



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT RELEASE: Jan, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chocolate Fantasia Make Silver City, the *Top Sweet* Spot to visit on February 11.

SILVER CITY, NM – One of the best times to visit Silver City in southwestern New Mexico is around Valentine's Day, especially during the Mimbres Region Arts Council's annual *Chocolate Fantasia* gala. This year's gala starts at 12 p.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2012 in Silver City and will last until 4:00 p.m. Chocolate Stop maps and empty Valentine boxes (\$2.00 each for collecting your chocolates) will be available at *Chocolate Fantasia Headquarter* at the Silco Theater on Bullard Street. The gourmet chocolates are created locally. During the day the chocolates are judged and awards given out at 4:30 p.m. Isaac's Restaurant. All are welcome. See if your favorite chocolate wins.

Silver City residents and visitors from across the country can stroll the Town's historic streets and visit 30 participating "Chocolate Stops" inside various galleries and shops – many decorated for the occasion. A \$20 Sampling Ticket allows you to choose a free gourmet chocolate from 20 of the 30 Chocolate Stops. A delicious way to spend a day! And, this year, we've added some fun, family twists including live music, Valentine Roller Derby girls giving out *kisses*, and our very own Willy Wonka characters greeting visitors. Buck Burns of Manzanita Ridge will be our fabulous Willy Wonka this year and actors from The Virus Theater will be acting as his official Oompa Loompas and selling Chocolate Bars with a chance to win Golden Tickets. Dandelion Wish is sponsoring an "Oompa Loompa Costume Contest for All Ages" – Registration will be from 11-12 pm at the Dandelion Wishes on 109 N Bullard and judging will take place Prizes will be awarded for best costume! Visit the "Chocolate Factory" at the Lion's Den where Little Oompa Loompas (ages 1 to 11) are welcome for Candy Making and Face Painting from 12-3 pm.

A sweet way to spend the day - bring the family downtown for a full day of fun. Enjoy the morning at Silver City Library's "Love Your Library" event and spend the afternoon at *Chocolate Fantasia*.

For more information, tickets, or to volunteer to serve chocolate at the event, call MRAC at 575-538-2505, or visit www.mimbresarts.org. For information on Silver City visit www.silvercityacd.org

About the Mimbres Region Arts Council

The Mimbres Region Arts Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to using the power of the arts to inspire, enrich and strengthen local communities in southwestern New Mexico. MRAC is consistently ranked as one of the top-rated arts councils in New Mexico.

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