

In Partnership with the US Forest Service & the San Juan National Forest

Chimney Rock Press Release

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Life at Chimney Rock Festival Returns June 6–7, 2026

Pagosa Springs, CO – The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is pleased to announce the return of the annual **Life at Chimney Rock Festival**, taking place **Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7, 2026**, from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** each day at Chimney Rock National Monument.

Thanks to a special waiver from the U.S. Forest Service, this year's festival will once again be **fee-free**, offering visitors the opportunity to experience this vibrant cultural event without paying an entrance fee.

The Life at Chimney Rock Festival provides a unique, hands-on experience for families and history enthusiasts alike. Visitors can explore the traditions and daily life of the Ancestral Puebloans through interactive demonstrations led by CRIA volunteers. Activities include yucca pounding, coil pottery, rock art creation, weaving, corn grinding, and atlatl spear throwing. Educational demonstrations in astronomy, flint knapping, and dendrochronology will also be featured, along with opportunities to sample traditional foods such as Anasazi beans.

Festival goers can enjoy a variety of food offerings from on-site vendors, including barbecued pork, fry bread, and Frito pie.

A highlight of the weekend is the **Native American Market**, showcasing artwork from talented artists representing the Pueblos of Acoma, Laguna, Santo Domingo, and Santa Clara, as well as the Navajo, Jicarilla Apache, and Southern Ute Nations. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase authentic handmade goods—including pottery, jewelry, paintings, and wood carvings—and engage directly with artists as they demonstrate their craft.

Of special interest are the cultural dance performances that will take place throughout the weekend in the amphitheater. The **Roach Family Dancers of Gallup, New Mexico**, will perform at **11:00 AM** on both days, followed by the **Fragua Family of the Jemez Pueblo** at **2:00 PM** on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition to festival activities, visitors will have free access to all regular Monument amenities, including self-guided tours of cultural sites, the nature trail, and the Visitor Plaza. The Monument will be open from **9:00 AM to 4:30 PM** both days.

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association invites the public to join in celebrating the living history of the Ancestral Puebloans at this engaging and educational event.

Event Details

Dates: June 6–7, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Chimney Rock National Monument, Chimney Rock, CO

Admission: Free (No entrance fee)

For more information on tours, programs, and event schedules, or to plan your visit, please go to www.ChimneyRockCo.org. Reservations are required for many of the tours.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) and the San Juan National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, are working in partnership to preserve and develop educational opportunities about the significant archaeological, cultural, geological and biological resources at Chimney Rock National Monument. CRIA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer association and receives no funding from the US Government. For more information, see the CRIA website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call (970) 731-7133.

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