Unravel gem show confusion at Star discussion

The Star will hold a panel discussion on Jan. 31 that will cover the best ways to navigate Tucson’s long list of gem show events through Feb. 13.

Four experts on the multishow event will share tips, ideas and insights:

- Donovan Durband, administrator, Park Tucson Department of Transportation, city of Tucson
- Mark Markos, president, Tucson Gem & Mineral Society
- Jane Roxbury, director of Convention Services, Visit Tucson
- Andrew Squire, economic development specialist, city of Tucson

Some of the topics to be discussed include:

- What the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show is and why it is the centerpiece show.
- How to pick which shows to attend and when is the best time to attend them.
- What to look for — and what to avoid.
- How to know if you’re getting a good deal (or not).
- How to get around among the shows.
- There will be time for questions, too.

The Star’s goal is that readers will walk away with solid ideas about how they can navigate, participate in and enjoy the shows.

See SONG FEST, E5
Arizona Daily Star  /  Sunday, January 15, 2017

**SONG FEST**

**Continued from Page E2**

"When you start a program like this, the hard part is building up an audience," the orchestra's music director said a year before its first festival, in January 2015. "We're already starting to see a great movement of people wanting to be a part of this festival."

Indeed, in its five years since, Tucson Desert Song Festival has brought in two master classes for mainstage and 13 for the festival's opening night.

"This is going to put Tucson up there with other festivals. We spent a lot of time finding the right artists, the right ideas, the right concepts trying to make this festival world-class," said UA Presents Artistic Director Tony Arnold, who has served as festival's music director since 2013.

For the 2018 festival, "we're going to put on events for the 2018 festival and Arizona Theatre Company to do a new production of 'Elijah,'" said Forsythe, who steps down as festival's conductor at the end of this year. "They are in talks with the Jewish Music Society and Arizona Early Music Society and Arizona Theatre Company to do a new production of 'Elijah,'" he said. "We have a pretty remarkable, this enterpris..."

"It's just a neat and unique cultural event we have in Tucson. It's something that enhances and elevates the arts throughout the community, and outside of our own organizations you can benefit people beyond," he said. "... we have been seeing a lot of growth and interest in this festival."