

BID Members: [application-BID.doc](http://www.sunsetparkbid.org/application-BID.doc)

Since 1999, the Sunset Park BID has been hosting a 15-block street festival. The annual Sunset Park event takes place on the 2nd or 3rd Sunday in September, from 11am-6pm, along 5th Avenue from 44th Street to 59th Street. Each year an estimated 50,000 attendees enjoy the day along the avenue. Everyone who shows up is treated to many exciting events throughout the day.

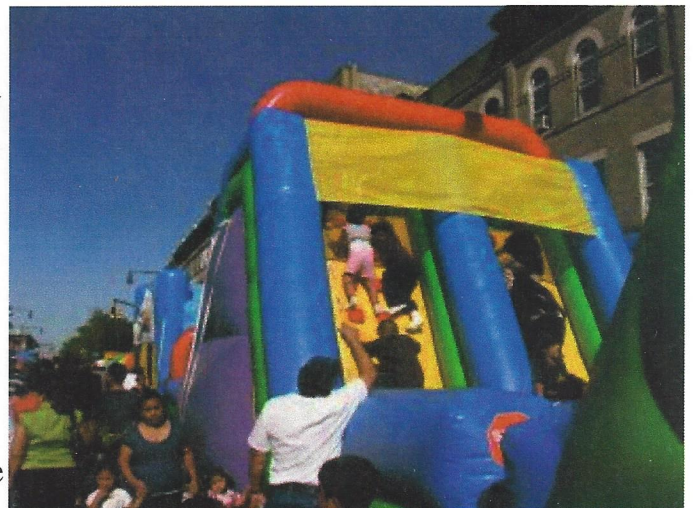


Hundreds of vendors, local businesses and not-for-profits set up stands to offer their goods and services. Festival-goers can enjoy bargains in ethnic foods, ethnic music, jewelry, clothing, gift items, toys, pony rides, games and massages, along with free popcorn, cotton candy, face paintings, balloons, pretzels, spin art, bounce rides, hula hoops and general information from elected officials and local organizations. Any BID business taking part receives a banner which they can display to identify their participation. Make sure to look out for these banners to know which of your favorite 5th Ave businesses are taking part in the festival.

Two stages are set up - one on 44th Street and the other on 54th Street. They provide all-day live entertainment beginning at noon. Crowds can hear bands performing mariachi, salsa, bachata, rock and more. Local entertainers, such as Young Dancers in Repertory, Regina Opera Company and OLPH Twirlers, thrill young and old. If you head over to Johnny's Pizzeria on 58th Street, you can catch the always-popular band, Closenuf, performing.

One whole block, 45th to 46th Street, contains giant inflatable rides from Lifetime Vending & Amusement, which are free courtesy of the BID for the children to enjoy all day.

Throughout the years, extra special offerings of the festival have included: NYC Transit Authority's Vintage Jackie Gleason bus, the Brooklyn-Staten Island Bloodmobile, free Child ID kits with fingerprinting by the 72nd Precinct Auxiliaries, the Fire Department's Smokehouse, and the Brooklyn Public Library's Bookmobile and Kidsmobile.



Each year, the popularity of the festival grows. Through the generosity of sponsors such as Assemblyman Felix Ortiz, Councilman Carlos Menchaca, Health Plus, and Metroplus, the BID has been able to increase its offerings of free events to the community. For the BID members, the festival is a way of saying thank you to the community that patronizes the local businesses. Free face painting, games, giveaways, contests, sand art are some of the exciting things that can make the day extra fun.

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