

The Venice Afterburn 2023 took place on September 30 and October 1st, 2023. The event was very successful and with no known negative incidents.

It was free entrance and family friendly. Moving the dates earlier, compared to the previous couple years (end of September instead of end of October) seems to have been received positively by participants, since the weather was a lot nicer.

Population was about 1600 people per day, and as always we saw many burners blend in with the locals and burner-curious.

We placed an 'info booth' near the event entrance, with volunteers that took turns in explaining the non burners what the event is, as well as the 10 principles, with the goal of spreading the burner culture and the 10 principles beyond just Black Rock City and ticketed Regional burns.

Black Rock Rangers volunteered their time, as well as a harm reduction booth. There were 3 main music stages, with one of them focused on semi-acoustic live music, which was very well received.

We had a beer garden again, for the second year, and the profits made it possible to produce the event and have some left over to start producing the 2024 Venice Afterburn.

We focused on improving security and production infrastructure, and increased the amount of portable restrooms.

We noticed that the area closer to the entrance had a large attendance of parents with children, and most people welcomed that, with only a few people left unhappy. This made us consider to have a designated family friendly area, and make the artist aware of their placement before hand, according to whether their art is 'kid-proof' or not.

One of the highlight os 2023 was the giant inflatable pink Tiger, #Vagr, by artist Misha Liberte. We also moved the fire circle to a different spot, by request of the fire spinners, who were very happy with the new location.

The challenges with the rain on the playa, unfortunately, caused a slight decrease in theme camp and art participation as many art pieces and theme camp infrastructure was damaged and not ready for a Regional event.

The grant awarded by California Arts Council helped enormously with the event logistics and art grants.

Overall, we were very happy with the 2023 outcome.