



For Immediate Release

10am to 5pm

May 16-17

S. 9th Street between Wharton and Fitzwater Streets

Don't Miss the Biggest Block Party in South Philly!

Philadelphia, PA – Get ready for one of South Philadelphia's most cherished traditions! The **S. 9th Street Market Festival**, taking place on **May 16-17, 2026**, spans seven bustling city blocks and features over **100 vendors** showcasing a vibrant mix of local crafts, services, souvenirs, live entertainment, refreshing beverages, and, of course, food.

This annual celebration honors the rich history of Philadelphia's iconic 9th Street Shopping District – the oldest and longest-running outdoor market in the country. Whether you're a Philadelphian or not, the festival offers an unforgettable experience for families, friends, and food lovers alike. Join us for the largest block party in the city and immerse yourself in South Philly's spirit, culture, and community.

Live Entertainment

Fantastic live music throughout the weekend! Here's the full schedule for the **Washington Avenue Stage**:

- **Saturday, May 17**

- Curtis School Jazz Band: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

- Shore Dogs: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

- **Sunday, May 18**

- 99 Reasons: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

- Michael James Berg Band: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Catch the energy of **DJ Timmy DeSimone** at the **12 Steps Down Stage at 9th & Christian Street** on both Saturday and Sunday, and enjoy the beats of **DJ Eric Bartello** at the **9th and Montrose Piazza** on both days.

Festival Highlights & Special Events

- **John Marzano Half Ball Tournament** – On **Saturday, May 16**, join the fun at the Christopher Columbus Charter Schoolyard (916 Christian Street) starting at **10:00 AM**. This beloved event benefits the **John Marzano Wood Bat Scout League**, and teams can register on-site the morning of the event.
- **Procession of Saints** – On **Sunday, May 17**, at **11:00 AM**, be part of the historic **St. Paul Parish Procession of Saints**. The procession starts at **Saint Mary Magdalen de Pazzi Church (712 Montrose Street)** and pauses at **9th and Washington Avenue** for the Blessing of the Market, before concluding at **Saint Paul Catholic Church** at the corner of South Hutchinson and Christian Streets.
- **The Grease Pole Competition – 9th & Montrose Piazza**, where teams will compete to scale a 30-foot grease-covered pole, with exciting prizes such as meats, cheeses, gift cards, and cash. The most coveted prize? Bragging rights for the entire year! Teams can register on-site each day of the festival.

Don't Miss Out!

Join us at the **S. 9th Street Market Festival** and experience all that South Philly has to offer – delicious food, great music, halfball, grease pole, attitude, beautiful people, and a celebration of community. It's an event you won't want to miss!

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