



Board of Directors Meeting

June 26, 2025

Good morning.

The meeting will begin just after 9:30 a.m. For members of the public on Zoom – for Public Comment, please use the chat function to communicate to the meeting secretary to indicate which agenda items you would like to speak to.

Please keep your device on mute until called upon to speak.

If using the Zoom dial-in option, use *6 to mute and un-mute your phone.

Please take notice that this public meeting of the 32nd District Agricultural Association, a California state institution, is being recorded using video recording equipment. Please also take notice that the 32nd District Agricultural Association will release video recordings of its public meetings where required under California law.

Please keep your device on mute

The Mission of OCFEC is...

Enhancing equitable community access
to agriculture, entertainment, cultural
and educational experiences



3. Pledge of Allegiance



4. Roll Call

Board of Directors

Chair Nick Kovacevich

Vice Chair Barbara Bagneris

Director Newton Pham

Director Doug La Belle

Director Natalie Rubalcava-Garcia

Director Robert Ruiz

Director Tanya Bilezikjian

Director Dimetria Jackson



10A. Presentation of Pride Month Proclamation by Community Affairs Committee

INFORMATION ITEM:

In recognition of Pride Month, the Community Affairs Committee will present a proclamation to Casey Johnson.

Casey Johnson will be honored for his impactful work providing comprehensive legal support to the LGBTQ community and actively advocating for LGBTQ rights within the legal system.



5. Minutes

A. Board meeting held May 22, 2025

Action item



6. Matters of Public Comment

Public comment is allowed on issues NOT on the current agenda. However, no debate by the Board shall be permitted on such public comments, and no action will be taken on such public comment items at this time, as law requires formal public notice prior to any action on an agenda item. Speakers are requested to sign in prior to the start of the meeting and are limited to three minutes.

Comments will be accepted on all other agenda items at the time each item is listed on the agenda. Speakers wishing to address the Board on items on the agenda are requested to sign in prior to the start of the meeting and identify the agenda item(s) on which you desire to address the Board. Speakers are limited to three minutes.



7. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under Consent Calendar are operational matters about which the Board has governing policies, implementation of which is delegated to the CEO. They will be enacted in one motion by category in the order listed below. There will be no discussion of these items prior to the time the Board of Directors votes on the motion, unless members of the board, staff or public request specific items to be discussed separately and/or removed from this section.

Any member of the public who wishes to discuss Consent Calendar items should notify the Chair of the Board, at the time requested and be recognized by invitation of the Chair to address the Board.



8. Closed Session

A. Pending Litigation – The Board will meet in closed session to consult with legal counsel regarding the following pending litigation. [Gov. Code section 11126(e).]

- i. To confer with and receive advice from legal counsel regarding potential litigation involving the 32nd District Agricultural Association. Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Board of Directors will decide whether to initiate litigation. (Govt. Code, § 11126, subd. (e).)
- ii. To confer with and receive advice from legal counsel regarding potential litigation involving the 32nd District Agricultural Association. Based on existing facts and circumstances, there is significant exposure to litigation against the 32nd District Agricultural Association. (Govt. Code, § 11126, subd. (e).)
- iii. To confer with counsel, discuss, and consider the following pending litigation to which the 32nd DAA is a party. Changing Strides, et al., v. 32nd District Agricultural Association, et. al., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2024-01421750-CU-WM-WCJ
- iv. To confer with counsel, discuss, and consider the following pending litigation to which the 32nd DAA is a party. Changing Strides, et al., v. 32nd District Agricultural Association, et. al., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2024-01423147-CU-OR-CJC

B. Personnel: The Board will meet in closed session to consider the appointment, employment, and/or evaluation of performance of the General Manager / CEO as authorized by Government Code, § 11126, subdivision (a).



9. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



New LED Lights in Plaza Pacifica



9. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



Annual OC Fair Job Fair



9. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



OCWS Judges Banquet



New Digital Signs



9. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



10B. Board of Director's Announcement of the Selection of the New District CEO, as Required Under Government Code, Section 11125.2.

INFORMATION ITEM:

With the retirement of CEO Michele Richards, the Board of Directors has dedicated the past several months to a comprehensive recruitment process for new executive leadership. Following a thorough and competitive search, the Board will announce its selection of the next CEO of the 32nd District Agricultural Association / OC Fair & Event Center.



10C. Review and Vote on Whether or Not to Approve Resolution to Update List of Signees on Local Area Investment Fund (LAIF) Account

The Local Agency Investment Fund (“LAIF”) was created by California statute in 1977 as an investment alternative for local agencies and special districts. Managed by the State Treasurer’s Office, LAIF comprises approximately 14% of the State’s Pooled Money Investment Account, which also includes the State’s general fund and reserves. The program offers local agencies the opportunity to participate in a major portfolio of investments handled by the expertise of the State Treasurer’s Office. OCFEC invests its excess funds beyond short-term working capital needs in LAIF, currently totaling approximately \$47.2 million on deposit.



10C. Review and Vote on Whether or Not to Approve Resolution to Update List of Signees on Local Area Investment Fund (LAIF) Account

In June 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer Michele Richards and Chief Administrative Officer Melissa Au-Yeung to deposit or withdraw funds from LAIF. Due to Chief Executive Officer Richard's retirement, an updated resolution is required that authorizes the following employees to deposit or withdraw LAIF funds on the OC FEC's behalf:

- TBD, Chief Executive Officer
- Melissa Au-Yeung, Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending approval of the resolution to update the allowed signatories authorized to conduct transactions with LAIF.



10D. Presentation by Staff of the Mid-Year Budget Review

INFORMATION ITEM:

Board Governance Policy 4.05 (Financial Stewardship) was developed by the Board of Directors for the purpose of establishing guidelines and expectations related to financial stewardship of the 32nd District Agricultural Association (DAA). The policy is designed to establish the process for developing, reviewing and monitoring the organization's annual operating budget.

The policy directs that the CEO and Chief Administrative Officer will present a mid-year budget review to the full Board in June.

As specified by Policy 4.05, staff will present a 2025 mid-year budget review including a projection for the remainder of 2025 based on five months of actual revenue and expenses, plus seven months of budgeted numbers.



Considerations in the Broader Economy

- Economic concerns – Slower, but still positive
 - Real GDP growth was expected to be about 1.5%
 - Federal Reserve cuts will continue – 2024 ended at 4.33%
 - Consumer confidence shows some uncertainty around essentials like food and housing
- Most economists agreed
 - It's hard to imagine a black swan event
 - Inflation is chronically “sticky”
 - GDP growth is expected to be around 2% again in 2025
 - Job growth has slowed, but it's still steady
 - Consumer spending is still higher than pre-Covid
- “While we expect the slow down to continue, barring a ‘black swan event’ a recession is not in our baseline scenario over the next 6 quarters, for the national or local economies.”
- 2025 budget development: CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM



Budget Assumptions for 2025

- Use the same controlled attendance model for the fair
- No increase in fair admission pricing
- No increase in parking fees
- 30 shows in the Pacific Amphitheatre
- Two additional civil service headcounts
 - Parking Coordinator
 - Plumber I
- Feature Exhibit
- Continue the 2-day Imaginology model
- New shared model for The Ranch – community and boarding/training
- \$4.3M capital expenditures program

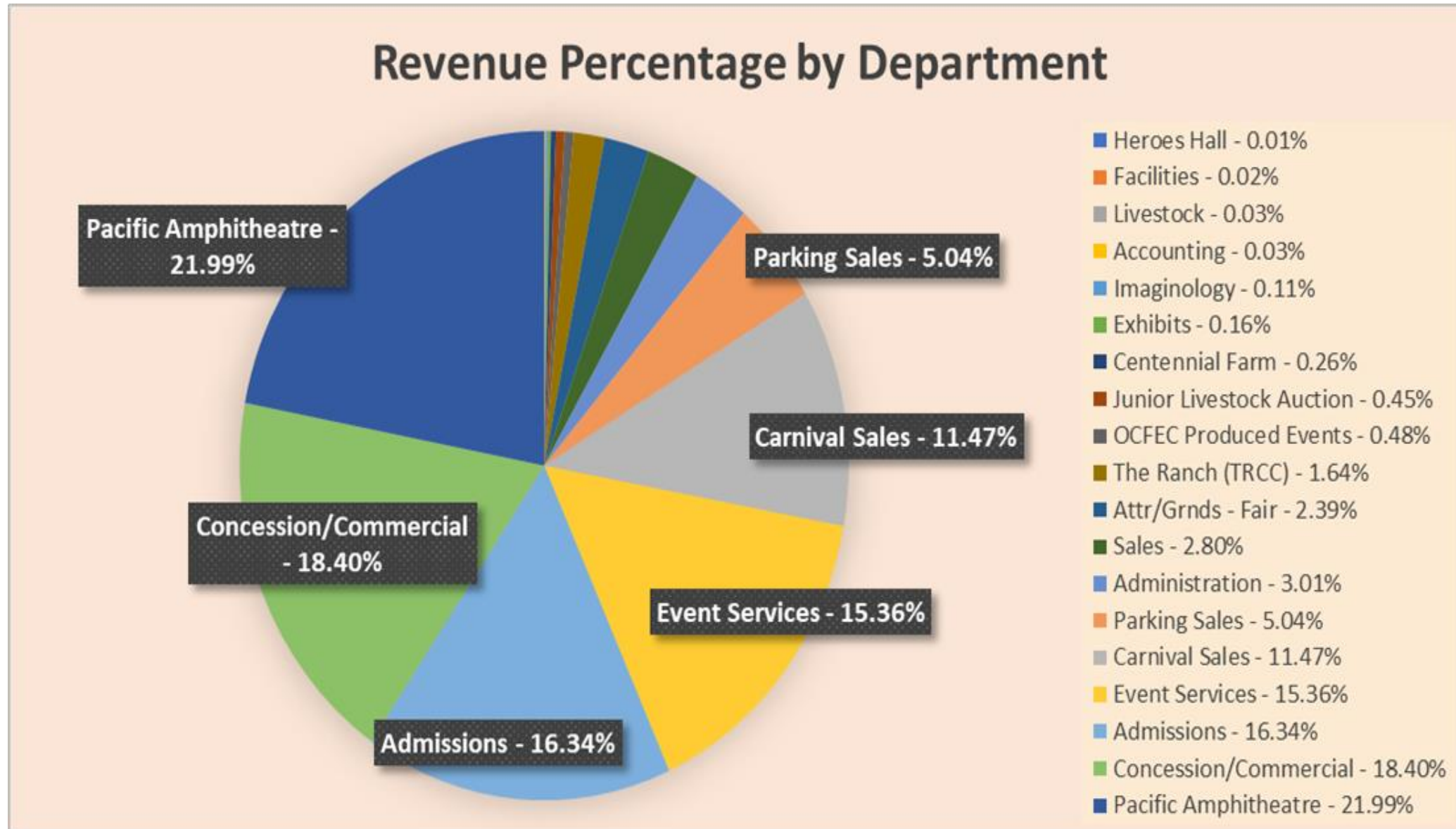


2025 OPERATING BUDGET

REVENUE		
Total OCFEC-Produced Event Revenue	\$51,382,665	
Total Rental Revenue	\$ 11,626,213	
Total Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 2,080,150	
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$65,089,028
EXPENSES		
Total Operating Expense	(\$55,364,038)	
Total Non-Operating Expense <i>(Depreciation, Major Projects)</i>	(\$4,476,000)	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		(\$59,840,038)
TOTAL NET PROCEEDS:		\$5,248,990



BUDGET REVENUES BY DEPARTMENT



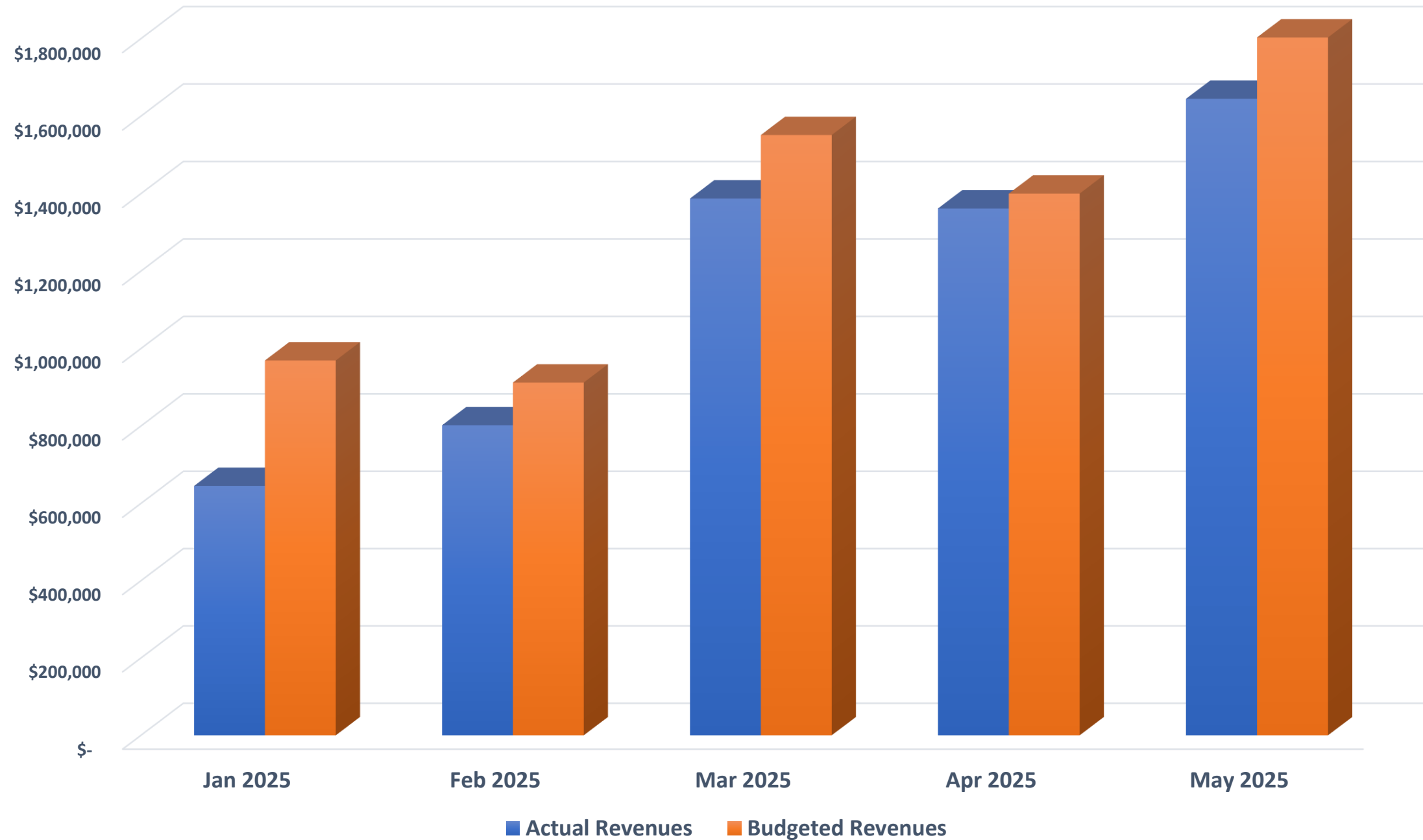
2025 YTD ACTUALS

REVENUE	YTD	Budgeted
Total OCFEC-Produced Event Revenue	\$ 492,756	\$ 824,565
Total Rental Revenue	\$ 4,199,210	\$ 4,941,100
Total Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 1,148,896	\$ 870,050
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$5,840,862	\$ 6,635,715
EXPENSES		
Total Operating Expense	(\$ 11,181,465)	(\$ 13,002,543)
Total Non-Operating Expense <i>(Depreciation, Major Projects)</i>	(\$ 1,965,652)	(\$ 2,022,000)
TOTAL EXPENSES:	(\$ 13,147,117)	(\$ 15,024,543)
TOTAL NET PROCEEDS:	(\$ 7,306,255)	(\$ 8,388,828)



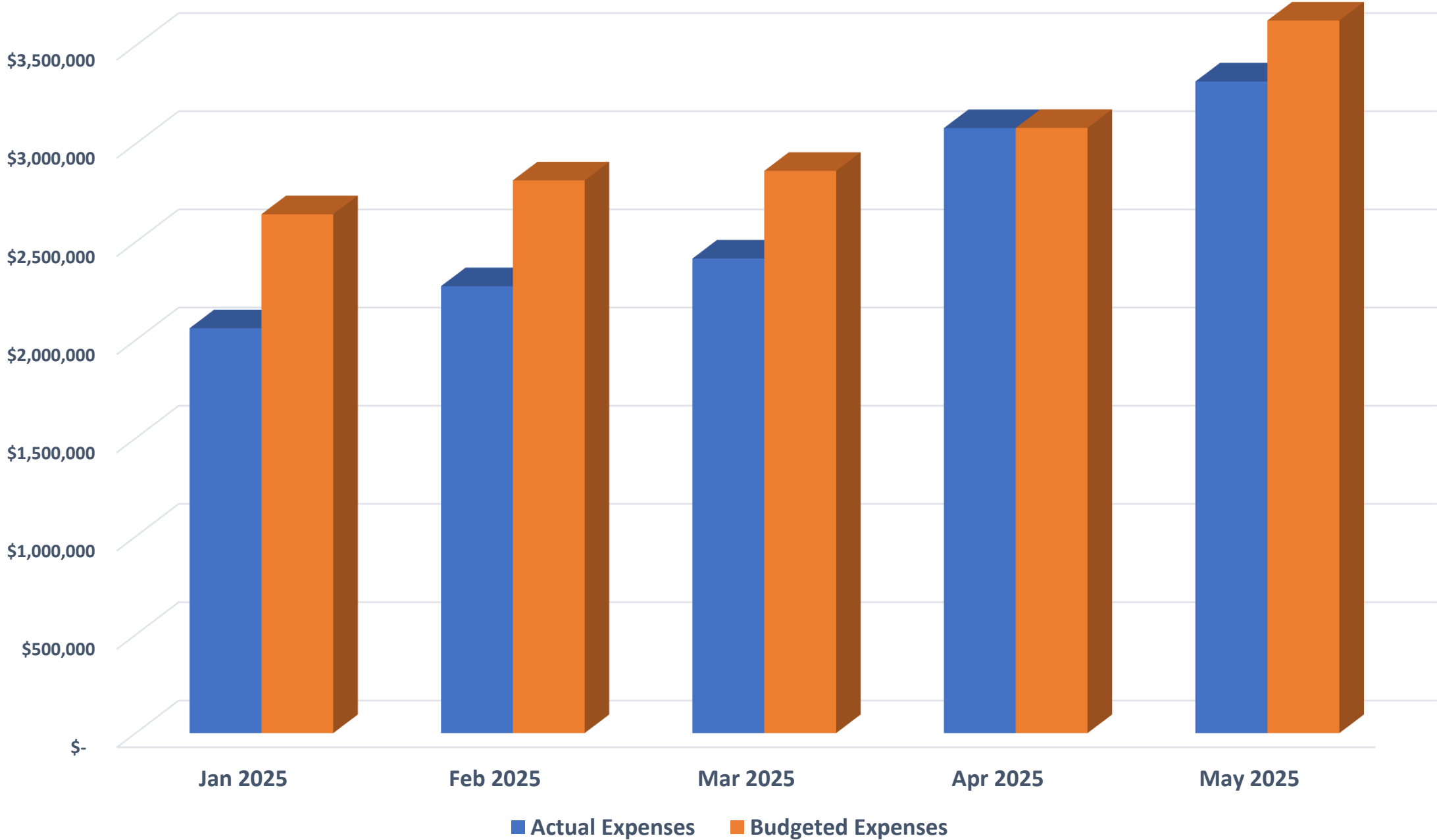
MONTHLY REVENUES

(Actuals vs. Budgeted)



MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

(Actuals vs. Budgeted)



2025 BUDGETED FAIR PROFIT/LOSS

REVENUE		
Attractions:	\$23,751,594	
Services:	\$27,711,894	
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$51,463,488
EXPENSES		
Attractions:	(\$12,323,028)	
Marketing:	(\$2,504,500)	
Services:	(\$6,191,943)	
Total Fair Labor, Benefits, Taxes:	(\$8,049,230)	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		(\$29,068,701)
TOTAL NET PROCEEDS:		\$22,394,788



2025 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES/MAJOR PROJECTS

Capital Expenditures (17)	\$ 2,874,000	
Major Projects (12)	\$ 516,000	
Equipment (22)	\$ 810,000	
Sub Total:		\$ 4,200,000
Contingency		<u>\$ 100,000</u>
Grand Total:		\$ 3,254,500



YEAR END PROJECTIONS

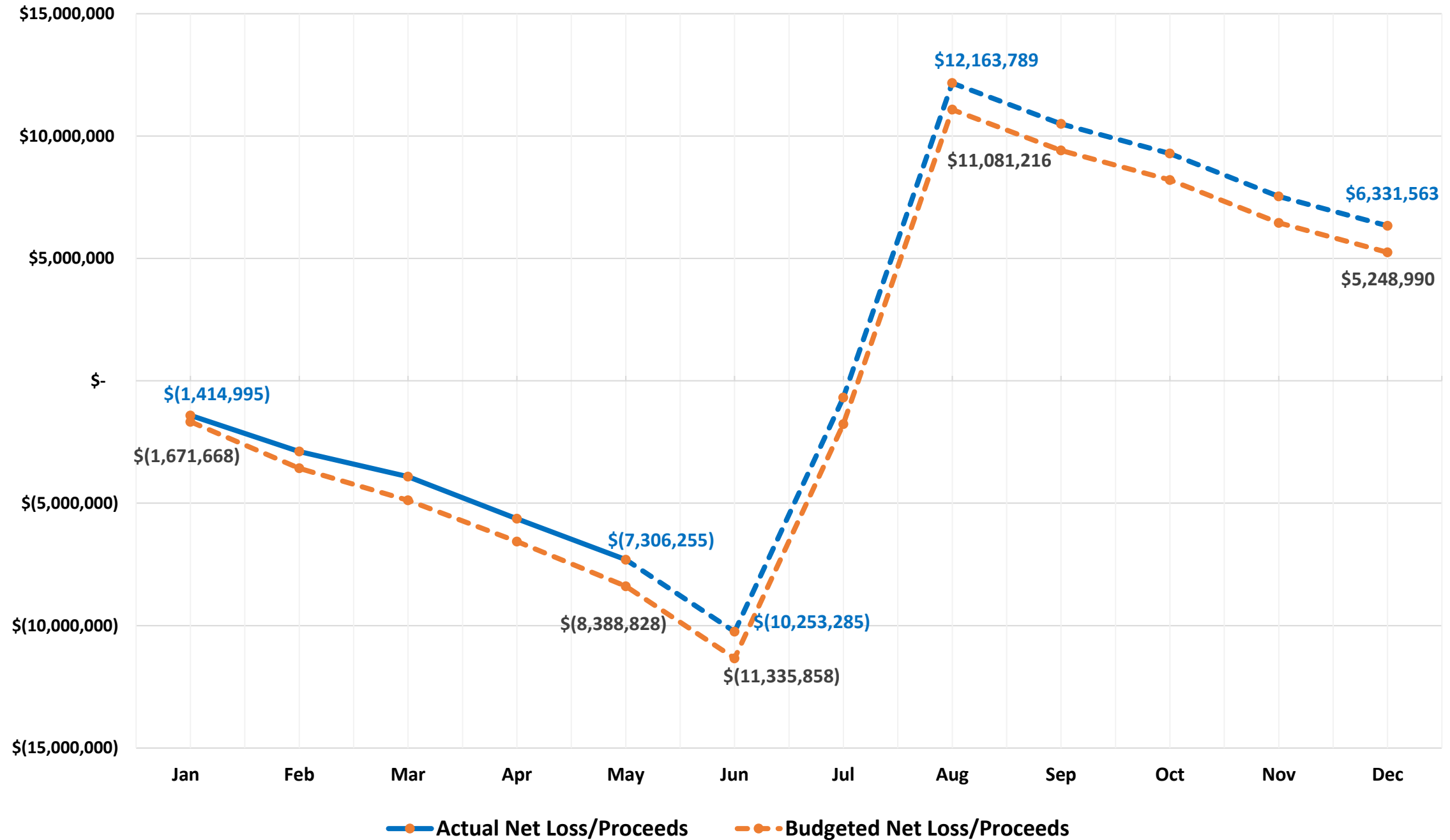
(5 Months Actuals/7 Months Budgeted)

REVENUE		
Total OCFEC-Produced Event Revenue	\$ 51,050,855	
Total Rental Revenue	\$ 10,884,322	
Total Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 2,358,996	
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$ 64,294,173
EXPENSES		
Total Operating Expense	(\$ 53,542,959)	
Total Non-Operating Expense <i>(Depreciation, Major Projects)</i>	(\$ 4,419,652)	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		(\$ 57,962,611)
TOTAL NET PROCEEDS:		\$ 6,331,563



2025 NET LOSS/PROCEEDS

(Actuals vs. Budgeted)



10E. Presentation by Staff of the 2025 OC Fair Preview

INFORMATION ITEM:

The 2025 OC Fair will be held July 18 through August 17 where you can “Find Your Happy” at the OC Fair. Staff will present highlights of this year’s fair including all the new attractions, exhibits, entertainment, food, animals, etc.





FIND YOUR

Happy





FIND YOUR *Happy*

RIDES

SHOPPING

FOODS

LIVESTOCK

FARM

CONCERTS

EXHIBITS

WINE
TASTING

PIG
RACES

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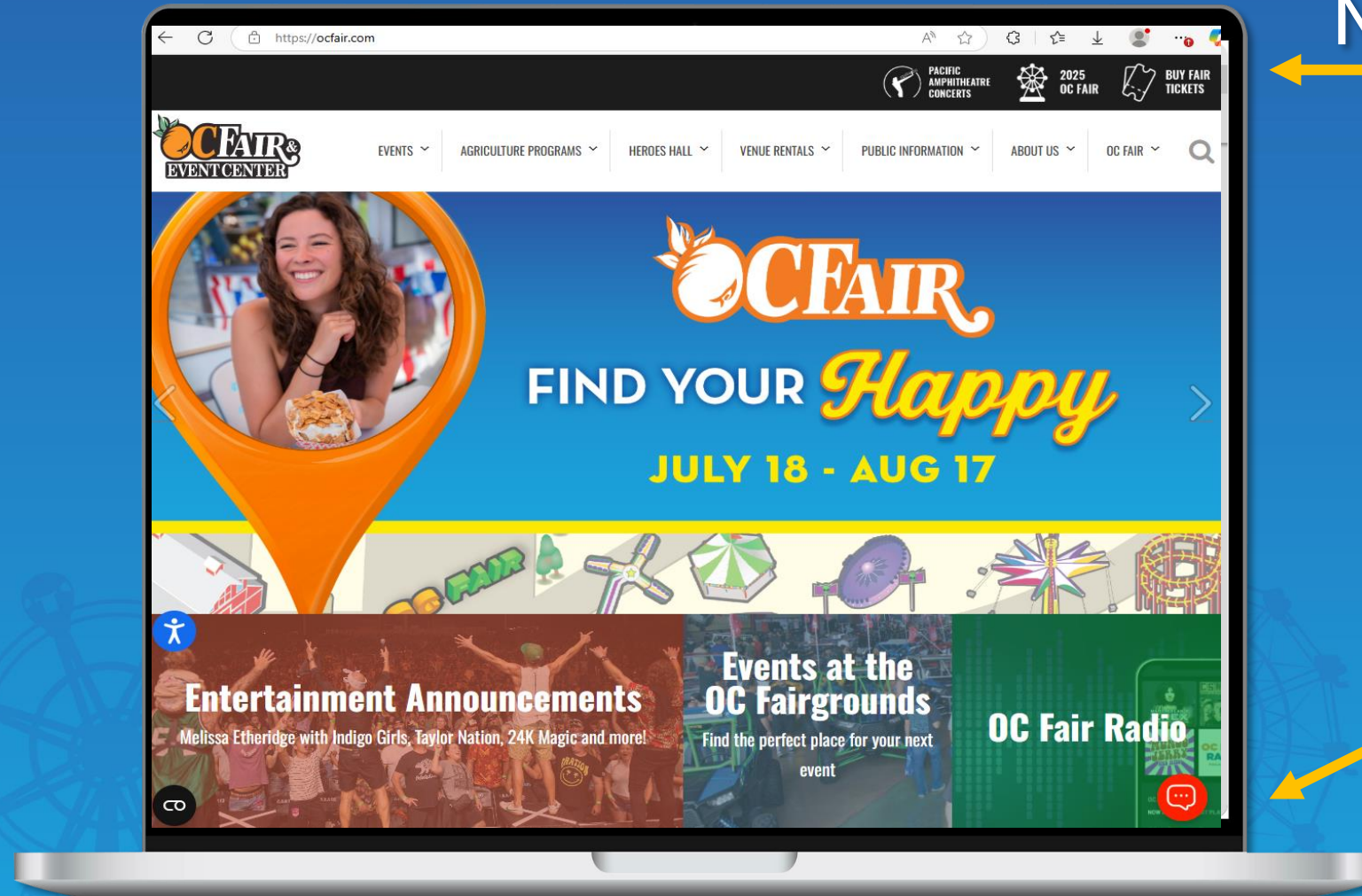
What's New in 2025



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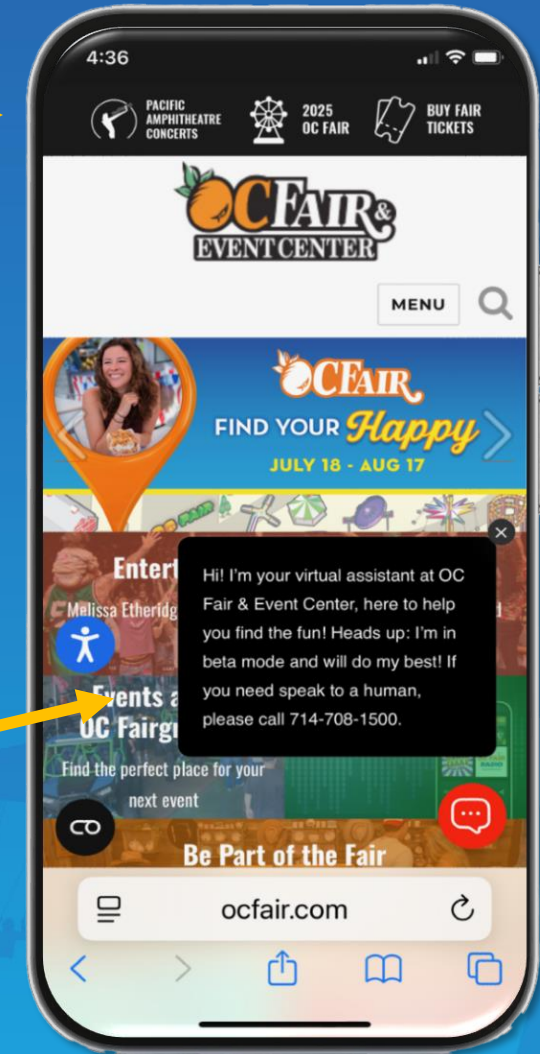


What's New in 2025



Navigation
Icons

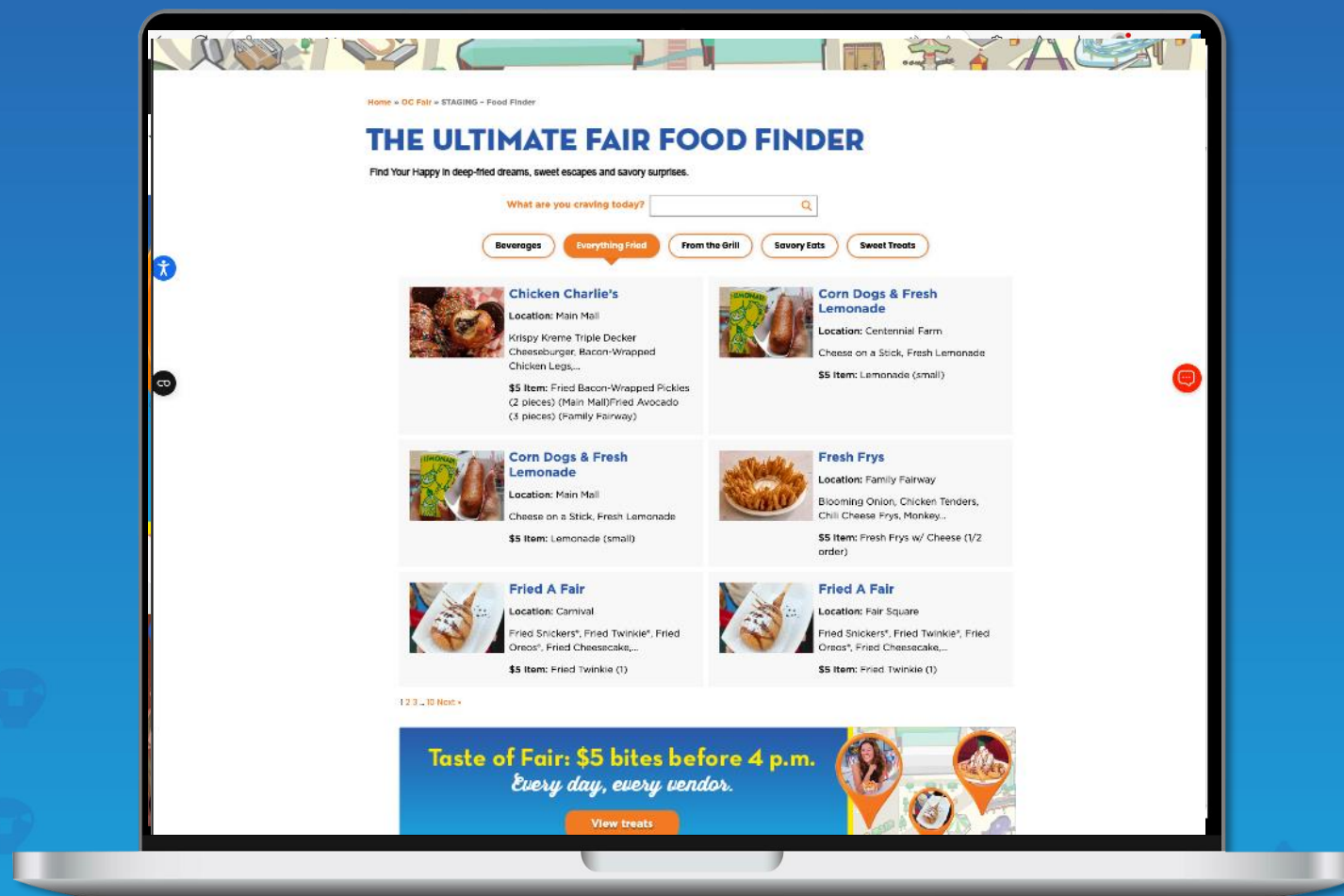
Chatbot



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What's New in 2025



New Food Finder

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Marketing, PR & Advertising

What's New in 2025



:15 Broadcast Commercial

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Marketing, PR & Advertising

What's New in 2025

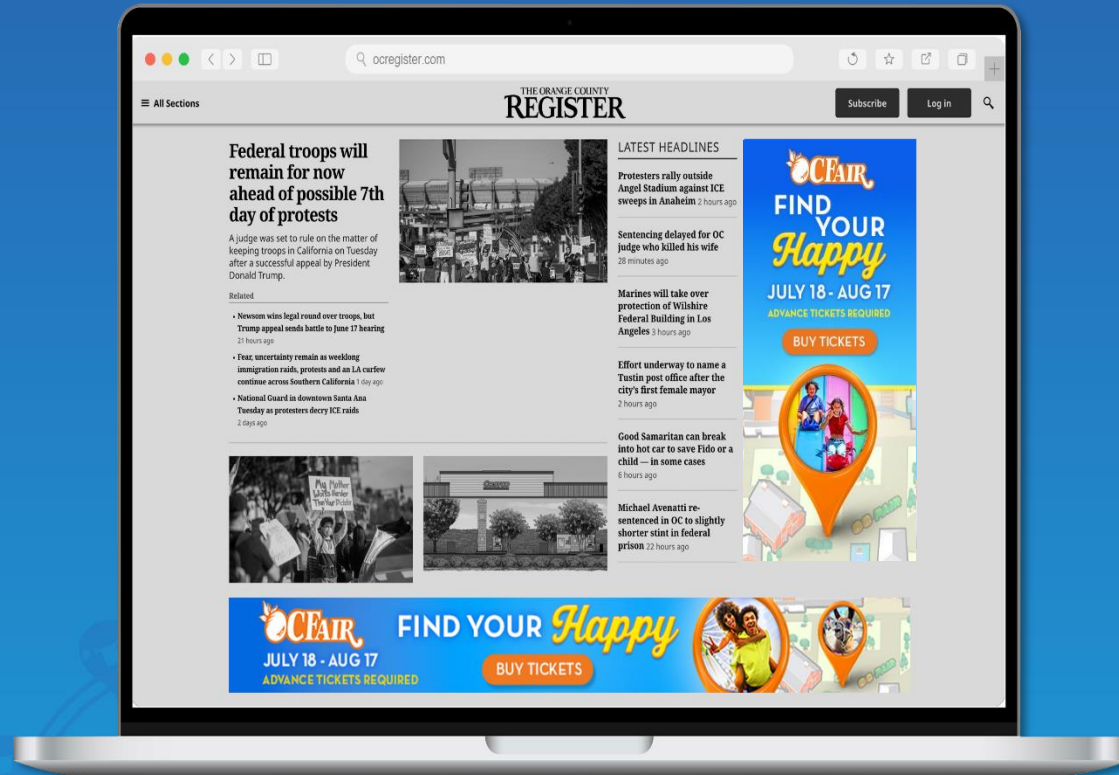


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Marketing, PR & Advertising

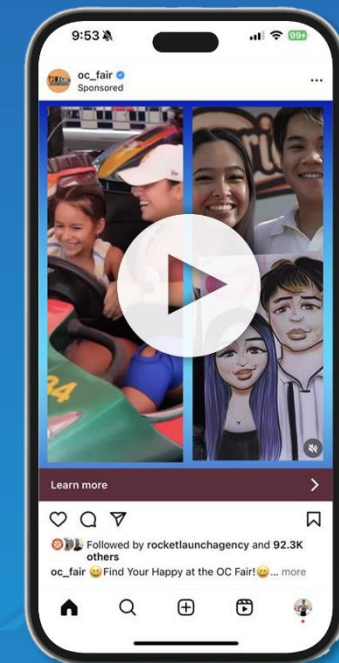
What's New in 2025



Digital Display Ads



Promotional Media



Paid Social Advertising

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Carnival

What's New in 2025

AVIATOR!



The Royal Wheel



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Carnival

What's New in 2025

Sound Storm



Frog Hopper



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What's New in 2025



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What's New in 2025

ACTION SPORTS ARENA



OC Brew Hee Haw
A Craft Beer Roundup



Monster Truck Nitro Tour
Tuff Trucks



Motorhome Madness
Demolition Derby



Orange Crush
Demolition Derby



Damsels of Destruction
Demolition Derby



Mowterized
Mayhem



Mark Yuzuik
Comedy Hypnotist

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What's New in 2025

THE HANGAR



JULY 18

24K Magic
#1 Bruno Mars Tribute



JULY 19

Start Making Sense
The Talking Heads Tribute



JULY 20

Jimmy's Buffet
A Tribute to Jimmy Buffett



JULY 23

Devotional
Tribute to Depeche Mode



JULY 24

The Monkee Men
The #1 Monkees Tribute



JULY 25

Led Zepplica
The Led Zeppelin Tribute



JULY 26

It's Britney Beep
A Live Tribute to Britney



JULY 27

Yachty By Nature
The Smoothest Yacht Rock



JULY 30

Elton - The Early Years
A Tribute to Early Elton John



JULY 31

Green Today
A Tribute to Green Day



AUG 1

DSB
A Tribute to Journey



AUG 2

Which One's Pink?



AUG 3

Embajadores del Mariachi:
2:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.



AUG 6

Queen Nation



AUG 8

Dead Man's Party
Tribute to Oingo Boingo



AUG 9

Rihanna Replay
A Tribute to Rihanna



AUG 10

One More Night
The Phil Collins Experience



AUG 13

Damage Inc.
SoCal's Tribute to Metallica



AUG 14

Red Corvette
A Prince Tribute



AUG 15

Twisted Gypsy
Fleetwood Mac Reimagined



AUG 16

Blink-180True
A Tribute to Blink-182



AUG 17

Hot Lava
The Ultimate B-52s Revue

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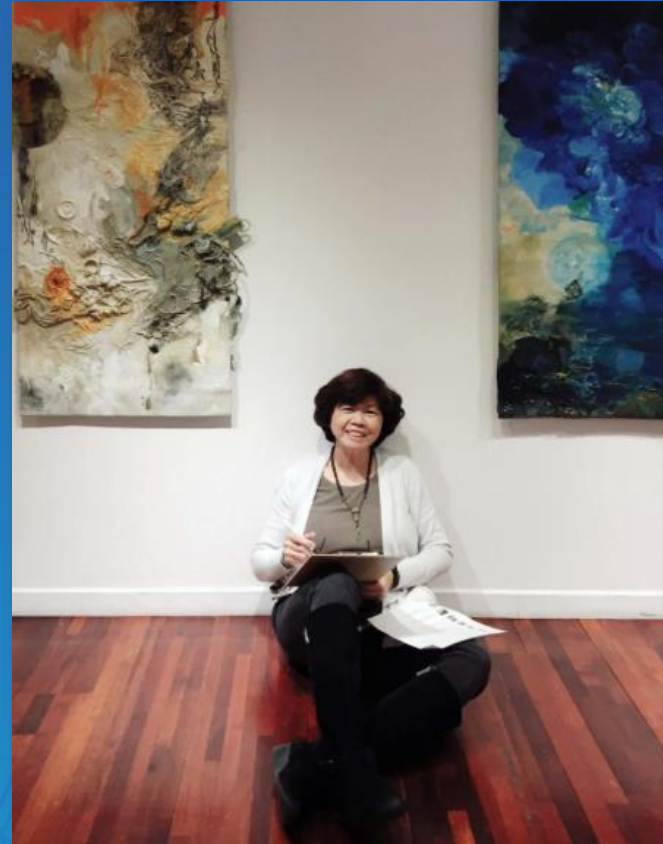
What's New in 2025

Fine Arts

- Featured Artists

Anne Phong is a celebrated mixed media artist and Vietnamese immigrant living in Orange County. Her artwork offers abstract commentary on immigration and the environment.

Jose Flores Nava is another Orange County artist and immigrant from Mexico, a ceramicist, his artwork focuses on migrant agricultural labor creating slip-cast fruits and vegetables placed in vessels symbolizing the human body and the idea of “farm to table.”



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What's New in 2025

Competitions

Exhibits By the Numbers

Photography	3131
Fine Arts	1060
Woodworking	120
Hobbies & Handcrafts	1091
Collections	102
Jewelry	46
Table Settings	76
Poetry	26
Culinary	- Deadline June 30*

Total = 7675*



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What's New in 2025

Exhibits

Orange County Sand & Sea

Returning with even more to explore –
Discover iconic beachside landmarks, wander through the culinary entries, explore a touch tank and dive deep into the ocean using virtual reality technology in the OC Promenade!



Guests can interact with a lively crew of ocean-themed performers who bring the beach to life through fun games, activities, and playful storytelling. Meet Tony Abalone, the sun-loving lifeguard; Dr. Anna Chovie, the ever-curious marine biologist; and Sandra Castle, the high-energy volleyball champ.

Don't miss the daily Beach Games at noon, where guests of all ages can join in the excitement alongside this entertaining trio and their friends!

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What's New in 2025

Exhibits



Abbey Romero from Netflix's Love on the Spectrum joins us for a heartwarming performance of The Little Mermaid, featuring live storytelling and a few of her favorite songs.

Megan The Bubbleologist will be making her Fair debut with her giant bubbles, mind-blowing tricks and non-stop fun.

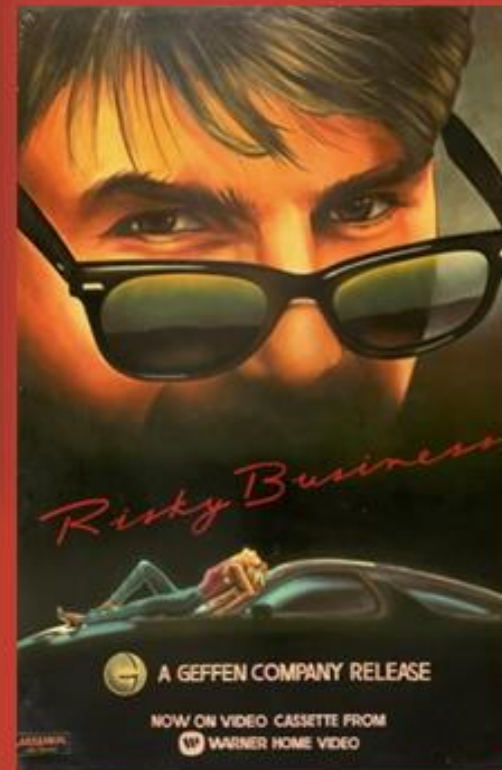


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What's New in 2025

Exhibits



Explore the Art of Movies collection, cinematic elements including iconic movie posters, props, backings, original film & video trailers and immersive themed activations.

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What's New in 2025

Food



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What's New in 2025

PLAZA
PACIFICA



Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday the Plaza vibes will come alive as we feature swing dancing on Friday, DJ West Coast Dave playing hits inspired by Pacific Amphitheatre shows on Saturday and Latin dancing on Sunday.



One big celebration on the last day of Fair featuring community performers!

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What's New in 2025



OC Fair Cares – Thursdays 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Canned Food Drive – Blue and Green Gate
Enter for a chance to win



Grand Prize – AAA Travel Certificate
Weekly Giveaways – Raising Cane's Gift Cards



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Our Sponsors



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10F. Committee/Ad Hoc Committee/Liaison Reports

INFORMATION ITEM:

To assure compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Committee reports are only for the purpose of the Committee chair, Ad Hoc Committee members or Liaison to provide a verbal update. Should the Board want to discuss any Committee work item not already on the agenda; those would need to be agendized for a future Board meeting.

- i. **Leadership Committee** (Chair Kovacevich, Committee Chair; Vice Chair Bagneris)
- ii. **Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee** (Director Pham, Committee Chair; Director Bilezikjian)
- iii. **Facilities Committee** (Director Ruiz, Committee Chair; Director Bilezikjian)
- iv. **Governance Committee** (Director La Belle, Committee Chair; Chair Kovacevich)
- v. **Community Affairs Committee** (Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Committee Chair; Director Jackson)



May 2025 Financials

	Actual	Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
May 2025 Revenue	\$ 1,644,690	\$ 1,803,143	(\$ 158,453)
May 2025 Expenses	<u>\$ 3,317,241</u>	<u>\$ 3,627,564</u>	<u>\$ 310,867</u>
May 2025 Net Proceeds/(Loss)	<u>(\$ 1,672,550)</u>	<u>(\$ 1,824,421)</u>	<u>\$ 151,870</u>



Cash and Cash Equivalents

	<u>May 31, 2025</u>	<u>May 31, 2024</u>
Cash on Hand	\$ 2,250,954	\$ 4,111,397
Investments	<u>\$48,189,517</u>	<u>\$45,167,370</u>
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u><u>\$50,440,471</u></u>	<u><u>\$49,278,767</u></u>
Year over Year Change	<u><u>\$ 1,161,704</u></u>	
Year over Year % Change	2.36%	



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Celebrating
**PRIDE
MONTH**



JUNE TEENTH

June 19



11. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW



Costa Mesa High School Baseball



July 3



Aug 10



Aug 28



Aug 29 – 31



Sept 13



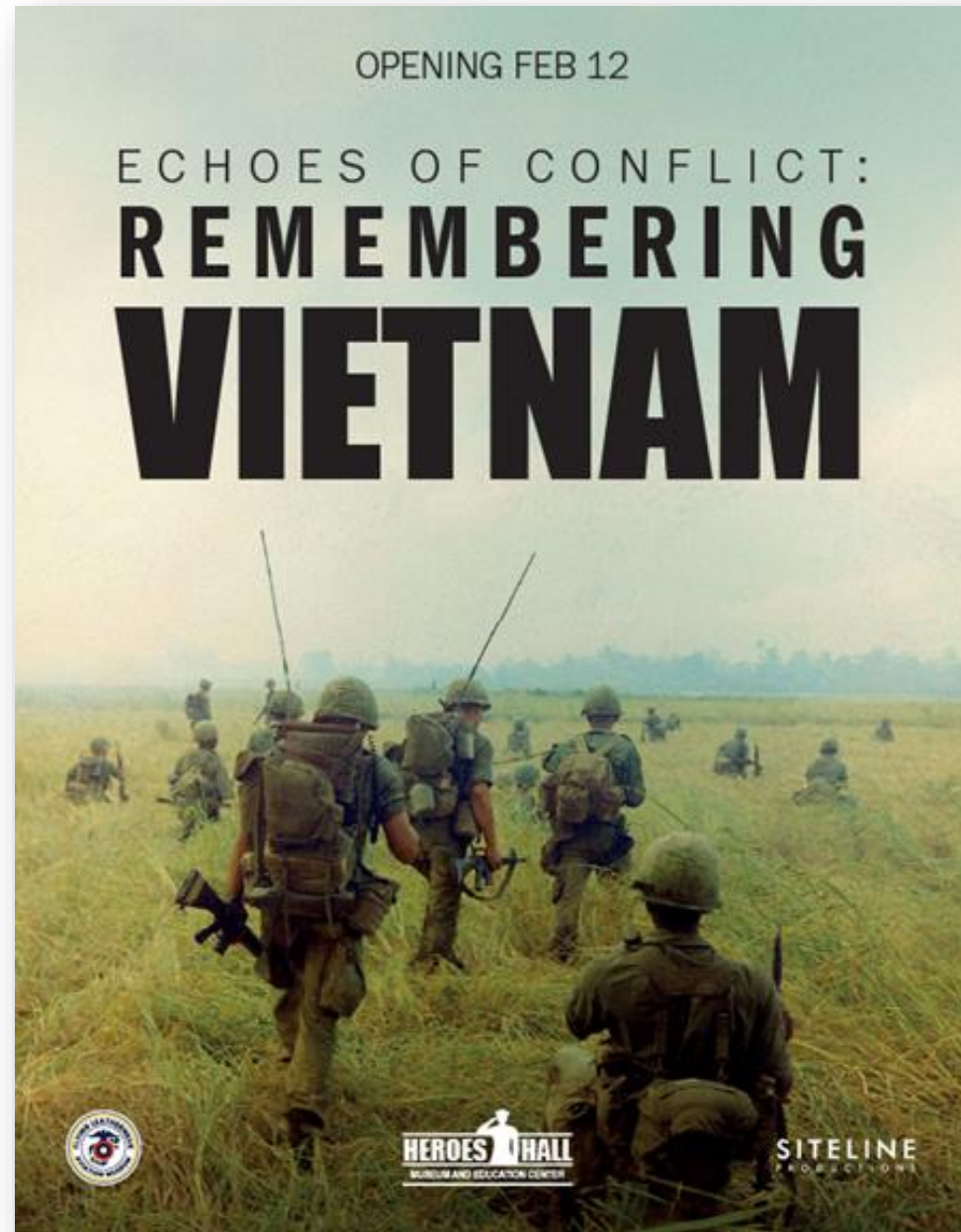
11. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW



Every Thursday



Heroes Hall



★ **June 28, 2 p.m.**
Speakers Series –
Myths, Lies and Spies

Former CIA analyst Frank Snepp joined the CIA in 1968 and served in its Vietnam station. He became the station's senior analyst of enemy intentions and interrogated many key prisoners and was centrally involved in tasking and debriefing the CIA's two top intelligence sources working behind enemy lines.

His memoir, "Decent Interval," became an instant bestseller and helped focus attention on the plight of Vietnamese allies left behind.

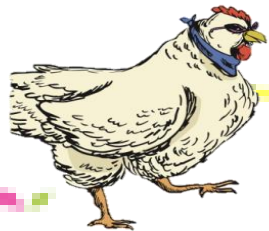
★ **Sept 6, 2 p.m.**
Speakers Series –
Orange, Ca to Pleiku, Vietnam

U.S. Army veteran Paul Todd was teaching middle school history in 1971 when he was drafted. After his advanced training at Fort Rucker, Alabama, he received orders for Vietnam. He was stationed at Tuy Hoa, then at Artillery Hill, a firebase located in Pleiku in the Central Highlands. Todd will share his personal story and the lessons he learned. He'll also share his father's story, a submariner in World War II who was captured by the Japanese and spent two years in a POW camp in Ofuna.



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY!

DIRECTOR PHAM



12. Board of Directors Matters of Information

13. Next Board Meeting

September 25, 2025

