



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Chris Duffy
612-599-7982
duffy@goffpublic.com

BACK IN PERSON! The Ordway to present 22nd annual Flint Hills Family Festival in downtown Saint Paul

The festival was presented virtually in 2020 and 2021.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (Feb. 8, 2022) — [The Flint Hills Family Festival](#), presented by the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, will return to downtown Saint Paul for its 22nd year from May 31-June 4. The beloved family event will feature free and low-cost performances and activities for children of all ages. Tickets for indoor performances will go on sale February 22 at [Ordway.org/Festival](https://ordway.org/Festival).

“The Flint Hills Family Festival is one of the top reasons that attracted me to the Ordway and Twin Cities. Exposing young people to the performing arts is essential, and this beloved festival provides an accessible and affordable opportunity for everyone in our community to experience an eclectic mix of top-notch programming,” said Ordway President and CEO Chris Harrington. “This event is a proud Ordway tradition and we look forward to kicking off summer in Saint Paul with an unforgettable celebration for families!”

One of the largest and longest-standing events of its kind in the country, this year’s festival will return fully in-person, the first time since 2019. Approximately 15,000 students and educators will come to the Ordway for “School Days” programming on May 31-June 3, while all families are invited to experience the Festival during “Family Days” on June 3-4. More than one million people have experienced the Festival since its inception in 2001.

During the Festival, there will be low-cost indoor performances inside the Ordway and Landmark Center, including the contemporary circus, [Cirque Mechanics](#), [SHAPESHIFT’s](#) theatrical dance production, *Be Your Own Superhero* and *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* produced by [Artistry](#). Tickets for these performances are \$5.

Festival attendees will also be able to enjoy free entertainment outside of the Ordway. There will be more than 50 free outdoor performances from more than 300 artists, including [Squonk Opera’s](#) *Hand to Hand*, the stilt walking [Chicks on Sticks](#) and more. There will also be free art-making activities hosted by local Twin Cities organizations, plus face painting and balloon artists. This year’s Festival will also include a wide variety of food trucks, a beer garden, and free family dance party featuring the Twin Cities group [NUNNABOVE](#) on Friday, June 3.

The Festival is made possible thanks to a 22-year partnership between the Ordway and [Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery](#) in Rosemount.

“For more than 20 years, the Festival has brought families together and helped them celebrate the beginning of summer,” said Heather Rein, director of community affairs at the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery. “These past two years have been incredibly difficult for children and families. We want this year’s Festival to be a fun break for them, which is why we are delighted to welcome them back for exciting, joy-filled performances and activities.”

For more details about this year’s Festival, including the many artists and organizations involved, please visit [Ordway.org/festival](#). The Ordway’s current health and safety protocols for indoor performances are also available at [Ordway.org/health-safety](#).

Festival photos are available for download at [ordway.org/media](#).

About the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

The Ordway is the arts epicenter of Saint Paul, Minnesota, and one of the leading nonprofit performing arts centers in the country. Founded on the belief that performing arts should be wide-ranging and accessible to all, the Ordway is home to a variety of performances that encompass the finest in Broadway musicals, concerts, dance and vocal artists. The Ordway serves thousands of children each year through its education programs and presents the annual Flint Hills Family Festival. Known as the most comfortable place to catch a show in Minnesota, the Ordway includes a magnificent 1,900-seat Music Theater, a state-of-the-art 1,100-seat Concert Hall and spacious lobbies. The Ordway is a proud member of the Arts Partnership, a collaboration comprising the Ordway, Minnesota Opera, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Schubert Club. The Ordway aims to reflect the communities it serves and address barriers to ensure everyone can experience the power of the performing arts.

About Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery

The Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota’s gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a refining capacity of 375,000 barrels per day and is among the most efficient and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion in upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,000 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the Pine Bend refinery is available at [PineBendRefinery.com](#).

###