

ALL ABOARD THE JOSH TURNER TRAIN FOR FREE CONCERT 'LONG BLACK TRAIN 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR' COMES TO SIMPLY FREEDOM FEST JULY 2



Josh Turner will perform in the Simpsonville Simply Freedom Fest at the CCNB Amphitheatre at Heritage Park on July 2.

Country music icon Josh Turner is bringing his 'Long Black Train Anniversary Tour' to the City of Simpsonville when he performs at the CCNB Amphitheatre at Heritage Park on July 2 for the Simpsonville Simply Freedom Fest.

Formerly Celebrate Simpsonville, Simply Freedom Fest is a free event that is a celebration of both Independence Day and the Simpsonville community. Simply Freedom Fest — which takes place the Sunday before the Fourth of July — will feature a concert by Josh Turner and opener country music duo from Nashville Dugger Band before a 15-minute fireworks extravaganza show all with food and spirits available for purchase.

Simpsonville Community Relations Specialist Justin Campbell said thousands of people are expected to attend.

"A country music living legend like Josh Turner with a hit like 'Long Black Train' plus a fireworks show plus free admission makes the perfect formula for celebrating the founding of

the country and the values for which it stands," Campbell said. "While the event has been rebranded from Celebrate Simpsonville to Simply Freedom Fest, the spirit of the event has remained the same: simply family, simply fun and simply free."

The tour is in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Turner's first chart-topping song, 'Long Black Train' in 2003, which was followed by 10 more chart-topping tunes in his career. With his signature deep baritone voice, Turner has sold 6.5 million records and reached nearly 5 billion streams. At only 45, Turner is the second youngest artist to be inducted into the Grand Ole Opry. Suffice it to say that Simpsonville is excited to be a stop on the tour.

The City of Simpsonville rebranded the event to focus attention on the purpose of celebrating Independence Day. Taking advantage of the City's versatile tagline was the obvious direction to go. Mayor Paul Shewmaker said the event name needs to tell people who have not heard of the event why the event is

being held in the first place.

"Celebrate Simpsonville has been an event beloved by the Simpsonville community and beyond, and the name change reflects the continued importance of recognizing the founding of America and appreciating its ideals we continue to strive towards," Mayor Shewmaker said. "The point of the event is to celebrate being simply free. The tagline also works because the event itself is free and open to the public!"

Parking is limited

Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

Show starts at 6 p.m.

Tickets are not required

Prohibited: outside food and beverages, firearms, tents

Permitted: chairs, diaper bags

Food, beer, wine and liquor will be available for purchase

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