



*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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## **Top-Rated Charleston Farmers Market Opens in Early April**

**CHARLESTON, S.C.**—The nationally acclaimed Charleston Farmers Market opens Saturday, April 11 at 8 a.m., in Marion Square, to offer Charleston residents and visitors fresh locally grown produce and locally processed food products as well as distinctive hand wrought arts and crafts and will continue every Saturday until Dec. 19.

At 10:30 a.m., Ellen Dressler Moryl, Director City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, Yvonne Evans, longtime member of the CFM advisory committee and City Council Member, and Robert Michell, City Council member and Mayor Pro Tem, will unveil the 2009 poster image, *Watermelon Sky* by Lisa Shimko. After the poster unveiling, the *South Carolina Broadcasters*, a local bluegrass band, will offer entertainment for the entire family until 1:30 p.m.

Also in the Market this year, many farmers will continue to accept EBT, Electronic Bank Transfer and WIC, Women, Infants and Children, government-issued vouchers that offer assistance to low-income families.

“The weekly Charleston Farmers Market has become an integral part of our thriving community, and we are looking forward to another highly successful season. The wide variety of wonderful items to purchase such as local produce, flowers, crafts and delicious food make it everyone’s favorite Saturday morning destination,” says Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr.

Ranked in 2008 by Travel and Leisure magazine as one of the top 10 best Farmers Markets in the nation, the 2009 Market offers an expanded variety of food concessions that will tempt appetites from early morning crepes, omelets and donuts to luncheon shrimp and oyster Po-boys, barbecue sandwiches and vegetarian offerings; along with desserts, including Belgian waffles and pies, smoothies and refreshing hand-squeezed lemonade, plus specialized coffees and teas.

Founded by Mayor Joe Riley in 1989, the Charleston Farmers Market is produced by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs. In 2008, the Market was ranked by Travel and Leisure magazine as one of the top 10 best Farmers Markets in the nation. Located in Marion Square, in the heart of historic downtown Charleston, S.C., the Farmers Market is open each Saturday, from April to Dec., 19, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Farmers Market is dedicated to the support and advocacy of Lowcountry farmers and growers and offers a variety of local produce, plants, herbs and cut flowers as well as breakfast and lunch vendors, live entertainment and an assortment of juried

arts and crafts from local artisans. The Charleston Farmers Market attracts citizens and visitors alike. It is the community connection every Saturday morning from April through December, bringing together people from all parts of the Lowcountry and beyond. For more information, please call (843) 724-7309 or e-mail [FarmersMarket@ci.charleston.sc.us](mailto:FarmersMarket@ci.charleston.sc.us).

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Editor's Note: High res images available upon request

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