



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Community School's Annual Strawberry Festival Returns to its Downtown Location in Elmwood Park

## *Volunteers to Serve up Over 2000 pounds of Freshly Sliced Strawberries*

Roanoke, VA – April 25, 2022 – Community School's Annual Strawberry Festival presented by Food Lion returns to its traditional format in Elmwood Park on May 6 and 7. Celebrating its 42<sup>nd</sup> year as a beloved Roanoke event, the festival will serve up thousands of homemade strawberry desserts including its signature Strawberry Shortcake.

Founded as a fundraiser by Community School parents over four decades ago, the Strawberry Festival is one of Roanoke's most iconic springtime happenings. It draws nearly 20,000 festival goers each year from across the Blue Ridge and beyond. While 2021 brought a reimagined drive-through festival that accommodated pandemic precautions, festival organizers are looking forward to returning to downtown Roanoke where patrons can enjoy a family friendly, community-based event signaling the kick-off to festival season. Mouth-watering strawberry shortcakes, strawberry sundaes, strawberries and cream desserts and decadent chocolate dipped strawberries are all homemade with real ingredients by festival volunteers. On Friday, Shortcake-to-Go Kits that serve 10 people are available by pre-order and can be picked up or delivered to businesses and schools within a 10-mile radius of Elmwood Park.

"Our teams of volunteer parents, alumni and friends of the school are excited to help make our return to Elmwood Park a wonderful experience for our community" said Linda Roth, executive director, Community School. "I'm looking forward to seeing people come together to enjoy their sweet desserts, and we are always so grateful for the ways that Community School is able to benefit from our festival."

Always the first weekend in May, Community School's Strawberry Festival takes place on Friday, May 6 from 11 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Elmwood Park, Roanoke. For more information or to purchase desserts or Shortcake-to-Go Kits in advance, visit [StrawberryFestivalRoanoke.org](http://StrawberryFestivalRoanoke.org).

### **About Community School's Strawberry Festival**

Community School's Strawberry Festival was founded in 1980 as a fundraiser for the school. More than 2400 volunteer hours go into this annual event which draws approximately 20,000 people from Virginia's Blue Ridge and beyond. Proceeds go toward school operating costs, financial aid and supplemental outside learning opportunities for students and faculty. For more information on Community School, please visit [CommunitySchool.net](http://CommunitySchool.net).

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