



Wichita Festivals, Inc.
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MEDIA RELEASE

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WICHITA FESTIVALS VOLUNTEER RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL AWARD

WICHITA, Kansas – Wichita Festivals, Inc., (WFI) a non-profit corporation with the purpose of community celebration, announced today the selection of long-time volunteer, Dave Carter, Raytheon Aircraft Co., as the 2007 International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA) /Zambelli Fireworks Internationale Volunteer of the Year. Carter was recognized and presented the award at the IFEA's 52nd Annual Convention & Expo in Atlanta, Georgia, Wednesday, September 19.

"It was an honor just to be nominated," said Carter. "But to win the award – Wow!"

Carter began his "career" as a volunteer for Wichita Festivals 25 years ago. Since then he has served on 9 different event committees, been a WFI Board member, chairman of the Antique Bathtub Races, general chairman of Riverfest in 2000, secured corporate sponsorships and managed events. He has also served as chairman of the Wichita Flight Festival since its inception in 2005.

"Without Dave volunteering during Riverfest and the Wichita Flight Festival we would lose valuable expertise, a trusted role model and friend," said Janet Wright, President/CEO, Wichita Festivals, Inc. "He provides continuity from years of experience for both staff and other volunteers and has a true commitment to our mission of community celebration."

The Zambelli Fireworks Internationale Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes those outstanding event volunteers whose unselfish and dedicated service to a festival or event has made a significant difference in their community and mirrors the commitment to success of IFEA's professional ranks. The winner is selected from hundreds of nominations from IFEA member organizations and festivals across the world. The prestigious award has been presented annually since 2001.

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Wichita Festivals, Inc. also received three IFEA/Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards for excellence in the following categories for events with budgets up to \$1.5 million: a gold in the Best Full Length Local TV Program “RiverfestXXXV” a documentary about the 2006 festival; a gold for the Best Event/Organization Newsletter, *Festivities*; and a silver Pinnacle Award for Best Event Invitation for the RiverfestXXXVI sponsor party invitation.

Headquartered in Boise, Idaho, The International Festivals and Events Association (IFEA) is a non-profit organization with more than 1,500 members spanning 40 countries and 5 continents, and offers the most complete source of ideas, resources, information, education and networking for festival and event professionals worldwide. Visit the IFEA website at www.ifea.com for additional details.

For more information about Wichita Festivals, Inc. or its events, please contact Susan Burchill, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at (316) 267-2817, ext. 25 or at susan@wichitafestivals.com

Wichita Festivals, Inc. is a non-profit corporation with the purpose of creating diverse community celebration within the Wichita community. The primary event produced by Wichita Festivals, Inc. is Riverfest.

Creating an economic impact of approximately \$26 million, Riverfest annually attracts more than 350,000 visitors. The Festival has become one of the top special events in Kansas and was recognized in 2006 as one of the top 100 events in the United States by the American Bus Association.

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