

Past or continuing special events hosted by the Muscatine Area Farmers Market:

Trick-or-treat at the market- vendors hand out candy, kids wear costumes, petting zoo

Kids day at market with petting zoo, puppet show, arts and crafts, face painting

Free weekly tai chi classes at market (sponsored by grant from Community Foundation)

Weekly live music

Free bike helmets and bicycle safety checks for kids (sponsored by grant from Community Foundation)

Burger cookoff- sponsored by local radio station

Weekly story time for kids- partnership with local library

Adult scavenger hunt with market bucks as prizes

Kids' scavenger hunt with toy prizes

Muscatine County Fair parade- market participated and passed out sweet corn

Crafting with our crew event- vendors showcase their talents, provide seating and craft materials for customers to learn a new skill from our vendors.

National Farmers Market Week celebration- Produce giveaways, temporary tattoos for kids, market bucks giveaways via Facebook page

25<sup>th</sup> season celebration- For our market's anniversary, we threw a party with petting zoo, live music, free refreshments, t-shirt giveaways

Weekly cooking demonstrations and samples through ISU Extension office

Christmas market held annually in December

Mother's Day market- plant and cookie giveaway for moms, drawings for gift baskets

Pack the Bus school supply drive. Partnership with United Way

Pearl City Picnic (BBQ competition- partnership with Senior Resources)

My best piece of advice is to partner with the community. Often, organizations have an idea for a great event but they don't have the space to host it. Make it known in your community that you are a place to host events! It's free to the market and it equals greater foot traffic for both parties.