, City Park invites the local community to secure a spot under the stars on the Goldring/Woldenberg Great Lawn to enjoy fireworks and live music from The Marine Corps Band New Orleans. Taking place between Victory Avenue and Dreyfous Drive, the free event will give the first 4,000 guests complimentary fans. Summertime concessions, like hot dogs and sno-balls, will be available for purchase starting at 5 p.m. The musical performance will begin at 7:15 p.m., followed by fireworks at the Peristyle at 9 p.m.

Float on with the Fourth of July Bayou Flotilla.

On Monday, July 4, head out to the banks of Bayou St. John for the annual boat parade hosted by the imaginative Krewe of Kolossos from 5 to 8 p.m. Revelers are encouraged to attend in costume, which takes place on the bayou between Dumaine Street and Moss Street. The floating procession will feature appearances from King Al "Carnival Time" Johnson and Queen Mercy Stevenson.