



For Immediate Release  
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## EXPO New Mexico Hosts Great Events in March *Arts and Crafts Show, Knife and Gun Show, Roping Events Are Just a Few of the Highlights*

EXPO New Mexico continues its reputation for hosting the best events in the state, with March bringing the Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival, the New Mexico Gun Collectors Association (NMGCA) Gun, Sword & Knife Show as well as many other great attractions. To complement these events, the Flea Market remains a great place to shop for unique finds and is open every Saturday and Sunday with the exception of during the New Mexico State Fair.

The NMGCA show is a big draw for local gun and knife collectors and enthusiasts with several shows held annually at EXPO's Manuel Lujan complex. The March show takes place on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> with the show starting at 9:00 AM both days. The cost to attend is \$7 for adults and kids under 12 are admitted free. Discounts are available to military and law enforcement personnel and specific information can be obtained by visiting the NMGCA website at [NMGCA.net](http://NMGCA.net). Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult to attend the show.

Also this month, EXPO New Mexico is proud to once again host the annual Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival Spring Show March 13 - 15, a premier event which brings together some of the most talented artists in the country to display their unique and amazing work. The juried indoor show focuses on fine arts and crafts and patrons can also take advantage of food sampling and enjoy live entertainment. The show will be held at the Manuel Lujan Complex from 10 AM to 5 PM each day. One day admission passes cost \$7.00 and the weekend festival pass is \$9.00. Kids under 12 years old are free.

The Southwest Chocolate and Coffee Fest is a recurring annual event which offers a rich feast for the senses. Billed as "the nation's most delicious festival," attendees can experience the greatest chocolates, coffee, wines and gourmet foods in the southwest. The event will be held at

the Manuel Lujan Complex on March 21 and 22 and cost of admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors 60 years old and up. Kids 12 and under are admitted free of charge.

The Treasures of the Earth Gem & Mineral Show Advance tickets start at \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids.

If you are an expectant or even long time parent, grandparent or favorite aunt or uncle, you won't want to miss the Baby Bonanza and Kids Fair on the afternoons of February 21 and 22 at EXPO New Mexico in the Manuel Lujan Building, Complex A. The Bonanza has evolved from an event specifically geared to new and expecting moms to a great place for the whole family to enjoy learning about the many local resources available to parents and families. Cost is \$5.00 for adults, and children 12 and under are free.

EXPO New Mexico Barrel Racing is a recurring event, with the next one scheduled on February 20. Barrel racing is a great spectators sport and a unique opportunity to experience rodeo events outside of the State Fair. Barrel Racing takes place at the Dairy Barn with exhibitions at 6:00 PM and races at 8:00 PM. There is no cost to attend though barrel racers interested in competing can find more information on the EXPO New Mexico webpage at [www.EXPONM.com](http://www.EXPONM.com) for relevant entry fees.

If folks need more incentive to make the short drive to EXPO, don't forget about our fantastic Flea Market. EXPO New Mexico is home to the largest outdoor Flea Market in the State – open every Saturday and Sunday at 7 AM.

“As is once again evidenced by this month's events, the range of creative, exciting and entertaining options that you can experience at our venue is extraordinary,” said Dan Mourning, General Manager at EXPO New Mexico. For more information, log onto [www.EXPONM.com](http://www.EXPONM.com).