

Take three autumn days in downtown Eugene; close off traffic from two square blocks; blanket the entire area with a carnival, food booths and more than 500 performing artists; throw in a parade and lots of excited people and what have you got? A celebration — Eugene style.

This weekend's second annual Eugene Celebration includes a host of new activities and expansions on last year's events. Activities for practically everyone — artists, kids, food-lovers, athletes, loggers and music fans — will be spread from the Downtown Mall to the Fifth Street Public Market.

"We're carrying on tradition," said Cynthia Wooten, Eugene City Councilor and Celebration organizer. "We're letting Eugene list its spirits, show its diversity and have a lot of fun."

The Downtown Mall Fountain will be the stage for Friday's grand opening ceremony. The 5:30 p.m. ceremony will include the University's Marching Band, comments by Grand Marshalls Bill and Barbara Bowerman and a special performance by the comedy group "On the Edge."

Later in the evening the Hult Center will host Dionne Warwick in concert at 8 p.m., followed by a special dessert social and dance at 11 p.m.

Entertainment at the Downtown Mall Fountain will

resume Saturday at noon. It continues until 8 p.m. with more scheduled for Sunday at noon.

Food-lovers will find their palates tempted and ultimately satisfied by a variety of delicacies created at "Extraordinary Eateries," located in the parking lot of 8th Avenue and Willamette streets.

Twenty local restaurants will sell their wares, which include international foods, bakery items, sandwiches and desserts. The canopied food section will be open from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday.

To complement the fine cuisine, a beer and wine garden will be adjacent to the "Extraordinary Eateries." In addition the Southern Willamette Winegrower's Association will have wine tasting on the Downtown Mall.

Saturday's events will be kicked-off by a parade with

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