

Laylalynn Moreno | Reporter  
lmoreno@therampageonline.com

# A DAY JUST FOR MOTHERS

On May 10 Mother's Day is celebrated in the United States. It's the day where mothers get shown unconditional love and appreciation for what they do.

The first official Mother's Day was held in 1908. Started by Anna Jarvis, an American social activist and her doing to honor her mother's legacy. By 1912, many states had adopted the celebration of Mother's Day and in 1914 Mother's Day was officially established in the United States by President Woodrow Wilson.

Mother's Day is not just for "moms," it is also dedicated to stepmoms, grandmothers, foster mothers, aunts, mentors and many other women who could be important in someone's life. They might not be biological mothers but they make people feel like they have a mom to depend on and look for.

The day is celebrated in many different ways, some options could include taking her out to brunch, have a spa day, picnic at the park, a nice dinner and many other nice things that will make her feel appreciated.

Not only can appreciation be shown by taking her somewhere, buying gifts or making her something can go a long way! There's things such as gift boxes with self care items inside, mugs, slippers, home appliances, makeup, or even a self-made card.

On the Fresno City College campus, there are many mothers who will be celebrating the holiday. Many of those mothers are staff or students on campus. Stacie Mimura is an instructor for the Department of Communication Arts at FCC. She also is a mother of three kids and shared some things about how she celebrates Mother's Day.

Mothers on campus like Mimura, have to deal with balancing motherhood and education. This is where some mothers tend to have a hard time.

"Balancing motherhood and education is definitely about remembering to take it one

day at a time and [having] a good schedule. I have a calendar to make sure I have a plan for when to get work done, appointments for the kids, and even what I am cooking for dinner. Working mom hack is a great crock pot dinner so you can work and still have dinner ready for the kids," Mimura said.

She keeps a set schedule to balance her work time and time to spend with her kids, like other mothers, Mimura also has plans for Mother's Day.

"For Mother's Day I will be at home with my kiddos 16, 13, and 1. I asked my husband to BBQ a tri-tip and I don't want to do any dishes," Mimura said.

She's still spending time with her kids and husband for Mother's Day but she said she wants to sit back and relax and not worry about any "mom duties."

Mimura gave some advice for new mothers or mothers who seem to be struggling.

"My advice for new moms who might be struggling is that you are not alone. Being a mom is the hardest but the most rewarding job you will ever do. Surround yourself with family and friends and don't be afraid to ask for help. Most struggles are temporary so this too will pass. Leave the dishes and laundry and just love on your baby," Mimura said.

So this Mother's Day give mom the biggest break and do that pile of dishes, wash clothes, or even take her out to give her a nice time outside the house. All mothers deserve this day to take a breather and relax and enjoy time with family or even herself.



Graphic by Jimmy Johnson

Donovan Rivas | Reporter  
drivas@therampageonline.com

## SIXTH ANNUAL TOWER PORCHFEST

Different houses participated in the sixth annual Tower Porchfest on April 25, playing different genres of music along Tower District. The event went on between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Even with the chance of rain, there were still plenty of people and vendors who showed up.

It felt as if there were people taking up the entire street. Every attendee and performer seemed to be in great spirits even with the impending weather.

Not only were the performers extremely talented, they also expressed excitement about being at the event.

Blackwater Baptized, formed in 2021, was one of many bands that played at the event. They recently released an album called "Sound of Your Soul" on April 17.

Peter Marinus from Bluestown Music wrote a review of Blackwater Baptized's 2023 album, stating, "The sound of Blackwater Baptized can be described as extremely relaxed, with the blues primarily audible in Jeremy Logan's guitar playing."

Marinus also compared Logan's guitar skills to famous American songwriter and guitarist Jimi Hendrix.

According to the same article, the band

name is "a tribute to God, family, and growing up in the South of the United States."

When Blackwater Baptized played at Tower Porchfest, they played a thrilling set with amazing vocals and sound.

Another band performing was named "Bill Reiland Trio," a cover band. Like Blackwater Baptized, they played a thrilling set which kept the audience captivated.

The Bill Reiland Trio band website describes their band as, "From Sinatra to Swift, Bill Reiland delivers high-impact live music that keeps rooms engaged from the first song to the last."

Skeleton Kru, another rock band that performed, came together in 2023. They also played an extremely thrilling set.

Lead singer Wayne Hamilton was very interactive with the crowd, which helped to bring the crowd into the performance.

The goal of Skeleton Kru was to play different songs from ones commonly covered by other bands, according to Hamilton.

"I wanted to put together a band that did really good music, but that didn't play the same stuff everybody else did," Hamilton said

Hamilton believes there's nothing stopping Fresno from attending Porchfest.

"It doesn't matter if it's coming down.

Basically, it takes a tornado, and paper shredders, and, you know, acts of God, or Congress, or Yodoi from Plan Abab, whatever you believe in, to stop something like Porchfest. Where there's a will there's a way," Hamilton said.

Originally from the east coast, Hamilton believes the Tower District is the liveliest place to play.

Hamilton said he would love for Sceleton Kru to return for the next Porchfest.

"I can almost guarantee it. Because we got such a blast, and it's also a good stomping ground for us, because it seems like every year, more and more people show up, and every year things get bigger, things get better," Hamilton said.



Photo of the band Bill Reiland Trio (From left to right) Bill Reiland (vocals, guitar), Shiva Umesh (drums) and Jen Mattocks-Rendon (bass) playing a set at Tower Porchfest on April 26. Photo by Donovan Rivas.



Photo of the band Blackwater Baptized (from left to right) Jeremy Logan (vocals, guitar) Shawn Van Wyhe (drums) and Greg Fernandez (bass) playing a set at Tower Porchfest on April 26. Photo by Donovan Rivas

Marissa Rivas | Reporter  
mrivas@therampageonline.com

## MAKE YOUR SUMMER MEMORABLE

As the spring semester comes to an end, students begin looking forward to summer. While the Central Valley heat rises high, the season brings a variety of events for students to make the most of their time off.

Fresno offers a mix of activities with different interests and budgets. Summer events aren't just something to do, they're a way to connect with friends and take a break from academics.

This summer brings major music events to the area for both local students and visitors.

One of the main events is Luke Bryan's Farm Tour which is coming to Clovis, California on May 15. General admission is around \$90, making it one of the fastest selling events of the season.

For fans of early 2000's R&B and hip-hop, "R&B Night Out" on May 30 at Woodward Park brings artists like Ray J., Bobby V., MC Magic and Mike Jones. General admission is around \$57.

Another event is the "Sun Kissed Summer Festival" on June 13 at Chukchansi Park, with admission priced at \$25 plus fees. This festival highlights summer energy in the Central Valley with music.

To cool off from heat in the city, beaches are free public areas to enjoy the summer with friends and family. But it is also good to have extra money for on the road snacks and souvenirs. Pismo Beach is a destination known for its relaxed atmosphere.

Another option is Monterey Bay, which is also a free public area. The area is well known for its views and marine life, and it also includes the Monterey Bay Aquarium, with admission at around \$65 for those interested in exploring sea life exhibits.

There's other ways to cool off from the heat while

enjoying the summer without having to drive too far.

Waterparks remain a popular summer activity in the Central Valley.

Wild Water Adventure Park offers admission for about \$38. Since their schedule can vary, it's best to check their official website for updated hours and opening days.

Island Waterpark, which is open starting June 5 through Aug. 30, is another option. Their general admission is priced at \$45. They also offer discount deal events such as "2 for Tuesday" (buy one ticket, get one free) and "Wavy Wednesday" (discounted tickets ranging from \$28-\$29.99).

Not every summer plan requires travel or expensive tickets. Fresno also has plenty of local and affordable options.

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo has admission at \$23.95, making it an easy day activity for friends and families.

Movie nights are also a common summer hangout, with tickets usually ranging from \$13-\$20, depending on the theater or event, including spots like Regal Cinemas, Regal Manchester and Sierra Vista Cinemas 16.

Outside of planned events, many people also spend summer evenings hanging out with friends whether it's sleepovers, late night drives or casual get togethers.

Tower District is a popular spot for friends that includes areas like live entertainment at Tower Theatre, touring bands at Strummer's and local galleries.

Another hangout area is River Park, an outdoor shopping center with a variety of dining options, retail stores, movie theaters and department stores.

For those who enjoy staying active in the summer, locations like Sierra National Park,

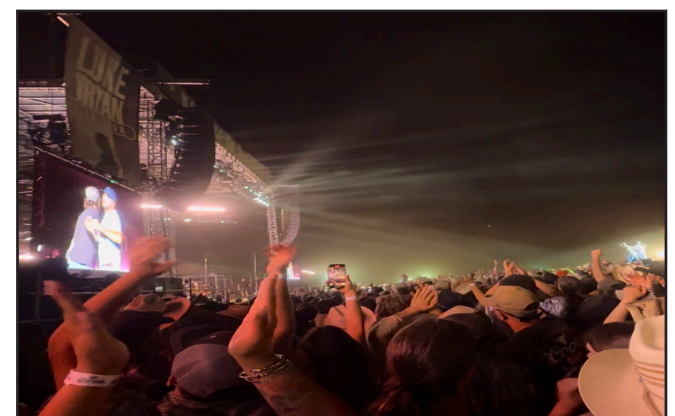
Yosemite National Park and Sequoia National Park offer hiking trails and nature experiences.

Trampoline parks, indoor rock climbing gyms and roller skating rinks are activity based locations to stay active while spending time together with friends.

Trampoline parks like Sky Zone Trampoline Park, where admission is around \$32, and Aerozone Trampoline Park, which charges \$14 per hour, are both popular spots for friends and family.

Roller skating rinks and indoor rock climbing such as United Skates of America have an admission of \$14, while Metalmark Climbing has an admission of \$40.

From concerts to simple hangouts, summer in Fresno offers a wide range of experiences for everyone. Whether you're attending a festival, visiting the coast or staying with friends, the season gives everyone a chance to take a break and enjoy time outside of school.



The audience gathered at Luke Bryan's Farm Tour on May 15, 2025 at Harlan Ranch. Photo by Marissa Rivas.