

National Dog Day to Hold Events Across the Country

The dog day of August is, of course, National Dog Day, which will feature celebrations across the U.S.

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Every dog has his day, and it couldn't be more true than on Aug. 26, 2007, when the 2nd Annual National Dog Day kicks off around the country, in an attempt to bring awareness and raise money for dogs in need of homes. Events and festivities are scheduled throughout the country on that day, but the main event will be in Malibu, Calif., and will include dog events, contests, and more four-legged fun.

Guests are welcome to watch the judging take place as the most beautiful, best costumed and most talented dogs are crowned during The Great American Dog Show, as well as "ooh" and "ahh" as dogs take the stage for a dog fashion show. Other family-friendly fun will include a FidoPalooza concert (featuring talented local bands and musical artists); dog exhibits; a dog art auction; a shelter dog parade featuring dogs from area shelters; 500 adoptable dogs; a dog daycare water park; a Ferris wheel; paddle boating; ping pong; a waterslide; and much more.

National Dog Day was started by Colleen Paige, a dog trainer and animal advocate, as a means of showing appreciation for dogs and their loyalty, hard work and capacity to love. It is also a day to find homes for homeless dogs. During the initial National Dog Day in 2006, more than 300 events took place across the nation and 12,000 dogs were adopted in a single day. Paige and other supporting organizations hope to adopt even more during this year's events.

Tickets for this all-day event (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) are \$35 and include an all-day, all-you-can-eat buffet. Tickets must be purchased at www.nationaldogday.com, as no tickets will be sold at the gate. Visit the website for more information.