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county, ny

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2026

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Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Chittenango This Weekend

Oz-Stravaganza® Returns June 5–7, 2026 for Its 49th Annual Celebration



CHITTENANGO, N.Y. (June 2, 2026) — Visit Madison County, NY invites Oz fans of all ages to journey to Chittenango this weekend for Oz-Stravaganza®, the world's longest-running Wizard of Oz festival. Now in its 49th year, the beloved event returns to the birthplace of L. Frank Baum — the author who gave the world The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.

- **Dates/Times**
 - **Friday, June 5, 3-8 PM**
 - **Saturday, June 6, 10 AM – 8 PM**
 - **Sunday, June 7, 10 AM – 4 PM**
- **Location: Oz-Stravaganza® Park (Dr. West Memorial Park, 406 NY-5, Chittenango) and All Things Oz Museum, 219 Genesee St., Chittenango**

The festival celebrates Baum's legacy across books, film, and stage with the theme Behind The Curtain: A Journey Through Oz. Attendees can look forward to special

guests from Broadway and Hollywood, live music, costume contests, a grand Oz-themed parade, carnival rides, games, festival food, and fireworks. Admission is free.

What's New in 2026

This year's festival features an especially exciting guest lineup headlined by Marissa Bode, who portrayed Nessarose in Universal's blockbuster film Wicked. Bode joins returning fan favorites John Fricke — the two-time Emmy Award-winning Oz historian and longtime festival emcee — and Dr. Gita Dorothy Morena, the great-granddaughter of L. Frank Baum himself. Also new this year is filmmaker Hugh Gross, writer and director of After the Wizard, a feature-length family film based on Baum's Oz characters currently streaming on Peacock.

Friday and Saturday evenings will each feature a free evening program hosted by Fricke, with guests discussing their connections to the Oz universe. The Saturday parade steps off at 2 p.m. from Sullivan Free Library, and costumed participants are welcome to join.

More than 20,000 visitors are expected to walk Chittenango's iconic yellow brick sidewalks along Genesee Street, browse authors, artists, and vendors, and explore the All Things Oz Museum's rotating display drawn from its over 16,000-item collection.

“Oz-Stravaganza is one of those truly magical events that puts Madison County on the map for visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Kaytlynn Lynch, Visit Madison County's executive director. “This is a weekend the whole family will remember.”

Oz-Stravaganza® is a family-friendly, smoke-free, alcohol-free festival. Visitors are encouraged to pair the weekend with a stay in Madison County and explore the region's many attractions.

For full event details and schedule, visit www.oz-stravaganza.com.

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About Madison County Tourism

Visit Madison County, NY is the official Tourism Promotion Agency (TPA) of Madison County, New York, promoting the region's natural beauty, rich heritage, and diverse attractions for over 30 years. As a designated New York State TPA, the organization promotes more than 300 attractions across the county. According to Tourism Economics, tourism generated \$146.4 million in direct visitor spending in Madison County in 2024.

Nestled in the heart of Central New York, Madison County is where adventure seekers, history buffs, antique lovers, foodies, and couples searching for the perfect wedding destination all find their place. Home to Chittenango Falls, the International Boxing Hall of Fame, the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, Oz-Stravaganza®, and the legendary Madison-Bouckville Antique Week, Madison County delivers authentic experiences and small-town charm that keep visitors coming back. Plan your visit at www.visitmadisonny.com.