



MEDIA ADVISORY

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150th Anniversary of Driving of the Golden Spike at Promontory Summit Happens on May 10

*People From Around The World To Reflect On
And Celebrate This Iconic Milestone In History*

WHAT: On Friday, May 10, 2019, people from all over the world will converge for Spike 150's Golden Spike Sesquicentennial Celebration Ceremony and Festival. This memorable celebration commemorates the 150th anniversary of the driving of the last spike that joined the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads to form the Transcontinental Railroad — one of the most iconic and destiny-shaping events in America's history.

The celebration begins with the Golden Spike 150th Anniversary Ceremony that tells the **whole story** of the building of the first Transcontinental Railroad and recognizes the thousands of workers whose efforts made the railroad a reality. The ceremony includes a wide-ranging lineup of programming to capture this milestone, including historian and Pulitzer Prize-winner Jon Meacham, the premier performance of *As One*, a new musical inspired by the Golden Spike era written and directed by an all-star team of writers and composers, a Chinese Lion Dance, Chinese American historian and author Connie Young Yu, a bison sculpture unveiling, wreath laying to recognize the railroad workers, Golden Spike National Historical Park sign unveiling, remarks by Union Pacific President and CEO Lance Fritz and much more.

The celebration continues after the ceremony and throughout the weekend in the festival area featuring:

- "Hell-on-Wheels" itinerant town with a gambling hall, blacksmith, story teller, and saloon
- Historical and educational exhibits
- Native American Shoshone camp
- Mountain man camp
- Innovations Summit with interactive stations from STEM and Hill Air Force Base, and a presentation by NASA astronaut Scott Tingle
- Steam train show and historical reenactments



WHERE: Spike 150's Golden Spike Sesquicentennial Celebration Ceremony and Festival is being held at the site where the railroads came together, and the famous Golden Spike was driven. It is located at 6200 North 22300 West, Promontory Summit, Utah. Advanced parking tickets for all attendees are required. Parking tickets for May 10 – 11 are sold out; tickets are still available for May 12. Tickets may be purchased at spike150.org.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Press credentials are required; please apply using the following link: <https://spike150.org/media-credential-request/>.

WHEN: The celebration on May 10, 2019, begins with the meeting of the Jupiter and #119 steam locomotives at 8:15 a.m., followed by the unveiling of a bison sculpture, Distant Thunder, at 10:15 a.m., a reenactment of the famous champagne toast photo with the Spike 150 Commission and other dignitaries at 10:35 a.m., and the formal ceremony from 10:50 a.m. to 1 p.m. The festival area is open until 7 p.m.

The celebration continues all weekend, May 10 – 12, with fun events and activities for people of all ages.

A schedule of events can be found at spike150.org/events/#schedule.

WHO: Spike 150 is hosting this weekend-long celebration. Visitors from across the state and the globe will be in attendance. Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert will be joined by a wide-ranging lineup of dignitaries to kick-off the celebration, including U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, Ambassador of Ireland to the U.S. Tony Mulhall, members of the Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association, along with many other dignitaries.

WHY: This 150th anniversary celebration commemorates the vision, hard-work and collaboration that united a nation through the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. Spike 150 hopes this event encourages people to reflect on the impact this historic feat had on our state and inspires future innovators to explore the next transformational, unifying discovery.

OTHER: The Golden Spike National Historical Park will open to the public on May 10 at 8 a.m.; the parking lot opens at 7:15 a.m.

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