

Friendship International



APRIL 26, 2024

HISTORY OF THE DERBY HAT

The tradition of women wearing fancy hats to the Kentucky Derby goes all the way back to its start. The race was modeled after British horseracing events where there was a strict dress code, including hats. The hats were not only a display of fashion and creativity, but also a way for women to show their wealth and status.

When the Kentucky Derby began to be televised in the 1950s, the tradition of women's hats at the event really took hold. Women attending the Derby were put on display, like a national fashion show, while women from all over the country could watch the Derby on their TVs to see what everyone was wearing.

Today, wearing a hat to the Kentucky Derby has become a cherished tradition and a symbol of Southern culture. Hats may feature extravagant decorations such as feathers, flowers, ribbons, and bows. Women may choose to wear traditional styles, while others opt for some new creative styles. Some hats are small and dainty, while others are so large they threaten to block someone's view of the race, haha! You'll also see fascinators, which are headpieces that are attached to a woman's hair with clips or a band.

In today's culture where it's not common to see women in fancy hats, the Derby hat remains a symbol of elegance, femininity, and Southern tradition.

The 150th Kentucky Derby is Saturday, May 4th and will air live on NBC and stream on Peacock.

Join us at Friendship on Friday May 3rd where our program will teach us even more about horse culture in Kentucky and about this famous and historic event. **We encourage everyone to wear a Derby hat for fun that morning!**



UPCOMING DATES

April 26	International Food Fair (No Classes)
May 3	Horse Country and the Derby
May 10	Classes Show and Tell (last day of program and classes)
May 17	End of the year Picnic
May 29	Last Day of School for Fayette County

EASTER PROGRAM

Last month we got to hear from Karen Wright as we heard the true Easter story from the Bible and about the peace that comes from Jesus Christ!

We were blessed to have the transcript of this presentation translated into several different languages. If you missed it, wanted to refer back to it or you wanted to share it with someone, you can find those files on our website.

[Click here to access those Easter PDFs.](#)



Kentucky Children's Garden



Tucked away in the Kentucky Arboretum near the University of Kentucky, the Children's Garden is designed for children ages 2-8 to interact and study nature at its finest!

The area includes a place to explore gardening and growing plants and vegetables, a creek to explore, a miniature train track to watch, and beautiful areas to read and relax. Be sure to have your children wear appropriate clothing for water activities if you plan for them to play in the creek.

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM

Cost: \$4 per person (children not yet 2 years old are free)

Seasonal memberships available

[Click here for more information, including closed holidays and upcoming summer hours.](#)



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