



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Jefferson National
Expansion Memorial

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Media Advisory

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Eero Saarinen's 100th Birthday Celebration *at the Gateway Arch*

WHERE: Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Old Courthouse located at 11 North Fourth Street St. Louis, Missouri.

WHEN: *Friday, August 20, 2010*

WHAT: Jefferson National Expansion Memorial will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of architect Eero Saarinen, designer of the Gateway Arch and many of the world's most distinctive structures. The event, co-sponsored by the St. Louis chapter of the American Institute of Architects, will be fun, educational, and have something of interest for everyone.

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Hands on Children's Activities and birthday cake

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p. m. Gateway Arch Building Blocks

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p. m. Panel Discussion

The midday program will include the ability to build your own Arch out of large foam building blocks. Volunteers from the American Institute of Architects will explain the use of drafting tables and architectural tools, and also assist kids in drawing memorial concepts of their own using crayons on facsimiles of the 1947 memorial competition booklet.

The evening will feature speakers familiar with Saarinen's life and work, including the architect's daughter, Susan Saarinen, park archivist Jennifer Clark and park historian Bob Moore, architect Harry Richman of St. Louis and Bruce Detmers, project manager during the construction for the Saarinen office. The evening program will be held in the Tucker Theater within the Arch complex and will feature a series of four talks, followed by a period for questions from the audience.

The five final designs for the current international design competition will be on display in the Arch Visitor Center, during the open public comment period, so this will also be an opportunity for attendees to assess plans for the future development of the memorial. In addition, the Gateway Arch is open until 10:00 p.m., with tram rides available until 9:10 p.m., which will provide an opportunity for attendees to ride to the top and see the lights of the city at night from the city's tallest and most famous structure.

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