



NEWS RELEASE



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Idlewild & SoakZone “Three-peats” as World’s Best Park for Children

Awarded Golden Ticket by Amusement Today

LIGONIER, PA – September 8, 2012 – Today, at a ceremony held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, Amusement Today Magazine (<http://www.amusementtoday.com>) awarded a prestigious Golden Ticket Award to Pennsylvania’s Idlewild & SoakZone (<http://www.idlewild.com>) naming it Best Children’s Park in the world! This is the third consecutive year in which the park has received the top honor.

“The Golden Tickets are awarded based on a poll of experienced and well-traveled amusement park fans worldwide,” explained Gary Slade, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Amusement Today. “Since the best children’s park category was first offered in 2004, Idlewild & SoakZone has always placed in the top two positions – and with good reason. It offers such unique kid and family-friendly entertainment in a beautiful park setting.”

“This honor means a lot to the dedicated members of our team, who work very hard to provide a fun, family-friendly experience every season,” said Park spokesperson Jeff Croushore. “Our park is unique in what it offers to families with young children. Story Book Forest, Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood of Make-Believe, Jumpin’ Jungle, and Raccoon Lagoon Kiddieland are attractions that you would be hard pressed to find in other amusement parks. Those attractions combined with our family-friendly ride and water park mix, provide a unique experience for kids of all ages!” He continued, “To be recognized as one of the best is fantastic news for our guests and the Laurel Highlands region, who have supported us for 135 years and to whom we are eternally grateful.”

For more information about the 2012 survey results, visit: <http://www.goldenticketawards.com/>

ABOUT AMUSEMENT TODAY’S GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS - *Amusement Today* is an amusement industry trade publication based in Arlington, Texas. Introduced in 1998, the Golden Tickets are the most prized awards in the industry. Amusement park fans worldwide are asked to rate the top parks in 25 categories. The 2012 international poll was the ninth for children appeal in its 15-year history. For more information, call 817.460.7220 or visit <http://www.amusementtoday.com>.

ABOUT IDLEWILD & SOAKZONE. Founded in 1878 as a simple picnic ground along the Ligonier Valley Rail Road, Idlewild & SoakZone is the oldest amusement park in Pennsylvania, third-oldest in America and is rated the best kid’s park in the world by *Amusement Today* magazine (<http://www.amusementtoday.com>) and one of the top five family amusement parks in the world by the National Amusement Park Historical Association (<http://www.napha.org/>). Idlewild features seven fun theme areas such as SoakZone Waterpark, Story Book Forest and Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood of Make-Believe. Seasonal operations run through September 16, and “Hallowboo,” a Halloween-themed event, takes place in October. Idlewild is part of the Palace Entertainment (<http://www.palaceentertainment.com>) family of parks. Palace Entertainment owns and operates over 40 theme parks, water parks and family entertainment centers nationwide, including Kennywood and Sandcastle. Palace entertains millions of guests annually and is one of the largest park operators in the nation. For more information, call 724.238.3666 or visit <http://www.idlewild.com> and <http://www.palaceentertainment.com>.