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CONTACT: Kimberly Larson, 623-930-2989, Public Information Office

## **KEEP CALM AND EAT CHOCOLATE, GLENDALE CHOCOLATE AFFAIRE RETURNS FEBRUARY 7-9**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – Did you know that the average American consumes around ten pounds of chocolate each year? Get a head start on your annual ten pounds at the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, held the weekend before Valentine’s Day, Feb. 7-9 in Historic Downtown Glendale.

Chocolate purveyors from Arizona and around the nation gather in Glendale for this award-winning festival, which celebrates not only chocolate, but romance and the arts as well. Chocolatiers will create confections such as chocolate-covered strawberries, chocolate-drizzled kettle corn, chocolate-covered nuts, berry chocolate kabobs, fudge popsicles, chocolate covered cheesecake and bananas, Fried Twinkies and Fried Snickers dipped in chocolate and much more.

The Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Arizona’s famous candy makers, Cerreta’s. The candy factory will offer tours all weekend, so visitors can get a behind-the-scenes look at how the chocolatiers create everyone’s favorite candy.

Over the years, the festival has become the largest gathering of national romance novelists in the Southwest. This symposium of literary romantics offers fans the opportunity to get up close and personal with authors, as well as the chance to attend free writing workshops given by the experts. In addition, the event will feature a Plein Air competition on Saturday that will award several prizes for paintings completed on-site or around Glendale that day. Additional information on the Plein Air event is available at [www.glendaleaz.com/arts/](http://www.glendaleaz.com/arts/).

**Chocolate Affaire**  
**Add 1/1/1**

Families with children will enjoy myriad activities, including hands-on arts and crafts, face-painting, a rock-climbing wall, carnival rides and inflatables.

Event hours are Friday 5 - 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. The event is located in the heart of Historic Downtown Glendale, in Murphy Park, located at 58<sup>th</sup> and Glendale avenues.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Cerreta's Candy Company, ABC 15, Sears Vacations, SRP, The Arizona Republic, Valley Buick-GMC Dealers, YooHoo, KMLE, KOOL, JAMZ, Diamond Resorts, the Glendale Public Art Program, the AZ Scitech Festival, Camelback-Ranch Glendale and the Coyotes.

For more information on the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, including the entertainment lineup and a list of authors making appearances, visit our website at [www.glendaleaz.com/events](http://www.glendaleaz.com/events) or call the special events hotline at 623-930-2299.

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