



WORLDS FAIR USA

## Worlds Fair USA Press Release

### **How Big is Worlds Fair USA?**

Its land area covers 1,000 or more acres. If you were to take 1,000 football fields and stitch them together, that would be about the size of the Worlds Fair USA fairgrounds.

### **How many people attend will attend?**

To give you an idea, the 1893 Chicago Worlds Fair drew 27 million people, or 43% of the United States population at the time. The 2010 Shanghai World Expo drew 73 million people.

### **How long does it last?**

Six months from Opening Day to Closing Day.

### **What's actually at Worlds Fair USA?**

Futuristically designed country and corporate pavilions cover the fairgrounds, each showing visitors what the future holds in store. Corporate pavilions show people the newest innovations that will be part of their future: augmented reality, nanotechnology, automated vehicles, artificial intelligence, vertical farming, dissolving drones, renewable energy, and more. World-class musical performances of every genre day and night, food and artwork abound.

### **What is the theme of Worlds Fair USA?**

Every Worlds Fair has a theme that represents what that fair aims to accomplish. Some themes have been about urban life, food, or nature, while some more broadly have been about the future or peace. The theme is meant to focus the purpose of that fair and help those involved- companies, countries, and individuals alike- think constructively about how the fair's theme works with their plan for the future. The theme of Worlds Fair USA is "The Tools of Our Future." The future is something that we all share, it's "...Our Future." In order to achieve the one that we want, we must start by deciding what that future is, and then focus on the tools needed to get us there. These tools include technologies (renewable energy, space travel, artificial intelligence, etc.), education practices, urban projects, and more. The litmus test to determine if a thing belongs at Worlds Fair USA is, "what do we want to accomplish, is this the best tool that we could be using to get us there, and are we applying it in the best possible way?" Pavilions and content related to Worlds Fair USA will be designed with those questions in mind.

**Where is the apostrophe in "Worlds"?**

If you've ever seen Worlds Fair written before, you've probably seen it written as "World's Fair." We've chosen to drop the apostrophe for two reasons: 1) It simplifies the design without changing the pronunciation 2) It changes the meaning: a "World's Fair" makes the fair a possession of our one world, whereas a "Worlds Fair" turns world into its plural form which leaves the door open for holding fairs on other planets.

**When was the last Worlds Fair in the United States?**

31 Years ago—1984 in New Orleans

**When was the first Worlds Fair?**

1851 in London. That fair drew 6 million visitors, among them were Charles Darwin, Charlotte Bronte, and Lewis Carroll.

**How many Worlds Fairs have there been?**

Over the last 165 years, over 100 fairs have occurred in over 20 countries, collectively drawing over 1 billion people. The only event in history to have such an attendance record.

**How many Worlds Fair have there been in the United States?**

21 fairs. The first in 1853 in New York City's Bryant Park, the last in 1984 in New Orleans. Over 250 million Americans have attended Worlds Fairs in the U.S. over 131 years.

**Is there a governing or regulatory body of Worlds Fairs?**

From 1851 to 1928, there was no regulation of Worlds Fairs. Whenever a country had the urge, it could appropriate funds and choose people to organize a Worlds Fair. In 1928, 31 countries came together and decided that too many Worlds Fairs were happening and regulation was needed. They formed the Bureau International des Expositions (known as the BIE). The BIE's main job is to decide the next host country.

**Were all Worlds Fairs BIE-sanctioned after 1928?**

No. The BIE recognizes a handful of Worlds Fair throughout history. For example, the 1964/1965 Worlds Fair in Flushing Meadows Park in New York City was not recognized as a BIE Worlds Fair. You can find the full list on the BIE website: <http://www.bie-paris.org/site/en/expos/about-expos/expo-categories/world-expos>

**It's 2015, are there still Worlds Fairs? Or are they called World Expos?**

Yes, Worlds Fairs still exist and they are now known as "World Expos." The term "World Expo" first sprung onto the scene for the 1967 Montreal Expo (Expo 67). The present day World Expos occur every 5 years. In 2005 Japan hosted, in 2010 China hosted, in 2015 Italy won the hosting right, and the 2020 World Expo will be held in Dubai. Another set of smaller expos known as "Specialized Expos" occur in between the World Expos, and last for three months as opposed to six.

### **Why Don't World Expos Happen in the United States?**

In 2001, the U.S. withdrew its membership in the BIE. Also in 2001, the U.S. government enacted Title 22 Section 2452b, which prohibits the Department of State from spending any money on USA Pavilions at World Expos.

### **What is Worlds Fair USA's relationship with the BIE?**

We respect the BIE and are happy that they ensure World Expos continue to happen around the world. We are operating Worlds Fair USA independently from the BIE due to the current international landscape. As the United States is not a member of the BIE, it's anyone's guess whether or not a U.S. effort could receive a formal bid. We believe that the benefit Worlds Fair USA will provide both to the U.S. and to the world is too positive to be left up to chance.

### **How is Worlds Fair USA Happening if the U.S. Government Won't Support It Financially?**

Worlds Fair USA is the first privatized production of a Worlds Fair in history. In essence, Worlds Fair USA is a start-up company.

### **Where is World Fair USA Taking Place?**

To determine the exact location in the U.S., we are going to hold an online vote that will enable the public to vote for which region of the United States they'd like to see the fairgrounds be built in, then the region with the most votes will be eligible to participate in the formal bidding process on a city by city basis.

### **When is Worlds Fair USA Happening?**

Our timeline is based off of the time that current World Expos take to prepare, so we expect Opening Day to take place in the second half of 2021.

### **Are There Other People Seeking to Bring a Worlds Fair or Expo to the United States?**

Yes, the main difference between Worlds Fair USA and the other efforts is that the other efforts are going through the public sector and trying to gain BIE-approval. So far, no effort has seen a tangible sign of winning neither international support nor the American public's support. Other efforts include: Los Angeles (<http://laworldsfair.org/>), Minnesota (<http://www.minnesotaworldsfair.org/index.htm>), Houston (<http://www.expo2025.us/houston2025release.html>), San Francisco (<http://www.sanfranciscoworldsfair.com/>).

### **What are examples of innovations that Worlds Fairs of old have created?**

At the 1876 Philadelphia Worlds Fair, Alexander Graham Bell demonstrated the first ever telephone. At the 1893 Worlds Fair, Nikola Tesla plugged Chicago into 100,000 light bulbs, making it the first city ever to be illuminated by electricity. At the 1939 Worlds Fair in New York, the first live broadcast television was seen. At 1964 Worlds Fair in New York, people participated in the first videoconference with Bell Lab's Picture Phone. At the 1982 Worlds Fair in Knoxville, the first touchscreen was displayed.

**Which Famous Structures were built for or introduced at Worlds Fairs?**

Gustave Eiffel built the Eiffel Tower for the 1889 Worlds Fair. George Washington Gale Ferris Jr. invented the Ferris Wheel for the 1893 Chicago Worlds Fair. Bernard Maybeck designed the Palace of Fine Arts for the 1915 San Francisco Worlds Fair. Joseph Strauss, Irving Morrow, and Charles Ellis designed the Golden Gate Bridge which opened in 1937, then was celebrated at the 1939/1940 San Francisco Worlds Fair called the Golden Gate Exposition. André Waterkeyn engineered the Atomium for the 1958 Brussels Worlds Fair. Edward Carlson and John Graham Jr. designed the Seattle Space Needle for the 1962 Seattle Worlds Fair. Gilmore David Clarke built the Unisphere for the 1964/1965 New York City Worlds Fair.