

ABINGDON, VIRGINIA

JULY 26 - AUGUST 4, 2024

THE HIGHLANDER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

75 VIRGINIA
HIGHLANDS
FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA



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On the Cover

Art was an important part of the Virginia Highlands Festival from its beginnings. Two of the founders of the festival were Ruby Ball and Dixie Lee Wingold who for many years ran a summer Artists' Cabin in Abingdon, where art classes were taught, and artwork was displayed and sold. The earliest display of work by local artists was at the Clothesline Art Show, where art was pinned on clotheslines, and the show culminated on the last day of the festival at an art auction.

The cover photograph captures people looking at the artwork just before the auction is to begin. The auction was across the street from the Artists' Cabin. The house in the background is the David Gillock Rose House, which stood on East Main Street (where Mr. Siegner's Men's Shop is currently). It was the first "duplex" house in Abingdon.



THE HIGHLANDER



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Welcome from the President



Here we are—together again.

This year the Virginia Highlands Festival celebrates its 75th anniversary. A milestone of this magnitude can only be reached through the generous contributions that volunteers, sponsors, partners, and audiences have made through the decades. This letter is to all of those who have supported the festival as an embodiment of creativity, community, and cultural enrichment.

For three-quarters of a century, the Virginia Highlands Festival has been a beacon of artistic expression, showcasing the talents of local artisans, musicians, authors, and chefs. From its humble beginnings to its current status as a premier cultural event, the festival has evolved with the times while staying true to its core values. It serves as a source of pride for our community, showcasing the best of what we have to offer to the world.

At this momentous occasion, we would like to encourage you to visit the William King Museum of Art's exhibit of the festival's history. There, you will be able to revisit some highlights of Festivals past. However, let us not only reflect on the past but also look ahead with anticipation and excitement for the future. We are happy to announce that our Juried Arts and Crafts show will be back on the Martha Washington lawn for the first time in over a decade. Of course, there is far more our Festival has to offer over its ten-day run. Just look inside this magazine to learn more.

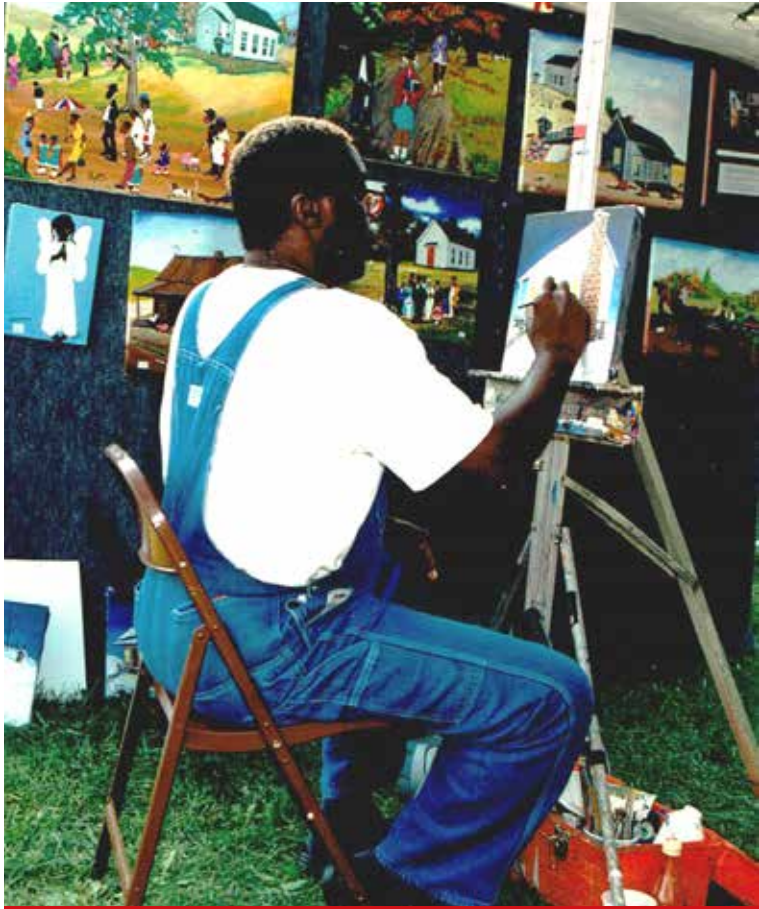
On behalf of all who have been touched by the magic of the Virginia Highlands Festival, I extend my deepest gratitude to you, the dedicated volunteers, sponsors, participants, and supporters who have made this celebration possible. Your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment have enriched our lives and strengthened our community in countless ways.

Here's to 75 years of creativity, community, and camaraderie, and to many more years of continued success and prosperity. May the spirit of the Virginia Highlands Festival continue to shine brightly for generations to come.

Ryan Henderson

A handwritten signature of Ryan Henderson in black ink.





The Virginia Highlands Festival: Celebrating 75 Years of Appalachia

June 27, 2024 - January 5, 2025

This exhibition is part of WKMA's McGlothlin Exhibition Series.



Culinary Arts & Tours

Meet the Culinary Artists at a tour of Nicewonder Farm's Gardens and Greenhouse **Wednesday, July 24 6-8pm • \$50**

Talk with chefs, farmers and growers, taste local fare, and tour beautiful gardens when Culinary Arts & Traditions presents a preview event to the popular Appalachian Supper.

"Talk. Taste. Tour." is a great way for visitors to meet and talk with the culinary artists who are putting together the next day's supper that will spotlight the people and produce of the Appalachian region.

North Carolina husband and wife team Jamie Swofford, a chef turned farmer, and Keia Mastrianni, owner and baker of Milk Glass Pie, will join Damascus herbalist Lori Briscoe to conduct a tour of the tasting room, garden, and greenhouse at Nicewonder Farm & Vineyards the day before the Appalachian Supper.

"Visitors will have the opportunity to walk the gardens and also meet the people who raise the food," said Briscoe, who is facilitating the event.

Swofford, Mastrianni, Briscoe and others will be on hand to answer questions--and visitors can sample local fare. "Seeing food growing and then getting to taste those foods gives you a new point of reference with what something should taste like," said Swofford. "These are the simple things we're fortunate enough to see daily, living on a farm. We just want to share that with everyone."

Swofford worked as a chef for twenty years before becoming a farmer, incorporating the Appalachian food traditions he experienced as a child. As owner and operator of Old North Farm in Cleveland County, North Carolina, Swofford grows nutrient-dense seasonal vegetables without the use of chemicals, synthetic fertilizers, or large equipment. He supplies area chefs, brewer-

ies, and cocktail craftsmen around his North Carolina home.

Mastrianni is also a writer and cookbook author. Her writing has appeared in many publications, including Bon Appetit, Gravy, Eater, and Bake from Scratch. She is the co-author of "Bruce Moffett Cooks," a cookbook written in 2019 with Chef Bruce Moffett of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Briscoe, owner of Appalachian Teas and Botanicals, grows and gathers herbs for tea blends and other botanical products with a focus on wellness. She is passionate about making connections between plants, people, and place. An herbalist, writer, and educator, Briscoe helps people experience what she calls the Magic & Medicine of Place. She is passionate about educating people about the value of the area's biological diversity and rich cultural heritage.

"Talk. Taste. Tour" takes the place of the annual Table Talk, a panel discussion format previously held with visiting celebrity chefs at the Virginia Highlands Festival. "Instead of listening to us talk, visitors will get a much more interactive experience," said Briscoe.

Visit www.vahighlandsfestival.com to register for "Talk. Taste. Tour." Limited to 50. ✨



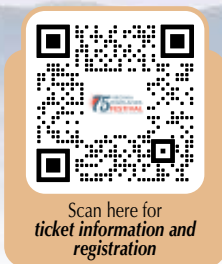
Hickory



Nicewonder Farm



Swofford and Mastrianni



Appalachian Supper, elevated local fare at Hickory

Thursday, July 25 6pm

Hickory at Nicewonder Farm & Vineyards

A presentation of regional food will take center stage when the Culinary Arts & Traditions celebrates traditional Appalachian cuisine and the regional chefs who are committed to keeping it alive. An Appalachian Supper will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, at Hickory, the signature restaurant for Nicewonder Farm & Vineyards in Bristol, Virginia.

Travis Milton, head chef at Hickory, compares this year's Appalachian Supper to a homecoming, of sorts, bringing together new ideas from old friends who share the same passion for preserving the region's rich heritage and culture.

This year's four-course meal will be prepared by Milton, along with Jamie Swofford and Keia Mastrianni, a husband and wife team who own and operate Old North Farm in Shelby, North Carolina. The couple is known for their memorable farm-to-table suppers.

Mastrianni is the owner and baker of Milk Glass Pie, the bakery she runs from their North Carolina farm. She shares her husband's passion for cooking with regional foods and supporting the local farmers who help sustain the farm-to-table movement. Before she stepped into baking, Mastrianni wrote about food all over the South. "We've known Travis for many years and over the years we have supported each other as we've grown in our professional roles," said Mastrianni.

Milton recently was named a James Beard semifinalist for the Best Chef Mid-Atlantic category, competing against culinary professionals in the Mid-Atlantic category. The Bristol, Virginia chef has received numerous culinary awards throughout the years, but this is the first time he's earned a nomination for a James Beard award. He was the only chef nominated from Virginia.

Milton's culinary journey began as a child cooking alongside his great-grandmother, who taught him many of the traditional Appalachian ways of cooking. After working in restaurants for decades, Milton is now seen as an authority on the farm-to-table style of dining, celebrating heritage crops grown by local Appalachian farmers.

Swofford believes he had the same grandmother experiences as Travis when he was a child. "The dinner table was the place where everything happened," said Swofford. "We want to bring that same enthusiasm and joy with us to Hickory for the Appalachian Supper." Swofford grows high-quality produce on Old



Travis Milton

North Farm. Before he became a farmer, he spent nearly two decades in kitchens throughout the Southeast and abroad, giving him a unique perspective on how food should be grown. He utilizes no-spray farming practices that allow him to grow produce the old-fashioned way with the labor of his hands and without harsh chemicals.

The husband and wife team will bring produce from their own farm to the Appalachian Supper menu. "We'll have a full gamut of produce available in July, such as okra, fresh corn, and staples like tomatoes," said Swofford. The chef uses locally harvested ramps to make pickles—a delicacy that also will find its way to the Abingdon event.

"Our greens and culinary herbs will offer well-rounded flavors, too," he said. Honey made from their own bee hives and sorghum harvested from the North Carolina area also will have a place at the table, as well as his handcrafted shrub made from ingredients found in North Carolina. An award-winning drink, the Old North Shrub is a drinking vinegar flavored with fruits and herbs grown locally around his home.

Mastrianni founded her bakery on old-fashioned pies. "But, because we're so rooted on the farm, we focus on making seasonal fruit pies," she said. "Come July, we'll have a nice crop of peaches."

Visit www.vahighlandsfestival.com for reservations to the Appalachian Supper. Tickets \$200. All ticket holders will receive an exclusive gift bag. ✨

Culinary Arts & Tours

Food.Flowers.Fiber – Curated Farm Tours

Get back to nature by participating in the curated tour of four local farms—Full Bloom Farm House, Stormbrew Farm, Blue Door Garden, and Dreamland Alpacas—three of which are owned and operated by local women. This tour will showcase the diversity of farms in Southwest Virginia, giving visitors a chance to experience how food, flowers, and animals are raised on the farms.

Elizabeth Gardner, who owns Full Bloom Farm House, will lead the farm tour and accompany guests to the farms, all within a 10-mile radius of Abingdon. “It will be such a fun event for the whole family,” said Gardner.

If you like farm animals, fresh flowers and produce, and lots of fresh air, then the “Food.Flowers.Fiber” farms tour is right for you. The tour from 1 to 4pm on Sunday, July 28, is free of charge, requires registration online and participants may purchase produce from the farmers during their visits. ✨



History of the ***Culinary Arts Committee***

The Culinary Art Committee is the youngest of the major committees of the festival, evolving from the Home and Garden Committee of earlier years. In the past, there were many activities focused on women’s interests and skills, from flower-arranging competitions to fashion shows to fabric arts exhibitions. Prominent among the early activities were Kitchen Tours, taking participants by bus to homes to view new or remodeled kitchens.

In the 1990s, a Wine Tasting was held in the ballroom of the Martha Washington Inn complete with monogrammed wine glasses. Because Abingdon has had high-quality restaurants for many years, in the 1990s “Taste of Main Street” became an important festival event to highlight Abingdon’s restaurants. This event was held on Barter Green. Later, the organization Appalachian Sustainable Development partnered with the festival on organic farm tours as well as food and herb foraging hikes. ✨



Home & Garden topiary workshop



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration



Cooking Globally with Susan

Things have really changed since I moved to Abingdon in 1994. Cooking ethnic food, commonplace in England where I am from, was tricky as I could not always get the spices and ingredients that I needed. Now our supermarkets have many of these items routinely. That coupled with our wonderful fresh produce, meats and other items locally grown and produced mean these recipes are accessible to everyone.

Culinary events this year at Virginia Highlands Festival– both in the summer festival and our April events Eat.Drink.Love Virginia Highlands–have focused on the biodiversity, rich traditions and fabulous quality of local food. The best sources for locally produced products are found at the Abingdon Farmers Market which was established in 2001 with the support from Appalachian Sustainable Development. Abingdon’s history is built on the ingenuity and resilience of farmers, growers, brewers and makers.

Barter Theatre enlisted Depression-era farmers to help support local theater and feed starving artists. This tradition of local farmers supplying produce to neighbors and friends continues each Saturday and Tuesday, from April through the holiday and winter seasons. If you have not been to the market, come on down! For more of my favorite ethnic recipes go to www.vahighlands-festival.com using commonly available ingredients and fresh products from local vendors. ✨



Spiced lamb over warm hummus.

Spiced Lamb over Warm Hummus Recipe

1lb ground lamb
Small red onion chopped finely
1 tbsp olive oil
¾ tsp salt
¼ tsp allspice
¼ tsp black pepper
¼ tsp cinnamon
15 oz of tomato, if using canned include juice
1½ tsp harissa spice or 3 tsp harissa paste
Generous squeeze of lemon juice
2 tbsp toasted pine nuts
Chopped parsley
Hummus (10 ounce container) or make your own

Sauté the onion in oil until translucent, crumble lamb into the mix, and brown (a few minutes only), add tomatoes, salt, all-spice, pepper, and cinnamon, and cook until thickened 15-20 minutes. This dish may be cooled, frozen and reheated at this point.

Toast the pine nuts by gently shaking in a small non-stick skillet over medium heat until they begin to brown. (Do not skip this step.)

Just before serving warm lamb mixture add harissa and lemon juice and taste. Then warm hummus in the microwave. (Watch carefully and do not use the original packaging that store-bought hummus comes in.)

Place hummus in a serving bowl. Spoon hot lamb mixture over the top and sprinkle with toasted pine nuts and chopped parsley.

Kitchen Tour



2024 Kitchen Tour

Saturday July 27 Noon-4pm • \$40

On Saturday, July 27, the Virginia Highlands Festival invites you to tour distinctive kitchens in the Abingdon area.

See how your neighbors and friends combine modern living with style and function. One of the featured kitchens is in the home of Jessica and Chris Gotwalt, which is also on the Historic Homes Tour the following Saturday. It maintains the historic flavor of its 1924 construction.

As you tour you will find that designing a kitchen is much more than just choosing materials and appliances. First, it's about understanding how you want your home to serve you, and then it's about determining a layout, working through plumbing and electrical configurations, and much more. Berry Home Centers, our sponsor for this event, has cabinet designers Blair Reuning and Lindsey Walker who will work directly with your contractor and serve as your go-to guide to help you create the kitchen of your dreams.

After registering at www.vahighlandsfestival.com, participants will be emailed maps and brochures. Printed copies may be picked up at Abingdon Commons from 11:30am-12:30pm on July 27 only. ✨



Kitchen Tour

Saturday, July 27, 2024 | 12-4pm

Map and brochure emailed. Printed copies may be picked up at
The Commons 238 W Main St, Abingdon from 11:30am-12:30pm

Tour distinctive kitchens and see how your neighbors and friends combine modern living with style and function. Whether you are looking for inspiration for your own project or just love beautiful design, there is something for everyone.

VISIT VAHIGHLANDSFESTIVAL.COM FOR TICKETS





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Wednesday, July 24 **Nicewonder Tasting Room Parking Lot**
6-8pm Talk.Taste.Tour

Thursday, July 25 **Hickory at Nicewonder Farms & Vineyards**
6pm An Appalachian Supper

Saturday, July 27 **Abingdon Farmers Market**
8-1pm Summer Market
Noon-4pm **Kitchen Tour**

Sunday, July 28 **Abingdon Vineyard**
10-Noon Abingdon Vineyard Tour
Full Bloom Farmhouse
1-4pm Food.Flowers.Fiber Farms Tour

Monday, July 29 **Tumbling Creek Cider Taproom**
5-6pm & 7-9pm Local Hard Cider Tasting

Tuesday, July 30 **Wolf Hills Coffee**
10-11pm & 2-3pm Coffee Tasting
Abingdon Farmers Market
3-6pm Summer Market
Tumbling Creek Cider Taproom
5-6pm & 7-8pm Local Hard Cider Tasting
Blue Door Garden
6-7:30pm Workshop: Brighten your dining experience with fresh flowers
Nature's Edge Farm at SVHEC Room 240
6-8:30pm Microgreens--Grow Your Own

Wednesday, July 31 **Appalachian Heritage Distillery**
4-5.30pm Tour Appalachian Heritage Distillery
Tumbling Creek Cider Taproom
5-6pm & 7-8pm Local Hard Cider Tasting
Pick n Grin Farms at SVHEC Room 240
5-6:30pm Benefits of Mushrooms

Thursday, August 1 **Wolf Hills Coffee**
10-11pm & 2-3pm Coffee Tasting
Nicewonder Farms Tasting Room parking lot
3-5pm Nicewonder Farm & Vineyards Tour
Blue Door Garden
6-7:30pm Workshop: Brighten your dining experience with fresh flowers

Friday, August 2 **Kelly Ridge Farms**
3-5pm Farm Tour: Tumbling Creek Orchards

Saturday, August 3 **Abingdon Farmers Market**
8-1pm Summer Market
Wolf Hills Coffee
10-11am & 2-3pm Coffee Tasting
Sweetbay Brewing Co. & Highlands Native Plants
Noon-3pm Tour Sweetbay Brewing Co



Juried Fine Arts



The 2024 Juried Fine Art Show will combine both adult entries and youth entries for a spectacular exhibition located at the Arts Depot. The exhibition will open to the public at 5:15pm, Friday, July 26. The Awards Ceremony and Juror's Remarks will be given by this year's juror Anna Buchanan at 5:30pm. The show will run through Sunday, August 4, closing at 5pm.

The exhibition of paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolor and other mediums will continue to be at the forefront of the show. Darkroom and digital photography will again be included in the fine art exhibition, competing along with other two-dimensional mediums including paintings, drawings and printmaking. Digital works on paper are also being accepted.

Curator Joe Champagne of the McGlothlin Center for the Arts at Emory & Henry College, chairs this 75th anniversary exhibition. He is a photographic artist and has also taught classes in dark room and digital photography and web design at

the college.

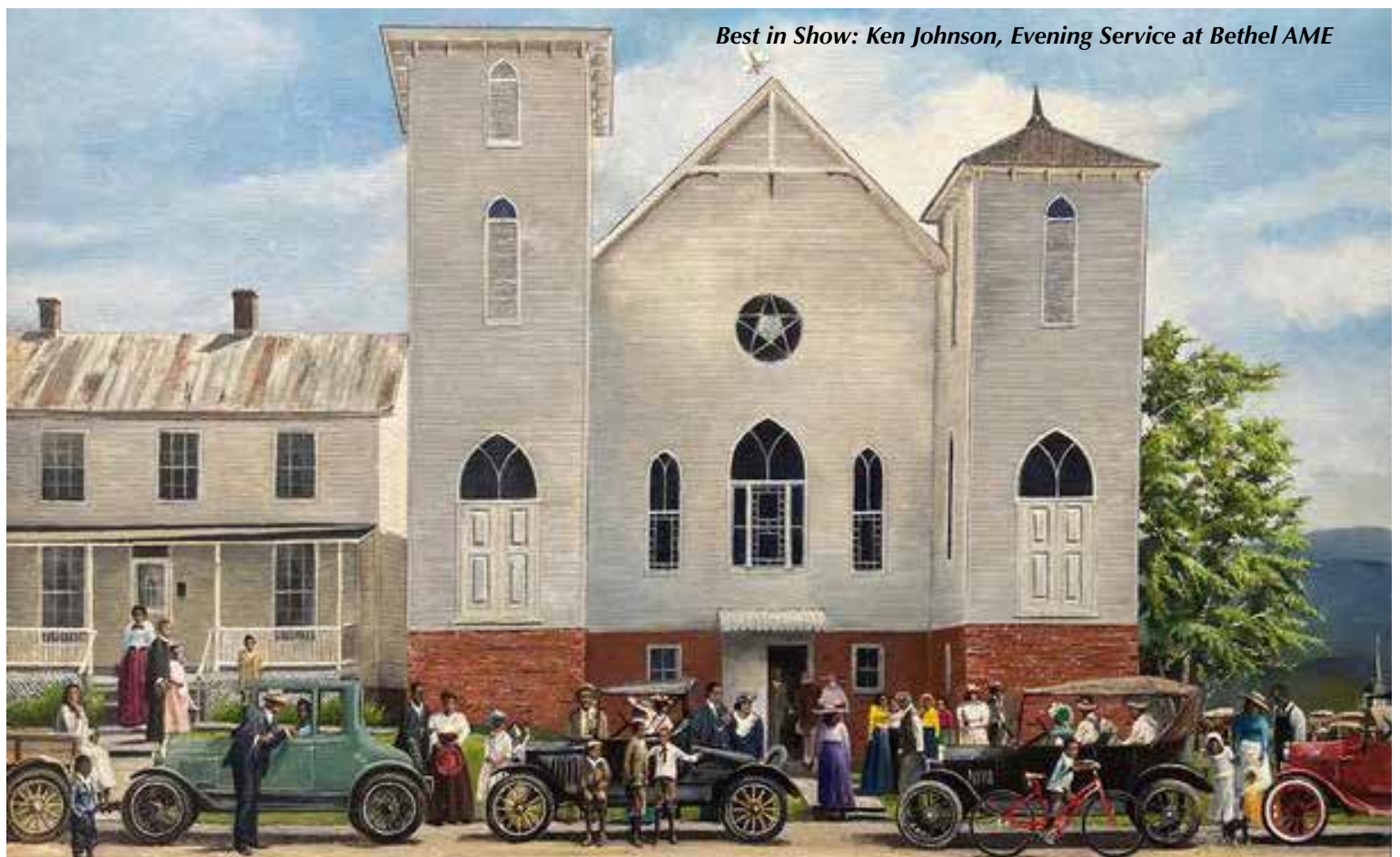
Champagne has selected Curator Anna Buchanan of William King Museum of Arts to serve as juror for the combined exhibition. Buchanan will offer two workshops during the Virginia Highlands Festival.

Awards in the adult category are \$2,000 for Best in Show, \$1,500 for 1st Place, \$1,000 for 2nd Place, \$500 for 3rd Place, \$500 for People's Choice and \$250 for Honorable Mentions. The Youth awards are \$100 for 1st Place, \$75 for 2nd Place, \$50 for 3rd Place, and \$25 for Honorable Mention.

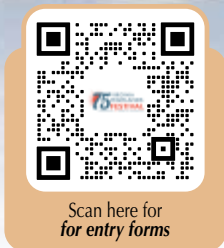
A non-refundable entry fee of \$20 is required for adults entering up to three submissions and a \$5 entry fee for youth entering up to three admissions. Drop-off dates for entries are 2 to 5pm on Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21, at the Arts Depot.

For entry forms, please visit www.vahighlandsfestival.com/juried-fine-art-show or click the QR code. ☀

2023 Adult Art Winners

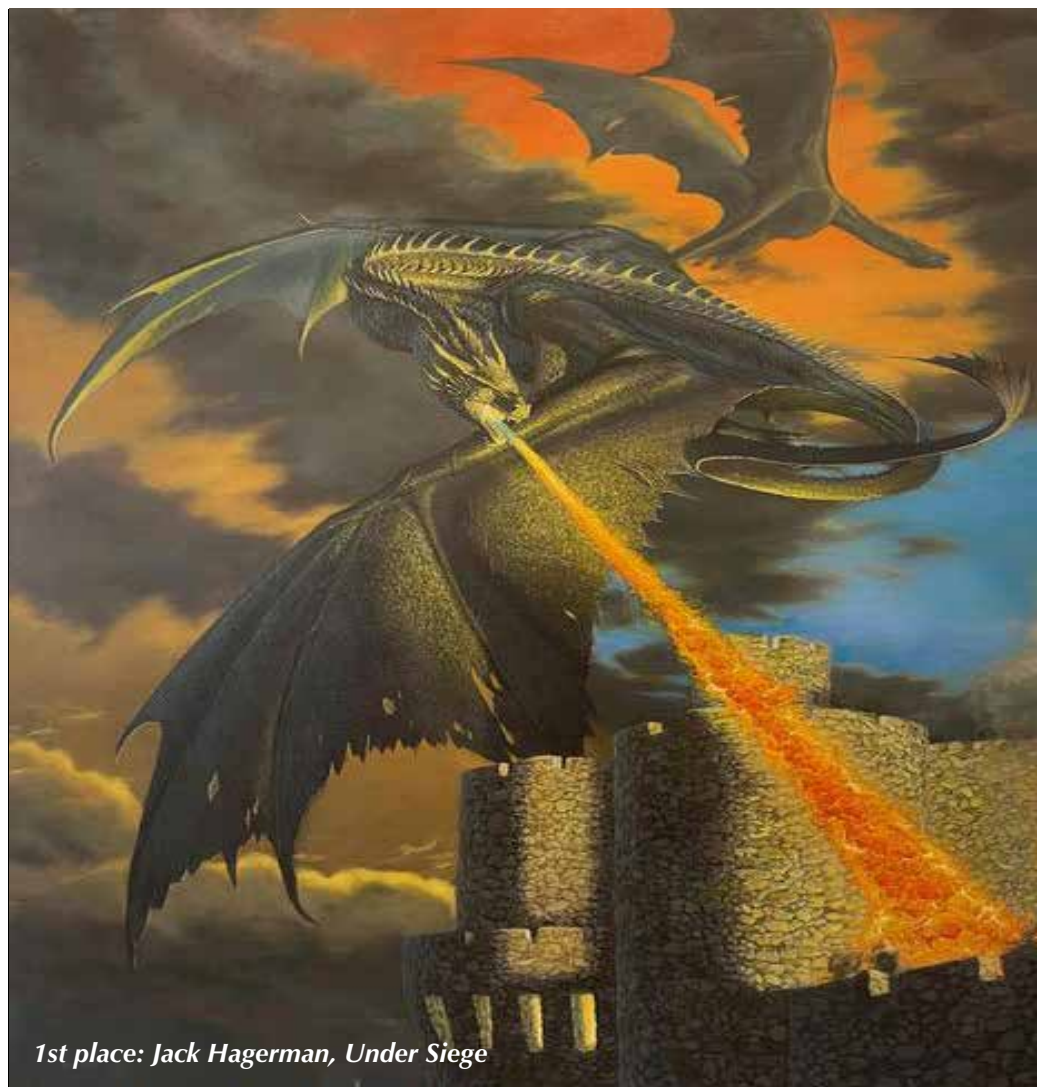


Best in Show: Ken Johnson, Evening Service at Bethel AME



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1st place: Jack Hagerman, *Under Siege*



2nd place: Sidra Kaluszka,
*Dreams of Home,
The Moon & I*



3rd place: Ned Johnson,
Jill's Sunflower

History of the *Juried Fine Arts*

Central to the festival from its beginning were art shows and sales, art demonstrations, and art classes. Early art shows were held at the Martha Washington Inn, sometimes of works from private collections and sometimes from the Virginia Museum of Art. The first amateur art shows were called Clothesline Art Shows where paintings were pinned to a clothesline for the week of the festival, and then auctioned on the last day.

These early shows evolved into the most prestigious art show in the region, with hundreds of entries and thousands of dollars in prizes. During much of the festival's history, there were both art and photography contests, but in recent years the two contests have merged, to reflect photography's place among the arts. A photograph recently won "Best in Show" in the Juried Fine Arts competition. ✨



Art classes on The Martha's lawn

Juried Fine Arts



Anna Buchanan - Juror

Anna Buchanan serves as the juror for the Juried Fine Arts Show. She is the Curator of Contemporary Fine Art and Craft at the William King Museum of Art in Abingdon, Virginia. In the last four years, Buchanan has curated over 15 exhibitions and served as a juror for several regional art shows. She has worked in galleries and museums for 11 years.

"I have loved art and drawing as long as I can remember," explains Buchanan. "I grew up in Midland, Michigan and spent my summers visiting family in Grayson, Kentucky. My mother would take me to a small museum close to our house and we always had the best time. My mother loves impressionism, and she had prints in our home of Mary Cassatt's work. When I began drawing, I tried to copy the prints that my mother had, cartoons that I watched, or patterns on the floral couch. I learned to draw by observation.

"When I was nine years old, my mother and grandmother knew that I could really draw—my family was so kind and supportive of my art practice. My mother signed me up for private art lessons. I learned everything from artist Kathleen Sullivan with whom I studied for ten years." In 2016, Buchanan realized a need to revamp art programs in her community and developed an arts outreach organization called Arts2Grow on her college campus. Arts2Grow reached out to local Girl Scout troops and Masonic homes and partnered with the Alma Community Arts Center to revitalize art within the area. Through art and activism, Buchanan hoped to get people thinking about the ways they can make an impact in their own communities.

Buchanan's drawing has been in several publications including See Spot Run, Pine River Anthology, LUMINA and Paper Darts. She has also exhibited her work at Kai Lin Gallery, Fe Gallery, Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery, Clemson University, and Holler House. 🌟



2023 Youth Art Winners



1st place: Emma Mittag, *Tranquil Beauty*



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

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Anna Buchanan Workshops

Painting with Watercolor: An Approach to Cubism

Tuesday, July 30 2-4pm

The Red Table Room

William King Museum of Art, 1st Floor

Discuss the fundamentals of art and design using watercolor techniques and go over a bit of history about abstract and cubist movements while you create a masterpiece of your own. Supplies will be provided. \$20. Advance registration required. Limited to 15 participants. ✨

How to Make a Panel: A Cost-effective Solution to Framing

Thursday, August 1 2-4pm

The Red Table Room

William King Museum of Art, 1st Floor

Learn how to create a wooden panel, which provides the artist with a solid surface that maintains the integrity of the paper or ground and is a gallery-quality, cost-effective alternative to framing artwork. Whether planning on creating wooden panels in the future or purchasing them from suppliers, the artist must know how to properly adhere paper to a panel in an archival fashion so that does not damage the artwork. Supplies will be provided. \$30. Advance registration required. Limited to 10 participants. ✨



Friday, July 26

4:30-5:15pm

5:15pm

5:30pm

The Arts Depot

Patrons Exclusive Preview

2024 Exhibition Opens to Public

Juror's Remarks & Awards

Tuesday, July 30

2-4pm

Red Table Room, WKMA

Painting with Watercolor: An Approach to Cubism

Thursday, August 1 Red Table Room, WKMA

2-4pm

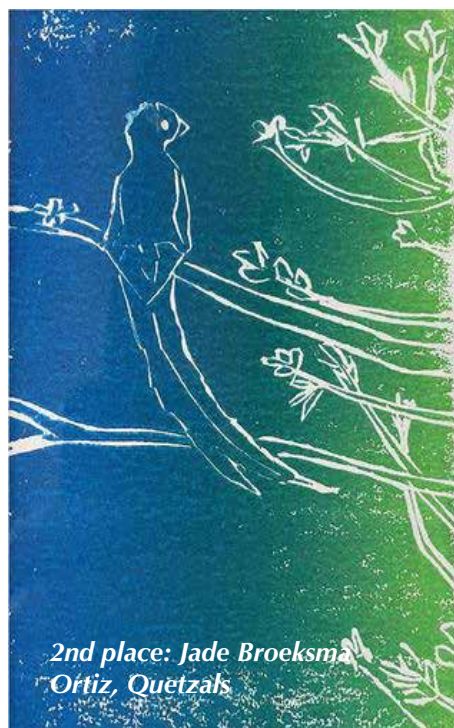
How to Make a Panel: A Cost-effective Alternative to Framing

Sunday, August 4

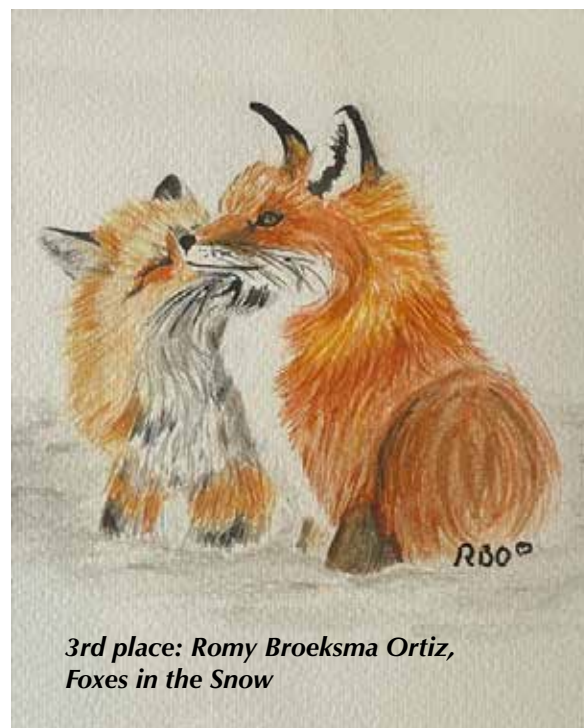
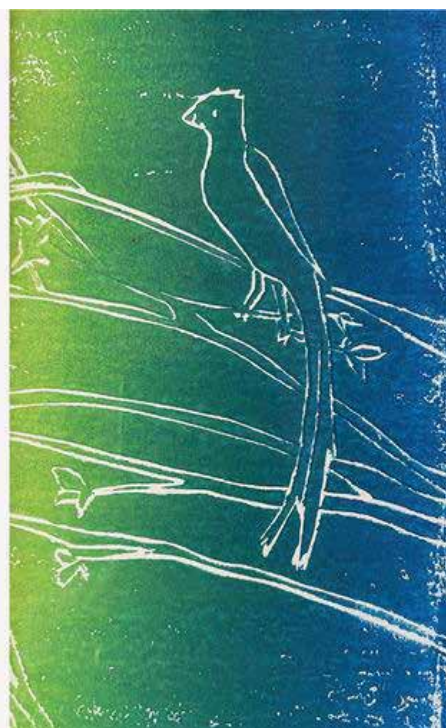
4pm

The Arts Depot

Exhibition Closes



2nd place: Jade Broeksma Ortiz, Quetzals



3rd place: Romy Broeksma Ortiz, Foxes in the Snow

Tickets On Sale Now!

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June 15 - Aug 17

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STAGE

the
barter
players

Snow White

Adapted from the Brothers Grimm
by Catherine Bush

JULY 9 - AUGUST 17

Production Sponsor:



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**The Virginia Highlands Festival:
Celebrating 75 Years
of Appalachia**

June 27, 2024 - January 5, 2025



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MON - SAT 10AM - 5PM

THUR 10AM - 8PM | SUN 1PM - 5PM

These exhibitions are part of William King Museum of Art's
McGlothlin Exhibition Series.

**The Art of
Advertisment:
Art Nouveau Posters
of the Late 19th Century**

April 25 - October 27, 2024

This exhibition was organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine
Arts. Special funding for it has been provided by Johnston
Memorial Hospital and the Rea Charitable Trust.



**Flack Attack!
The Appalachian Battery**

July 18, 2024 - January 19, 2025



**Benjamin Wigfall &
Printmaking in Virginia**

April 25 - October 27, 2024

This exhibition was organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.



Writers & Readers Days

FRI & SAT, July 26 & 27, 2024

Robert Morgan Featured Speaker



Robert Morgan came to Creative Writing Day in 1992 along with Denise Giardina and Lee Smith. Thirty-two years later, he is returning to the Virginia Highlands Festival.

Robert Morgan's recent retirement from Cornell University has allowed him to be even more prolific as a writer. In the past two years, he has published his fifth short story collection, a biography of Edgar Allan Poe, and a collection of poems and short stories.

Morgan grew up in Hendersonville, a small town in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. He is spending more time in North Carolina in his retirement. He wrote of life in the North Carolina mountains in his novel "Gap Creek," which was an Oprah Book Club selection, and its sequel.

Ted Kooser, a former U.S. poet laureate, said, "In the past thirty years I have learned a great deal from this man, who is exemplary as a poet, as a prose writer, and as a human being."

Morgan will be talking about the advantages and risks of writing in several genres on Saturday, July 27.

Poet Fred Chappell said, "'Gap Creek' is the work of a master. Robert Morgan knows every corner, every inch, of the way of life he portrays in this deeply affecting book."

Morgan's humanity and understanding of human nature are evident in his biographies as well as his novels. Writing about Daniel Boone, Morgan makes readers feel Boone's determination to reach Kentucky and the setbacks that come close to killing him.

Jesse Graves was a student of Morgan's at Cornell and the two have bonded over the craft of poetry writing. "Conversations with Robert Morgan," edited by Jesse Graves and Randall Wilhelm, was published in 2019. Graves also has recently edited a collection of Morgan's essays. He and Morgan will have a wide-ranging conversation on Saturday afternoon. ✨



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA

Workshop Writers

Jo Allison is the author of a mystery series set in the 1910s, one accurate enough in its depiction of place that editors of a major publishing house sought her out to write *Storied and Scandalous St. Louis: A History of Breweries, Baseball, Prejudice, and Protest*. She is currently writing a series set in World War I.

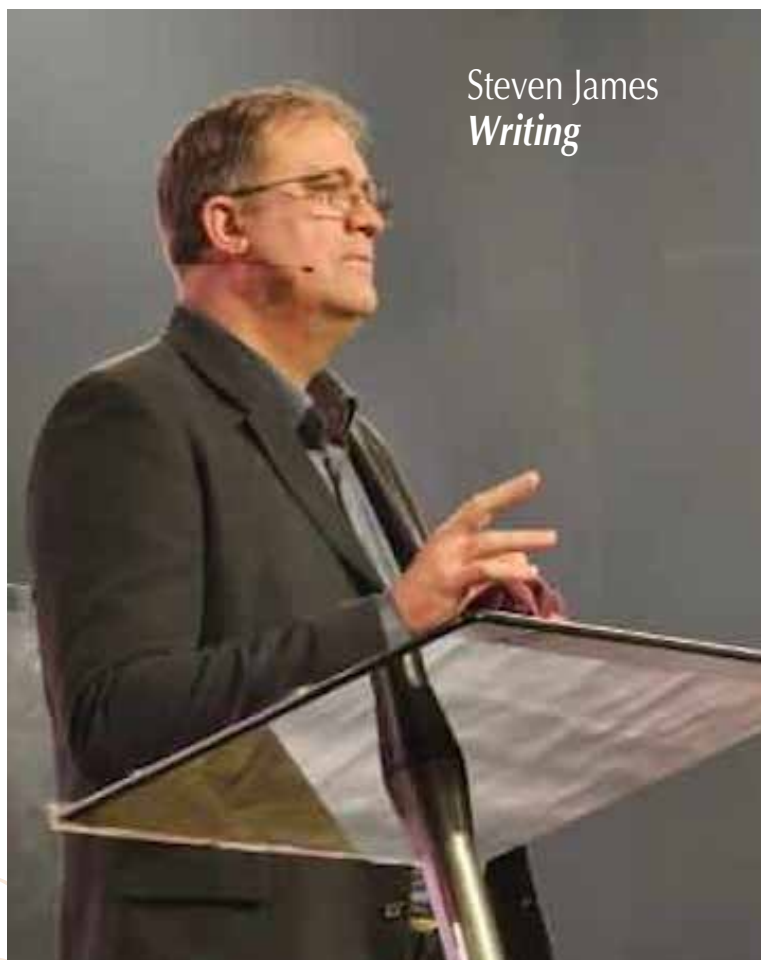
Darnell Arnoult is the author of the novel *Sufficient Grace* and the forthcoming *Incantations: Poems*. She holds an MA from NCSU and an MFA from the University of Memphis. She has taught creative writing across genres for over 30 years. She is the recipient of the SIBA Poetry Book of the Year Prize and the Weatherford Award.

John Copenhaver won the 2019 Macavity Award for Best First Mystery. He teaches fiction writing and literature at Virginia Commonwealth University. His forthcoming third novel is *Hall of Mirrors*.

Victoria A. Fletcher has written 24 books of which 11 are children's books. As the owner of Hoot Books Publishing and president of the Appalachian Authors Guild, she has helped many writers on the way to publishing.

Jesse Graves, the author of four poetry collections, has edited *Conversations with Robert Morgan and Robert Morgan: Essays in the Life and Work*. He is a professor of English and Poet-in-Residence at East Tennessee State University.

Steven James has served as a contributing editor to *Writer's Digest Magazine* and is the author of *Story Trumps Structure*, a guidebook used by thousands of novelists. He is the critically acclaimed author of 17 novels. Most of his novels are



Steven James
Writing

Steven James is Friday's featured writer.

best-selling psychological thrillers. His novel *Every Wicked Man* won the 2018 International Book Award for Best Mystery/Suspense. He has an MA in Storytelling from East Tennessee University.

Matthew B. Kelley holds degrees from Morehouse College and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where he was a Truman Capote Fellow in fiction. He is an assistant professor of English at Emory & Henry College.

Lisa Kwong is the author of *Becoming AppalAsian*. A first-generation college student, she received her BA in English from Appalachian State University and an MFA in poetry from Indiana University. She has been nominated for the Weatherford Award in Poetry, Pushcart Prize, and Best of the Net.

Greg Lilly, the author of five novels and a series of middle-grade children's books, grew up in Southwest Virginia. He's

a freelance writer, magazine editor, and arts advocate. His most recent work is a true crime book, *Abingdon's Boardinghouse Murder*.

Nick Piper is the Associate Artistic Director of Barter Theatre in charge of New Play Development and the director of Barter's Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights. He has helped develop dozens of new plays for production at Barter and other theatres. He is also a member of Barter's Resident Acting Company.

Ed Snodderly is a songwriter, singer and guitar picker, following in the footsteps of songsters as varied as A. P. Carter to Riley Puckett. He also has performed with Eugene Wolf as the Brother Boys. ✨

Writers & Readers Days
FRI & SAT, July 26 & 27, 2024



Jesse Graves
Poetry



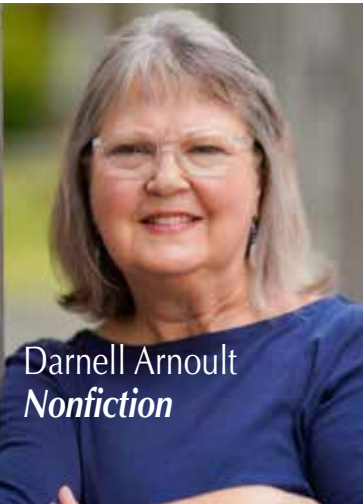
Nick Piper
Playwriting



Jo Allison
Nonfiction



Lisa Kwong
Poetry



Darnell Arnoult
Nonfiction

Friday, July 26 - 8:30am-4:15pm

Featured Speaker **Steven James**
The Untouched Moment: Creativity, courage, and the marvel of the stories around us

Fiction **John Copenhaver**
Writing characters different from you

Craft of Writing **Steven James**
Writing unforgettable endings

Storytelling Workshop **Steven James**
Four Steps to crafting personal experience

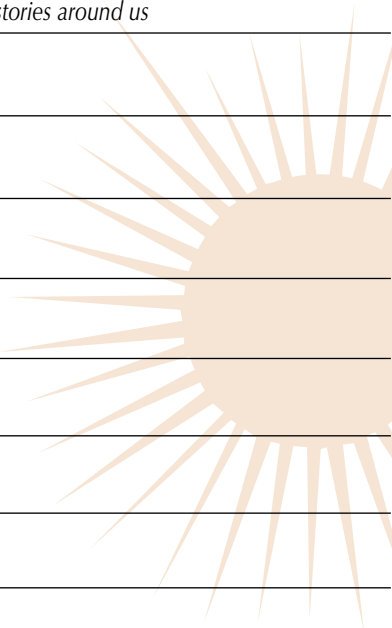
Poetry Workshop **Darnell Arnoult**
A 10-memories exercise to write a narrative poem or a flash memoir

Nonfiction **Jo Allison**
The essentials and adornments of writing nonfiction

Short Story Workshop **Darnell Arnoult**
Prompts to generate character, story and landscape

Fiction: Mystery **John Copenhaver**
How to write an award-winning mystery

Children's Books **Victoria Fletcher**
A checklist to prepare for publishing

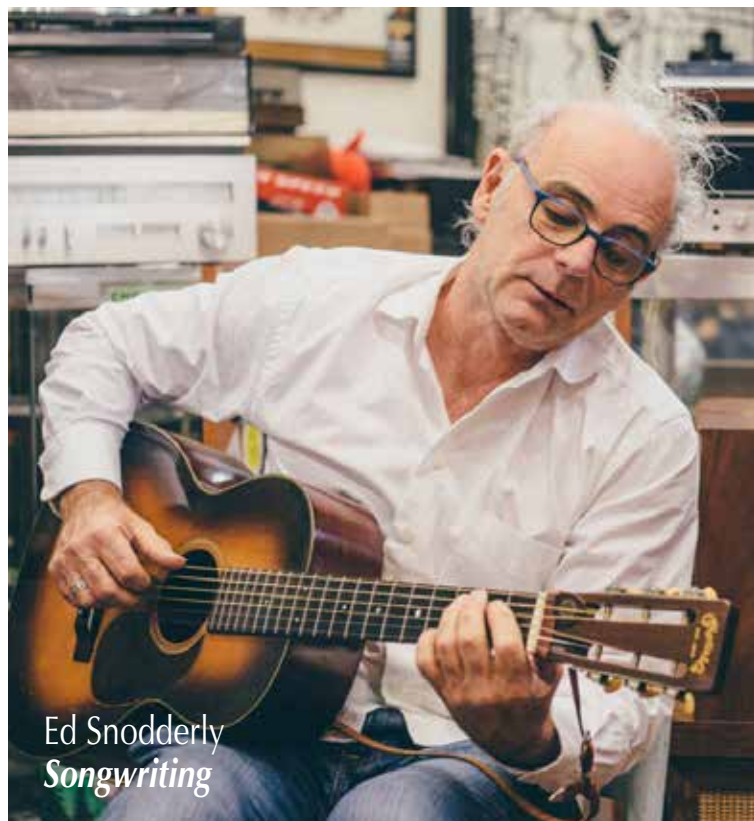




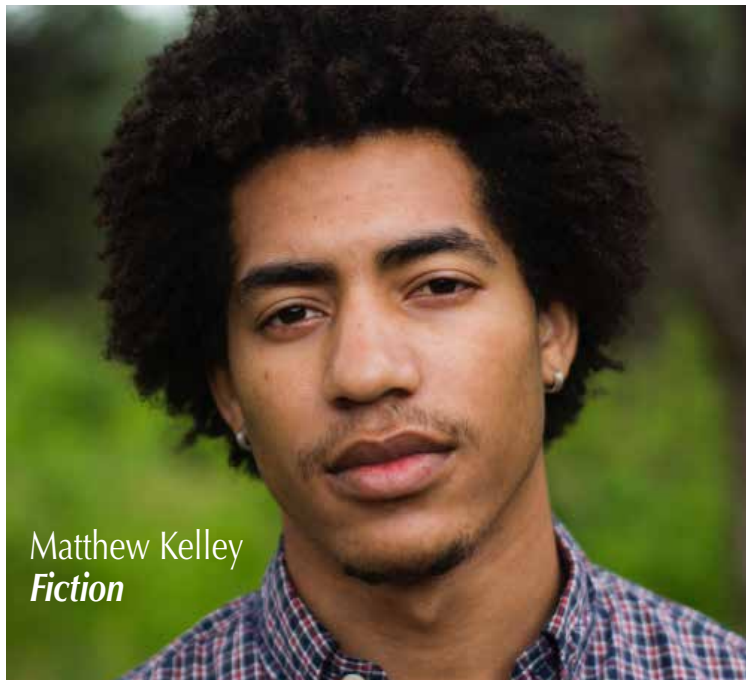
Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA



Ed Snodderly
Songwriting



Matthew Kelley
Fiction

Saturday, July 27 - 8:30am-4:15pm

Featured Speaker Robert Morgan

Writing across genres

Fiction Matthew Kelley

How to transform art into something that transforms us

Nonfiction: True Crime Greg Lilly

How to breathe life into cold facts

Playwriting Nick Piper

Taking an idea and making it into a play

A Conversation with Robert Morgan & Jesse Graves

On writing, literature, Appalachian culture and Morgan's books

Poetry Lisa Kwong

Writing the personal narrative poem

Songwriting Ed Snodderly

Creating your own song

Publishing Panel

Hear our authors' tales of the twists and turns they have navigated on the road to publication



John Copenhaver
Fiction



Victoria Fletcher
Children's Author



Greg Lilly
Nonfiction

Writers & Readers Days

FRI & SAT, July 26 & 27, 2024

History of the *Writers & Readers Days*

Literary events have been an important part of the Virginia Highlands Festival since its beginning. Early festivals featured lectures on the state of contemporary literature and drama, with occasional poetry readings. Through the 1950s the American Association of University Women organized a state creative writing contest, with the winners announced at the festival, where a day-long series of lectures and readings were held. A Creative Writing Contest, sponsored by the festival, was held for the next fifty years, with expanded readings, workshops, and lectures as part of what was then called Creative Writing Day.

Over the years many of the significant figures in Appalachian and Southern literature have participated in the festival: Reynolds Price, Randall Jarrell, Lee Smith, James Dickey, Clyde Edgerton, Barbara Kingsolver, Sharon McCrumb, Ron Rash, Bobbie Ann Mason, Silas House, and many others including the U.S. Poet Laureate William Stafford. Recently, the event has expanded to two days, with an emphasis on readers as well as writers. ✨



Randall Jarrell at Creative Writing Day

HIGHLANDS WRITERS FAIR

Friday, July 26 — Sunday, August 4

Telling our own stories in the Appalachian Highlands

Celebrating its fourth year of spotlighting the writers and books of the region, the Highlands Writers Fair brings together seasoned & aspiring authors with enthusiastic readers. Writers debut their books from national, regional, boutique, and university presses. Independent authors find new readers for their work. Publishers and agents discover talent.
Find your next favorite author!

Book Signings & Sales - 10am-5pm Daily

*Grand Hall Lobby of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
Meet authors from around the region.*

Discover Books - Read Local



Music & Performing Arts



Scan here for
more information

Diamond Gala: Dinner and Dance at the Martha Washington Inn **Friday, July 26 7pm (free swing dance lesson at 6pm)** **For Tickets call 276-623-5266 or visit** **www.vahighlandsfestival.com**

See you on the dance floor when the Virginia Highlands Festival, in partnership with The Martha Washington Inn, presents a Diamond Gala, a dinner and dance celebration that's likely to put a spring in your step and a sparkle in your eyes.

The event will shine a light on the 75th anniversary of the Virginia Highlands Festival, evoking nostalgia for the Swing Era.

"The Gala is a reimagined throwback to the previous balls held in the early years of the festival," said Seth Ritchie, chair of the music committee. This event pays homage to the early balls that kicked off the festival but is reimagined for today's audience.

Special guests are "Good Shot Judy," the Mid-Atlantic's number one high-octane swing band. The big amp jazz band delivers classic vocal jazz, recreating a nightclub feeling during a time when Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin graced stages. It's all about the glitz and glamour when the band with a full brass section, percussion, and vocals performs swinging hits.

"The room will be adorned with traditional black, gold and white accents with sparkling lights for a magical evening," said Deirdre Cole, executive producer of the festival. "The band members even dress like musicians from yesteryear."

The event will include an opportunity before the dinner for audience members to brush up on old-fashioned swing dance moves by taking lessons with instructor Sho Rich, a certified Arthur Murray instructor, a professional classical ballet dancer, and a national champion of ballroom dancing.

Three-tier menu tickets offer guests the choice of meals at different prices. The first tier offers vegetarian or chicken; the second tier features salmon; and the third tier is filet mignon.

The full dinner with dessert also offers a cash bar. A tuxedo is not required, but guests are encouraged to wear semi-formal to formal attire. "A formal evening to dress to the nines, show off your partner, reconnect, or simply just cut loose is sometimes the best medicine," said Ritchie. "Hopefully, our patrons will find that in our offering of excellent dining and entertainment, and make a night to remember." ✨



Good Shot Judy



Ballroom at The Martha

Music & Performing Arts

The Second City's Comedian Rhapsody ***Tuesday, July 30 8pm • \$45*** ***Barter Theatre's Gilliam Stage***

The Second City, the world's most influential name in comedy, is thrilled to return to the Virginia Highlands Festival with their newest revue, "Comedian Rhapsody," for a one-night engagement on Tuesday, July 30, on Barter Theatre's Gilliam Stage.

The Second City's Comedian Rhapsody is a brand-new revue featuring the best sketch comedy and songs from Second City's history, new classics and, of course, trademark improvisation performed by The Second City Touring Company's best and brightest...and funniest.

Since opening its doors as a humble comedy cabaret in 1959, The Second City has been the first name in laughter for over 60 years. From the group that launched the careers of Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert and Steve Carell comes the next generation of comedy superstars.

Is this real life or just fantasy? This comedic landslide promises to be an escape from reality in a night you won't forget.

Tickets for "Comedian Rhapsody" are available for purchase at <https://bartertheatre.com> or by calling 276-628-3991. For more information, go to www.vahighlandsfestival.com. ✨



Synetic Theater presents The Miraculous Magical Balloon ***Monday, July 29 2pm & 7pm • \$10 adults, \$5 kids 12 & under*** ***SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace***

"The Miraculous Magical Balloon" is a series of hilarious sketches synthesizing music, ballet, clowning, and audience participation. You will discover the art of acting without words, opening the door to imaginations. Expressed through body and facial masks, pantomime illusions, and unique choreography, "Balloon" tells a wonderful story of a traveling actor and his magical trunk of tricks and toys. Produced by Synetic Theater, this performance is a fun adventure for the whole family. ✨



75th Anniversary Concert at The Moonlite Drive-In Theatre

Saturday, August 3 5-10pm

Tickets available online and at gate

The Moonlite Drive-In, along with the Virginia Highlands Festival, is celebrating a big milestone this year and owners of the newly refurbished drive-in theatre and multi-purpose venue are inviting the community to be part of a celebration like no other in Abingdon.

The Moonlite Drive-In Theatre & Venue and the Virginia Highlands Festival, both celebrating their 75th anniversaries, are collaborating to kick off a pinnacle music show on August 3 that may be one of the largest events in Southwest Virginia this year. "It's a milestone year for both organizations. We are beyond excited to start an annual tradition together with this first concert!" said Deirdre Cole, Virginia Highlands Festival Executive Producer.

A live concert on the grounds at the historical theatre is scheduled during the Virginia Highlands Festival on August 3. The event promises to be one to remember with some of the most famous current musical artists performing. The concert, which will serve as a fundraising event for a full restoration of the theatre, is expected to attract thousands of people to the event. (During press time, details of the concert were not available.)

According to Seth Ritchie, music chair for the Festival, the Abingdon theatre will serve as a much-needed venue for musical events held during the Virginia Highlands Festival each year. "When trying to schedule music events for the festival, the venue has always been challenging," said Ritchie.

The theatre also will serve as a multi-purpose venue for the community, offering activities for the entire family, just as it did years ago.

The theatre, built and operated in 1949, was a popular destination for people in the community, said Renee Blevins, who along with her husband Kyle Blevins and their daughter Rebecca Crusenberry and son-in-law Chance Crusenberry, have purchased the iconic building in town with hopes of restoring the landmark to its original design.

Except for being used by the Barter Theatre during the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020, the theatre building has sat unused since 2016, falling in disrepair throughout the years and at risk for collapsing or being demolished.

Since March, the owners have gutted the building, installed new windows and doors, replaced the roof, and completed other remodeling efforts.

And, of course, work has been done to either restore or replace the historic theatre lettering that lit up the sky during its heyday.

Saving the Moonlite is a passion for the couple, both of whom are originally from Southwest Virginia and remember coming to movies at the theatre with their families as children.

"We want to bring it back to the way it was," said Kyle. "We will bring back a playground for the children, and we're talking about having putt-putt golf like it was in the day."

Other attractions will be corn hole, face painting for the kids, concerts, and car shows.

The concession stand will be designed to look like a 1950s diner.

"On the back wall of the concession stand, I'd like to show a looped video of the history of the theatre," said Kyle.

"Who knows, we may even have a circus or carnival here," he said.

Community support of the restoration has been overwhelming, said Renee, who has received as many as 7,000 new Facebook followers since their plans were announced.

"There are about 292 drive-in theatres left in the country," she said. "And I've already seen in the past week or so about four or five go up for sale.

"This one is finding a new life, and we couldn't be more excited." ✨



Music & Performing Arts

Tuatha Dea

***Saturday, July 27 7-10pm • FREE
Farmers Market Pavillion***

You asked, we listened! Back by popular demand –Tuatha Dea.

No boundaries, no constraints – just Music. Combining primal rhythms, melodic and ethereal ballads, screaming guitar riffs with an Appalachian/Celtic vibe, these performers, born of a family drum circle, delivers an authentic tribal and clannish feel that not only draws the audience into the music but into the moment and clan as well.

In 2017, Tuatha Dea became part of The New Bristol Sessions, a collaboration celebrating the historic 1927 Sessions along with folks like Dolly Parton, Virginia Ground, 49 Winchester and more! Their rhythmic groove and interaction naturally inspires audience participation which has become a staple of their performances. From the beginning, the band has embraced its Celtic heritage and meshed the traditional music of Scotland and Ireland with their own bold blend of mainstream rock, mountain drumming and Appalachian blues to produce a truly unique sound that has a universal appeal! Dubbed “The Eclectic Steam-Punk Partridge Family in Kilts and Corsets” and “The Appalachian Fae”, this band is REAL family.

This free concert is brought to you by the Virginia Highlands Festival, Delta Blues, and Tumbling Creek Cider Company. There will be food trucks, a beer garden, and Tumbling Creek Cider at the Abingdon Farmers Market. ✨



Mark Nizer – Expect the Impossible – 4D

***Friday, August 2 7pm & Saturday, August 3 2pm • \$12
Barter Theatre’s Smith Stage 3D glasses included***

Mark Nizer has changed the way people view the world. The impossible is possible; the improbable is probable.

Since winning the International Juggling Championships, Mark has taken his one-man show to thousands of venues around the world, including two Gala Performances at the world famous Just for Laughs Comedy Festival, The Kennedy Center and the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Now he brings this amazing show to the Virginia Highlands Festival on August 2 and August 3 at the Barter Theatre’s Smith Stage.

Mark Nizer 4D is a combination of original comedy, world class juggling, movement, music, and technology that promises to deliver a spellbinding evening for the whole family. Imagine, four lasers being juggled at 1000 rpms with the spinning laser beams dancing just above the audience’s heads. Bring your cell phones to thoroughly enjoy the audience participation segment.

Experience why Performance Magazine calls his show “nothing less than brilliant.”

For tickets 276-628-3991 or www.bartertheatre.com

For more information, www.vahighlandsfestival.com ✨



Music & Performing Arts

Friday, July 26	6-7pm 7pm	The Martha Washington Inn Ballroom Swing Dance Lesson Diamond Gala: Dinner and Dance
Saturday, July 27	7-10 pm	Farmers Market Pavillion Tuatha Dea Concert • Free
Monday, July 29	2pm & 7pm 4-5pm	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace Synetic Theater presents The Magical Balloon Physical Theater Workshop with Synetic Theater
Tuesday, July 30	4-5pm 8pm	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace Magic & Illusion Workshop with Dave Vaught. Barter Theatre's Gilliam Stage The Second City Comedian Rhapsody
Wednesday, July 31	6-7pm	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace Ballroom Dance Workshop: Introduction to Foxtrot & Rumba (ages 16 & up)
Friday, August 2	7pm	Barter Theatre's Smith Stage Mark Nizer – Expect the Impossible – 4D
Saturday, August 3	2pm 5-10pm	Barter Theatre's Smith Stage Mark Nizer – Expect the Impossible – 4D Moonlite Drive-in Theatre 75th Anniversary Concert, tickets available online or at the door



The Magical Balloon

All workshops are Free with advance registration at www.vahighlandsfestival.com.

History of the *Music and Performing Arts Committees*

Musical performances dominated the entertainment of the early festivals. Even though the festival's original purpose was to celebrate Appalachian culture, the early programming emphasized opera, classical music, and jazz. Over the years, regional traditional musicians were showcased, including Wayne Henderson and Horton Barker. In recent decades, pop, country, and rock music has dominated, frequently at outdoor street concerts or the Market Pavilion.

Because Abingdon has Barter Theatre, the festival has not programmed theatre performances, except for an occasional one-person performance. Perhaps the most famous person to ever perform at the festival was Dame Judith Anderson, the most acclaimed actress of the mid-20th century, who was brought by Robert Porterfield to present a play that she had just completed on Broadway.

A Native American dance company from Roanoke performed in the very first festival. The famous folklorist Richard Chase taught English country and square dances on the lawn of the Martha Washington Inn. Occasionally national modern dance groups performed at Barter Theatre. For ten years, the festival developed a relationship with Folkmoot, an international dance festival in North Carolina, to bring one or two dance companies to Abingdon after their festival. They held performances and workshops at Barter Theatre and were hosted by Abingdon families. ✨



A New Zealand Dance Company

Outdoor Adventures



A Day in Saltville

August 2

The salt of Saltville has been important to mastodons, Native Americans, and the military from the War of 1812 through World War II. Its well-field wetlands have plants and birds which flourish in saline waters.

9am Birds and Flowers of the Saltville Well Fields Meet at Food Country Parking Lot, Saltville

The Well Fields in Saltville, Virginia, provide one of the most diverse and interesting birding experiences in our region. The Well Fields are the only inland salt marsh in the Virginia mountains. It has unique plants, fascinating geology, and a spectacular array of birds in every season. Birders are likely to encounter warblers, woodpeckers, herons, swallows, hawks, vireos, and vultures. With luck, we may see Virginia Rails, Great Egrets, Killdeer, Green Herons, White-eyed Vireos, Northern Parulas, Eastern Kingbirds, Yellow Warblers, and Bald Eagles. Bring your binoculars, a water bottle, sunscreen, and your curiosity for the natural world.

Robert Riggs has worked for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and is a member of the Virginia Society of

Ornithology. Monica Hoel is an active member of the Holston Rivers Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalist and serves on the board of the Virginia Society of Ornithology. Felicia Mitchell leads hikes and helps with rare plant monitoring as a member of the Mt. Rogers Appalachian Trail Club. ✨

10:30am Geology: How Saltville Came to Be with Dan Manweiler

Museum of Middle Appalachians Conference Room

For centuries, humans have made use of Saltville's brine marshes, formed from sea water trapped and evaporating in a hot, arid, climate some 300 million years ago. Saltville's earliest history is a story of plate tectonics, of the earth's crust in a constant worldwide shuffle above its mantle. Learn how plate tectonics played a role in everything that Saltville became.

Dan Manweiler, a geologist, is a retired environmental Land Protection Manager with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. ✨

To register visit www.vahighlandsfestival.com/outdoors or scan above.

www.vahighlandsfestival.com/outdoors



10am-4pm Museum of Middle Appalachians

123 Palmer Ave, Saltville, Va.

Admission \$3-5

The Museum of the Middle Appalachians has exhibits of woolly mammoth and mastodon fossils that have been discovered in Saltville, exhibits of the history of salt extraction, and exhibits showing Saltville's importance during the Civil War.

For more information about the Museum of the Middle Appalachians, see museumofthemiddleappalachians.org or call 276-496-3633. ✨

Tour Saltville on your own

Pick up a map at the Museum of Middle Appalachians, and see Madame Russell United Methodist Church, St. Paul Episcopal Church, Elizabeth Cemetery, William King-Stuart Cabin, W. A. Stuart House, and the Civil War battlefield. ✨



Outdoor Adventures



Stream Discovery

Friday, July 26 10am-noon

Whites Mill, 12314 Whites Mill Road, Abingdon, VA 24210

Upper Tennessee River Roundtable volunteers will show how to catch and identify invertebrates, the tiny creatures that live in healthy streams. This event is suitable for children, parents, and teachers. The workshop will be at Whites Mill near Abingdon.

Rain date is Friday, August 2 at 10am.

Registration is required. Register by Thursday, July 25, by calling 276-628-1600. ☀



Area Fly Fishing Opportunities Indoor Classroom Activity

Friday, July 26 6:30-8:30pm

***Room 240 Southwest Virginia Higher Ed Center,
Abingdon, Virginia.***

Fly fishing combines science, craft, and sport. Where will the fish be? How do you tie a fly that imitates an insect? How do you cast to reach that pool where the fish are? In two events, learn how to do this.

Bruce Wankel will present an overview of the excellent year-round fly-fishing opportunities in our region. He will describe essential equipment, tackle, and appropriate outerwear for fly fishing.

Using a slide show and live demonstrations, he will discuss fishing lines, knots, flies used in the area and fly pattern selection. Participants are welcome to try their hand tying a fly pattern. Attendees will learn to identify some of our area's common aquatic and terrestrial insects in the trout's diet and to recognize look-alike imitation trout flies. ☀

Fly Fishing and Aquatic Entomology

Saturday, July 27 8:30-11am

***Meet at Virginia Creeper Fly Shop, 16501 Jeb Stuart Hwy,
Abingdon.***

Bruce Wankel will hold a short fly-casting lesson to allow those new to fly fishing a chance to cast a fly rod. Then the group will carpool to a nearby trout stream to learn about aquatic entomology (the natural live insects that are on the trout's menu). Collect and compare aquatic insects to some artificial fly patterns that Wankel discussed on Friday. (Attendance at the Friday program is not required for this event.) Wankel will conclude by demonstrating fly-casting methods used in trout streams. Suitable for children 8 and over. Rain date is Saturday, August 3.

Registration is required. Call (276) 614-8964 no later than 5pm, Friday, July 26. ☀



***Snorkeling in Whitetop-Laurel Creek
with Blue Ridge Discovery Center***

Sunday, July 28 1-4:15pm

***Straight Branch Parking Lot, Mt. Rogers NRA (4.5 miles from
Damascus)***

Join with Blue Ridge Discovery Center and snorkel for native fish, aquatic insects and hellbenders on Whitetop-Laurel Creek. Wetsuits, snorkel masks, and changing tents are provided by BRDC, but you need to bring a swimsuit and towels. Snorkeling is in 1-3 feet of water with no swimming necessary. Our creeks host an amazing diversity of colorful fish including sculpins, darters, dace, and trout. Before or after snorkeling, learn about the underwater habitat and fish ecology. Ages 6 and up. Limited to 20 participants.

Registration is required. Register at vahighlandsfestival.com by Friday, July 26. Fee \$20. Sign up for either first session at 1pm or second session at 2:45pm. Rain date is Sunday, Aug 4. 🌟



Outdoor Adventures



Hike from Backbone Rock to Damascus

Monday, July 29 9am-1pm

Meet at the Caboose at Damascus Town Park

This strenuous 7.3-mile hike with 1,540 feet in elevation gain on the Backbone Rock Trail and Appalachian Trail is recommended for experienced hikers in good physical condition. Shuttle to Backbone Rock to start the one-way hike back to Damascus.

Backbone Rock itself is interesting to see, and the hike, though challenging, offers many vistas along the Appalachian and Backbone Rock Trails. Bring water, hiking sticks and possibly raingear, and wear hiking boots or shoes. Shuttle fee is \$5 payable as you board.

Registration is required. Register online at vahighlandsfestival.com by Saturday, July 27. Limited to 18 participants

Hike on Clyburn Hollow Trail

Wednesday, July 31 9am-noon

Meet at the Hungry Mother Discovery Center on Hwy 16.

Clyburn Hollow Trail is a 2.2-mile loop trail in Hungry Mother State Park near Marion, Virginia. Generally considered an easy to moderate hike depending on the hiker's ability, this great hiking trail takes 1 to 1½ hours to complete and offers good views of Hungry Mother Lake and Molly's Knob on the other side of the lake.

Bring water, hiking sticks and possibly raingear, and wear hiking boots or shoes. Parking fee is \$7 per car.

Registration is required. Register online at vahighlandsfestival.com by Tuesday, July 30. Limited to 25 people. ☀



Hike to the Great Channels

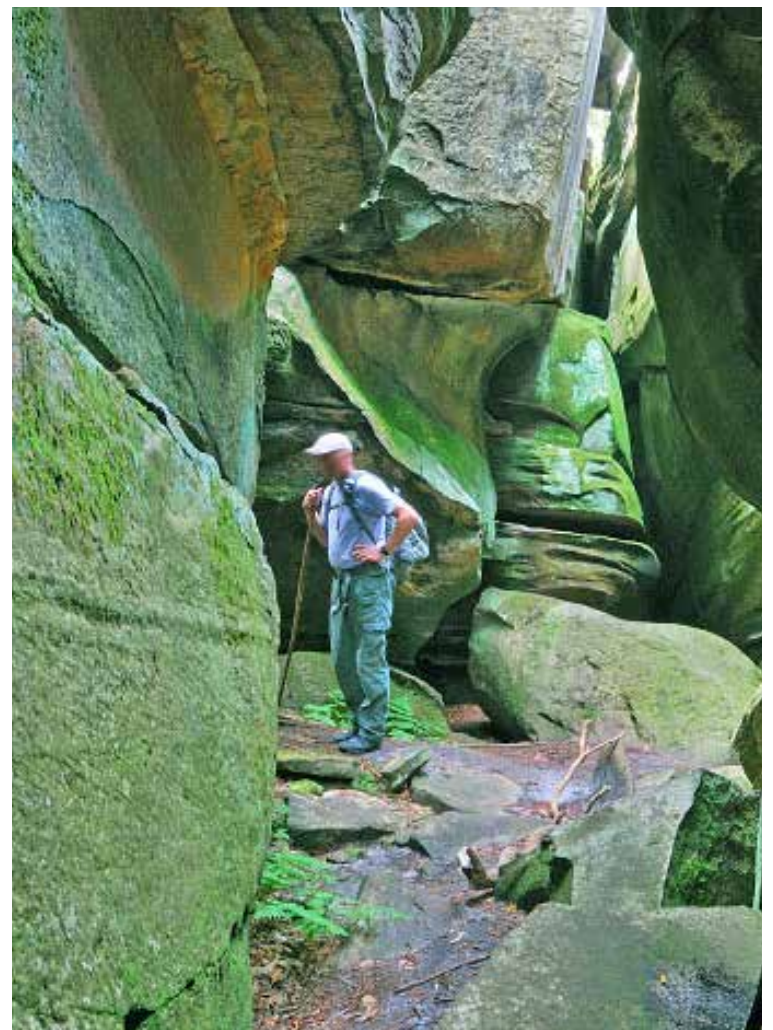
Thursday, August 1 9am-4 pm

***Meet at Hayters Gap Community Center,
7720 Hayters Gap Road, Saltville, VA 24370***

Imagine squeezing between forty-foot-high stone walls. The Great Channels is a unique geologic formation composed of a network of deep sandstone crevices at the top of Clinch Mountain. The Great Channels is part of the Channels State Forest and Natural Area Preserve.

Hike through a high-elevation forest and learn about the geology and ecology of the area. Be prepared for a moderately-strenuous 6-mile round-trip hike. Hikers should wear sturdy hiking boots and bring lunch, plenty of water, and possibly rain gear.

Registration is required. Register online at vahighlandsfestival.com by Tuesday, July 30. Limit 20 participants. ☀



Buzzard Rock Hike on Whitetop

Saturday, August 3 9am-1pm

***Meet at Lowes at Exit 19 in Abingdon or the
Damascus Trail Center to carpool.***

Whitetop Mountain at 5525 feet has spectacular views of Clinch Mountain and North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. Led by Doug Levin of the Mt. Rogers Appalachian Trail Club, the two-mile round-trip hike along the Appalachian Trail crosses the open fields of a bald. Hikers should wear sturdy hiking boots and bring lunch, plenty of water, binoculars, sunscreen, and possibly rain gear.

Registration is required. Register online at vahighlandsfestival.com by Thursday, Aug 1. ✨



Biking - Creeper Trail Ride to Honor Lawrence the Legend

Saturday, August 3 8am-2pm

***Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead, 300 Green Spring Road,
Abingdon, VA 24210***

Sponsored by the Virginia Creeper Trail Conservancy, the Ride honors Lawrence Dye, who passed away in November 2023 at 91 years old. Lawrence was known as the "Trail Ambassador" having logged more than 192,000 miles over the years biking



on his beloved Creeper Trail. For the last 20 years, the Creeper Trail Conservancy has hosted the "Ride for the Legend" to honor Lawrence's extraordinary accomplishment. We believe there is no better way to celebrate Lawrence than to continue this tradition.

On this special day, the riders will follow Lawrence's path from the Abingdon trailhead to Whitetop Station and back. The ride will be led by Conservancy volunteer Phil Hoffer. Phil will guide riders through Damascus to Whitetop Station and back, a 68-mile round trip. The pace will be moderate with plenty of breaks, and mileage can be shortened by joining or leaving the group at various access points along the trail. Participants should bring their own bikes as well as weather-appropriate clothing, water, snacks, and a tire-repair kit.

Registration begins at 8am. For more information, visit vacrepertrail.org or email info@vacrepertrail.org. ✨

Leisurely Creeper Trail Ride

Saturday, August 3 9:30am-noon

***Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead, 300 Green Spring Road,
Abingdon, VA 24210***

Learn about wyes, depots, trestles and logging. Join members of the Virginia Creeper Trail Conservancy on a leisurely bike ride along the beautiful Creeper Trail from the Abingdon trailhead to Alvarado and return to Abingdon, a total of about 17 miles. Your ride leader will share some of the fascinating history of the trail and identify some of the native flora and fauna along the trail.

Bring your bike, helmet, snack, and water, and dress for the weather. If you have any questions, email info@vacrepertrail.org. ✨

Outdoor Adventures



BearWise Talk by Katie Martin

***Tuesday, July 30 7:30pm
Executive Classroom SVHEC***

Join DWR biologist Katie

Martin for a presentation on black bears in Virginia. This presentation will discuss black bear biology and life history along with information on how you can be BearWise at home,

at work, and while recreating. Learn how to prevent or mitigate common conflict situations, and how to co-exist with black bears across the state and when traveling. 

Tree Identification Walk with Mark Archibald

***Tuesday, July 30 9am
William King Museum of Art***

Become a dendrophile (tree lover) if you aren't one already. Learn to identify trees by looking at leaf patterns, leaf shape, size, color and texture, flowers, fruit, bark, twigs, and overall shape and tree size. Also, find out about the ecological value of native trees and the effects of trees and forests on the land, wildlife, water quality, and people. Bring field guides if you have them.

Archibald is a Virginia Master Naturalist. 



Bear in Bristol

Raptors Over Southwest Virginia Talk by Ron Harrington

***Wednesday, July 31 7:30pm
Executive Classroom SVHEC***

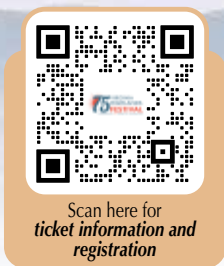
Learn about the annual migration of hawks and other raptors as they travel by the Mendota Fire Tower on their way to their winter range. This is one of Nature's most impressive avian migrations.

Find out when and where to go to experience this natural phenomenon. Learn how these birds of prey migrate, where they're headed, and how far they travel. Find out the unique features of raptors compared to other birds. Learn how you can become a "citizen scientist" by collecting data that may help protect raptors from becoming extinct.

Ron Harrington is a founding member of the Mendota (VA) Hawk Watch Association. 



Broad-winged hawks make up 97% of the hawks in the September migration count.



Outdoor Adventures

Friday, July 26	10am-noon	Stream Discovery White's Mill •Free (Rain date Aug 2)
	6:30-8:30pm	Area Fly Fishing Opportunities Room 240 SVHEC •Free
Saturday, July 27	8:30-11am	Fly Fishing and Aquatic Entomology Meet at Virginia Creeper Fly Shop •Free
Sunday, July 28	1-4:15pm	Snorkeling in Whitetop-Laurel Creek Meet at Straight Branch Parking Lot •\$20
Monday, July 29	9am-1pm	Hike from Backbone Rock Meet at Caboose at Damascus Town Park •Shuttle \$5
Tuesday, July 30	9-10am	Tree Identification Walk William King Museum of Art •Free
	7:30pm	BearWise talk by Katie Martin Executive Classroom SVHEC •Free
Wednesday, July 31	9am-noon	Hike on Clyburn Hollow Trail Hungry Mother State Park •Free
	7:30pm	Raptors Over Southwest Virginia Executive Classroom SVHEC •Free
Thursday, August 1	9am-4pm	Hike to the Great Channels Meet at Hayters Gap Community Center •Free

A Day in Saltville

Friday, August 2	9-10am	Birds and Flowers of the Saltville Well Fields
		Meet at Food Country Parking Lot •Free
	10:30-11-30am	Geology: How Saltville Came to Be Museum of Middle Appalachians •Free
	10am-4pm	Museum of Middle Appalachians Open to tour •\$3-5
Saturday, August 3	8am-2pm	Creeper Trail Ride to Honor Lawrence the Legend
		Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead •Free
	8:30-11am	Fly Fishing (Rain date) Meet at Virginia Creeper Fly Shop
	9am-1pm	Buzzard Rock Hike on Whitetop Meet at Lowes at Exit 19 •Free
	9:30am-noon	Leisurely Creeper Trail Ride Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead •Free
Sunday, August 4	1-4:15pm	Straight Branch Snorkeling (Rain date)

History of the *Outdoors Committee*

Originally, this committee was called the Human and Natural Resources Committee. Since one of the festival's founders was Harold Grogan, the head of the Chamber of Commerce, early activities promoted local industries with tours and exhibits. By the 1960s, camping trips on Whitetop, photographic excursions, and lectures on flora, fauna, and geology featured the new Mount Rogers National Recreation Area. When the Virginia Creeper Trail was established, there were bird walks, family bicycle rides, and races on the trail.

In the last 20 years, "A Day in Towns" programs have featured visits to natural and historic sites in neighboring communities, like Damascus, St. Paul, Mendota, and Saltville. Recently, organized hikes have been popular--to the Great Channels, along the Appalachian Trail and, once again this year, on Whitetop. Tours of vineyards and a cidery have included tastings. There have also been lectures on bats, cougars, wildflowers, mussels, and other natural phenomena that make this area unique. ✨



Paleontology dig in Saltville, Virginia excavating woolly mammoth remains



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Antiques & Vintage Show

Antiques & Vintage Show

Friday, July 26-Sunday, August 4 10am-5pm
(**\$7, children 12 and under free**)

Early shopping, Friday, July 26 9-10am • \$30
(**includes a season pass**)

Sip & Shop: Late shopping, Thursday, August 2 5-7pm • \$25 (includes live music and drink)
Grand Hall, SVHEC

The 2024 Antiques & Vintage Show welcomes back dealers from across the United States to showcase their perfectly curated antique and vintage items. This year's show will include antique dealers occupying 85 spaces. Antique and vintage items will be found throughout the Grand Hall of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, including linens, fine jewelry,

glassware, artwork, rugs, formal and primitive furniture, and much more. Dealers are constantly restocking, so patrons should return often to the Show.

In conjunction with the Antiques & Vintage Show, this year on Monday through Friday at 2 pm there will be several workshops focusing on various aspects of the antiques and vintage world. These will be conducted by both area professionals and by long-standing dealers from the Show.

On the concluding Sunday, at Antiques Discovery Day, patrons of the Show will have the opportunity to have their own antique and vintage items identified and informally appraised by John Case from Case Auctions of Knoxville,

Tennessee and members of the Case family, who are antique dealers.

Also, besides the early shopping on the morning of the Show's opening, new this year on Thursday evening will be an after-hours shopping experience including live music and hard cider from Abingdon's local cidery. ✨

2024 Dealers

Angevine's Fine Silver
Antiques & Old Lace
Bedford on-the-Square Antiques
Brown & Thigpen Auctions
Charles Upchurch Antiques
Crawford Antiques
Hoot & Nana Antiques
John Elkins Jr. Antiques
Lady & The Cowboy
Lady Di's Antiques
Legacy Rugs
Len Harmon Antiques
Liz's Attic
Marilyn Angel Estate Jewelry
Melissa Henley
N.A. LeRoque
P&S Antique Jewelry
Reruns Antiques
Shirley Jean's
Sterling Treasures
TH Antiques
The Gliding Goat
Tom the Picker Antiques
Wood's Bottles





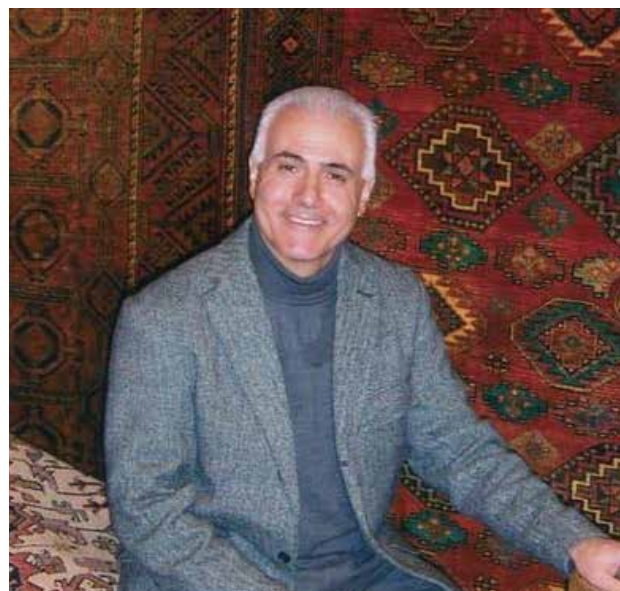
Scan here to
register for a time on
Antiques Discovery Day

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA

Antiques & Vintage Show offers Seminars on Collecting

What do diamonds, silver, Kentucky cherry, refinishing and decorating all have in common? The Virginia Highlands Festival's Antiques and Vintage Show is offering seminars on all these subjects at this summer's show. From Monday through Friday at 2pm come to room 103 at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center for these sessions, free with admission. ✨



Antiques & Vintage Show

Antiques Discovery Day

Sunday, August 4 1-5pm

\$10 for one item, \$25 for three items

Executive Auditorium SVHEC

Have you ever wondered what your grandmother's favorite Chinese vase is worth? Your Uncle Fred's Civil War memorabilia? That oil painting that you bought at a thrift shop that seems an original. On and on. Many people have inherited or purchased items that they would love to have identified and informally appraised.

The Virginia Highlands Festival, in conjunction with the William King Museum of Art, will conduct an Antiques Discovery Day at which a panel of regional antiques experts will try to identify your family "treasures" and give you an informal appraisal of their worth. The appraisers will be John Case and his associates from Case Auctions of Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as his brother David and mother Mary Jo Case from Anchor Antiques in Kingsport, Tennessee.

The cost for the identification and appraisal of one item is \$10, or three items for \$25. Tickets will be available at the door. However, if you wish to reserve a time slot, you can buy tickets online at vahighlands-festival.org for 1pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm times.

If you want a piece of furniture or firearm identified or appraised, take several cell phone photographs of the piece from all angles, and bring your phone to the event.

Betsy White, the Executive Director of the William King Museum of Art, will be at the event to document Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee furniture, textiles, and decorative arts for the museum's Cultural Heritage Project archive. *





Antiques & Vintage Show Events

Friday, July 26	9-10am	Early Shopping • \$30 (includes a season pass to the Antiques and Vintage Show)
Monday, July 29	2pm	Take a walk around the Antiques and Vintage Show with interior designer Carolyn Thomas who will give tips on creating a pleasing look for your home with color, antiques, and your current possessions. Start at SVHEC Room 103. Free with admission • Pre-registration required, limited to 10. For more information, go to vahighlandsfestival.com.
Tuesday, July 30	2pm	Learn about the origins and masters of hand-crafted Kentucky antique cherry furniture with dealer Joyce Williams, Hoot & Nana Antiques. SVHEC Room 103 • Free with admission
Wednesday, July 31	2pm	Learn about the antique cuts of diamonds, like the Rose, European, and Mine cuts. See examples of each cutting style and learn the history and folklore of these dazzling gemstones. The speaker is Standee Schnall, P& S Antiques. SVHEC Room 103 • Free with admission
Thursday, August 1	2pm	Learn everything you wanted to know about Sterling silver but were embarrassed to ask. J. R. Angevine from Angivine's Fine Silver will give a brief history of Sterling silver from the United Kingdom to the United States, focusing on American silver flatware. He will give one free verbal appraisal per person at the end of the lecture. SVHEC Room 103 • Free with admission
Thursday, August 1	5-7pm	"Sip & Shop" evening at the Antiques & Vintage Show • \$25 includes admission, live music, and a drink ticket from Tumbling Creek Cider.
Friday, August 2	2 pm	"What do you do with this old thing?" Joel Harte, master furniture maker, will give tips on what to do with wooden pieces that you are uncertain about their future. Should you refinish, repurpose, or simply preserve the piece? SVHEC Room 103 • Free with admission

Pricing

Daily Admission \$7 (Children 12 & under are Free), 3 Day Pass \$20, Event Pass \$25, Early Shopping \$30, Sip & Shop \$25

History of the *Antiques Market*

Central to the festival from its beginning was an Antiques Show since many of the organizers had antiques in their homes and there were many antique shops in town. Early festivals included displays in the Martha Washington Ballroom of antiques from family collections, frequently grouped by period or a particular type of furniture or accessory. The Antique Show evolved quickly into displays by antique dealers in the region who belonged to the Southwest Virginia Antiques Dealers Association. Visitors came to admire the antiques, not to purchase them.

After a gap in the 1960s-80s, French Moore, Jr. started a "flea market" on Barter Green during the festival. That evolved over a decade into a juried Antiques Market that eventually was held in large tents on an athletic field adjacent to the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center and now has moved inside the building to its Grand Hall.

Often during the festival's history, there were lectures on various types of antiques and antiques collecting, as well as Antiques Discovery Days, frequently with noted antiques expert Ken Farmer or the Case family of antique dealers.. ✨



An early antiques display at the Martha Washington Inn

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Arts & Crafts Show



Sam Fisher. Booth 28



Terry Hadley. Booth 54



David Leidy. Booth 12

The 2024 Juried Arts & Crafts Show spans the Barter Green and also returns this year to the lawn of the Martha Washington Inn. The show opens Friday, July 26, at 9am and closes Sunday, August 4, at 5pm.

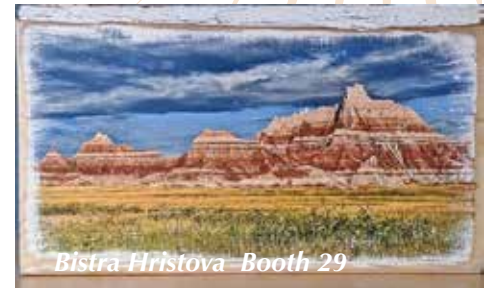
Artisan booths will be judged on Saturday, July 27, with ribbons and prizes awarded that afternoon. Prizes are Best Booth \$500, 1st Place \$400, 2nd Place \$300, and 3rd Place \$200.

The show sees a turn-over half way through with new booths opening Wednesday, July 31, at 9am.

New this year is after-hours shopping on Wednesday, July 31, until 7:30pm. Crooked Road musicians add to the merriment performing in the gazebo on the Martha lawn from 5-7pm. ✨



Tim Haratine. Booths 38 & 39



Bistra Hristova. Booth 29



Jazmine Torres. Booth 25



Hannah Wood. Booth 21



Kathryn Wingate. Booth 60



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA

The 2024 Juried Arts and Crafts Show, a staple event of the Virginia Highlands Festival for more than 70 years, is expanding to attract a whole new generation of buyers.

More than 45 vendors will be featured at the show on Barter Green in downtown Abingdon and about 25 on the lawn of the Martha Washington Inn, an early location for the show that has not been utilized for many years.

"We're really thankful The Martha is letting us come back to the lawn because it's such a traditional and beautiful place for the show," said Melinda Bruns, co-chair of the Juried Arts and Crafts Show since 2022.

Bruns feels a strong connection to the area and the Virginia Highlands Festival after spending many of her summers as a youth with her family in Bristol, Virginia. She fondly remembers her great, great aunt Virginia Caldwell demonstrating weaving on a massive old loom at the festival many years ago. Caldwell, who owned the Old Deery Inn in Blountville, Tennessee, was known in the region for her love of antiques and historic preservation.

Since volunteering, Bruns has worked to shake up the event by bringing in new vendors. Gene Pecina, co-chair of Juried Arts & Crafts, works tirelessly in setting up the grounds and attending to the needs of the exhibitors.

The show is free of charge and open from July 26 to Aug. 4. To accommodate the 9-to-5 crowd, hours will be extended to 6 p.m. each day. And, for the first time, the show will stay open until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31, for after-hours shopping and live entertainment.

The show will include numerous vendors, many of whom have exhibited at the festival for decades, such as Mary Curtin who makes nature-inspired stoneware baskets; Annette White, an artist who paints on slate; Brenda and Hal Jones, who makes children's puzzles; and Mark Poole, a festival favorite for his wheel-thrown pottery.

But, this year, the show will also cater to the millennial age group, a new generation of art buyers who are reshaping today's art market. "We're pulling in some wonderful new contemporary artists along with a mix of those artists you know and love," said Bruns.

"There are people who still love traditional landscapes, and that's fine, but a lot of people my age don't always want a simple oil painting," added Bruns, 38, who is an artisan of sculptural needle felting made from roving yarn from sheep and her own Angora rabbits.



Lindy Bruns

"There will be a lot of emphasis on non-traditional art styles," she said. "The new generation of buyers like collecting art that is a reflection of who they are. Art needs to speak to them--it's like a personal branding."

The show also was voted one of Sunshine Artist Top 200 Arts and Craft Shows in 2022 and Blue Ride County Magazines Best Arts and Craft Show in 2023. Voted "Best Art Event in Region" and "Best Festival in Region" by Virginia Living Magazine readers in 2024, the Arts and Crafts Show features pottery, jewelry, mixed mediums, paintings, photography, sculpture, soaps & lotions, and more. ✨

Arts & Crafts Show

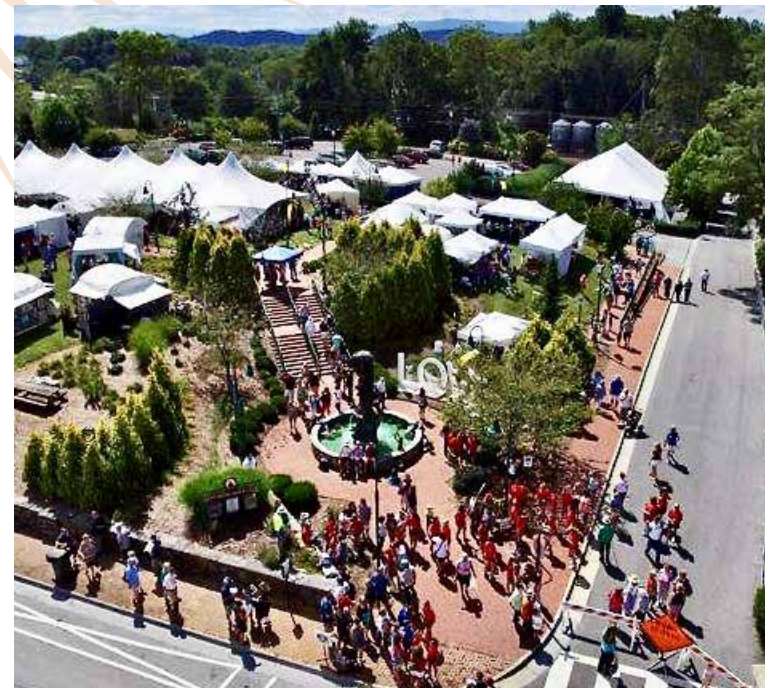
*Located on the Barter Green and The Martha Lawn, The Juried Arts & Crafts Show is open daily throughout the Festival from 9am-6pm.
The 75th Virginia Highlands Festival proudly announces these artisans participating in the Juried Arts & Crafts Show.*

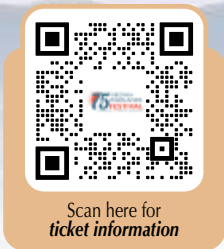
Barter Green Exhibitors

Annette White	Painting on Slate	Booth 1
Lisa Wright	Thistle Ridge Soap	Booth 2
Brenda Jones	Wooden Toys	Booth 3
Mary Curtin	Garden Pottery	Booth 4
Teresa Tilley	Painting	Booth 6
Clarence McCorsley	Wooden Boxes	Booth 7
Matthew Fluharty	Vintage Revival Jewelry	Booth 8
Marie Hribar	Four Winds Pottery	Booth 9
Gabriela Diaz-Capt	The Dudes Pant-Planters	Booth 10
Corrina Leidy	Mixed Media Artwork	Booth 11
David Leidy	Glass Wall Vases	Booth 12
Jan Barnes	Leather Jewelry	Booth 13
Astou Dioum	Baskets	Booths 14 & 16
Guy Shelton	Fine Wire Art Jewelry	Booth 15
Bruce Rosen	Wood Furnishings	Booth 18
Michael Floyd	Woodland Lampshades	Booth 20
Hannah Wood	Original Design Jewelry	Booth 21
Cory Potrafka	Crystalline Glaze Pottery	Booth 21
Sarah Thomsen	Little Red Hen	Booth 22
Charles Quillin	Quillin's Quills	Booth 24
Jazmine Torres	Leather Journals	Booth 25
Teresa Morbitzer	Original Design Jewelry	Booth 26
Anita Sobelson	Linen Designs	Booth 27
Sam Fisher	Large-Scale Watercolors	Booth 28
Bistra Hristova	Photography	Booth 29
Melinda Bruns	Felting	Booth 29
Patricia Hutchins	Suwannee Song Designs Jewelry	Booth 30
Dean Ernst	Essential Candy	Booth 31
Guy Fuovo	Wooden Sound Boxes	Booth 32
Kathye Light	Whimsical Art	Booth 33
Robin Willmann	Harmonic Journeys	Booth 34
Donna Spitzer	The Lazy Scroll	Booths 35 & 36
Sandra Byrne	In The Stix Studio Pottery	Booth 37
Tim Haratine	Built By Bees Gourmet Foods	Booth 38 & 39
Fred Draper	Photography	Booth 40
Nnamdi Ibenagu	Batik Clothing	Booths 42 & 43

The Martha Washington Inn Lawn

Carol Bodin	Enameling on Copper Jewelry	Booth 44
Cara Kokinda	Handcrafted Soaps & Essential Oils	Booth 45
Linda Flynn	Painting	Booth 46
Tim & Sabrena Jutzi	Sweet Balsamic Vinaigrette	Booth 47
Paul Aude	Leather Handbags & Accessories	Booth 49
Anna Fleckenstein	Folk Art Designed Candles	Booth 50
Alexandra Neckopulos	Original Design Silkscreen Prints	Booth 51
Daniel Lambert	Tie-Dye Wearables	Booths 51 & 52
Petty Shepard	Baskets	Booth 53
Terry Hadley	Wood	Booth 54
Kathryn Wingate	Oil Painting	Booth 55
John Diaz	Leather	Booth 55
Mary Hildebrand	Fine Jewelry	Booth 56
Jeff Laibson	Abstract Painting	Booth 57
Kathryn Laibson	Original Design Shawls & Scarves	Booth 58
Richard Horner	Hand Turned Fountain Pens	Booth 59
Kathryn Wingate	Oil Paintings	Booth 60





Craft Demonstrations by Holston Mountain Artisans & Music by the Crooked Road

Monday, July 29	10am-4pm	Jason Lester Seat Weaving
Tuesday, July 30	10am-4pm	John Dickens, Linda Childers and Mark Blevins Wood Carving
Wednesday, July 31	10am-4pm 5-7pm 6-7:30pm	Carolyn Neal Basket Weaving Crooked Road Musicians Late Night Shopping
Thursday, August 1	10am-4pm	Christina Warren Fabric Collage Art
Friday, August 2	10am-4pm	Sue Melkowski Needle Felting



History of the Arts & Crafts Committee

Perhaps the most consistent emphasis of the Virginia Highlands Festival for 75 years has been to feature high-quality work by area craftsmen. During the early festivals, there were exhibitions at the Martha Washington Inn featuring ceramics, hand-hooked rugs, jewelry, hand-painted wallpaper, furniture making and caning, silver and copper work, and corn-shuck dolls. Until the 1960s the emphasis at the festival was on exhibiting crafts and demonstrating how crafts were made, as an educational product, not on selling crafts. Through the 1970s, as the festival expanded, there were crafts sales and demonstrations in venues all over town. Finally, in 1979 the Craft Show moved to the lawn of the Martha Washington Inn, where it stayed until the Antique Market moved to Virginia Highlands Community College in 1987. Since that year, crafts and art have been sold and demonstrated on the Barter Green, expanding for some years onto the lawn of the Martha Washington Inn. It is now called the Juried Arts and Crafts Show. ✨



Mary Helton weaving a basket

Holston Mountain Artisans Events

Virginia Highlands Quilt Show

214 Park Street, Abingdon, VA 24210

July 26 - August 4

Monday - Saturday 10am-5pm and

Sunday 1-3pm



Sawdust Festival

214 Park Street, Abingdon, VA 24210

July 27th, 10am-4pm

Community Day

Abingdon Visitors Center, 208 W.
Main St., July 27, 10am-2pm

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Community Day

Fun Activities for Kids and Families Third Annual Community Day

Saturday, July 27 10am-2pm • Free

Fields-Penn House

Virginia Highlands Festival Community Day expands to the Abingdon Visitor's Center Lawn at the Fields-Penn House at the corner of Main and Cummings Streets. Child-centered organizations and local businesses will provide activities, games, and education. Learn who they are and what they do in our community. Meet a local fireman, police office, scout, ballet dancer, entrepreneur or volunteer. 🌟



Fields-Penn House



Fun for Kids



What's a Festival without fun things for kids?

This family-friendly festival has hands-on activities for budding artists of all ages!

Kids can enjoy making hot air balloons, basket weaving, printmaking, ribbon tiaras and more in the Kids Tent next to the Barter Theatre's Smith Stage on the Barter Green. Check out the schedule for activities your child will like!

Kids Tent Hours:

Saturday, July 27 (closed Sunday)

Monday, July 29 -Saturday, August 3
10am-2pm • Free

Second Annual Urban Pathway Walk/Run

Saturday July 27 8am-1pm

A Likely Yarn •Free

Saturday August 3: 8am-1pm

A Likely Yarn •Free

Pick up your registration card at A Likely Yarn.

Walk the pathway to the Abingdon Farmers Market. End your journey at the market info table and pick up your goodie bag.

Kids Fun Hunt '24

Pick up your scavenger hunt card and selfie fan at the Kids Tent located on the Barter Green. Complete five activities for a free ice cream sundae at Shaked! (284 W. Main St.) Fill the entire card and win a free T-shirt!

Friday, July 26 – August 4 10am-2pm

Kids Tent, Barter Green •Free



Kids Tent on the Barter Green Activity Schedule

Saturday, July 2 10am-2pm

Hot Air Balloon
Printmaking
Ribbon Tiara
Paper Crowns
Rock Painting
String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Monday, July 29 10am-2pm

Basket Weaving
Pinwheels
Squeegee Painting
Rock Painting
String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, July 30 10am-2pm

Dancing Ribbons
Mini Banjos
Bell Shakers
Rock Painting String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, July 31 10am-2pm

Basket Weaving
Pinwheels
Squeegee Painting
Rock Painting
String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, August 1 10am-2pm

Dancing Ribbons
Mini Banjos
Bell Shakers
Rock Painting String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Friday August 2 10am-2pm

Basket Weaving
Pinwheels
Squeegee Painting
Rock Painting
String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, August 3 10am-2pm

Hot Air Balloon
Stick Horse
Water-gun Painting
Rock Painting
String Art Mural
Youth Scavenger Hunt



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA



History of the *Youth and Teen Activities*

Children's activities were rarely a part of the Virginia Highlands Festival in its early years. As the festival grew in scope, art classes were held at the Martha Washington Inn. Robert Porterfield was friends with Emmett Kelly, the famous clown, so children would have enjoyed his performance at the Barter Theatre and a workshop for children. Occasionally there were performing arts groups, like puppet theaters, booked for children, and children enjoyed taking classes in English country dancing and clogging. In the 1970s for several years, there were visits by the characters from the Land of Oz, a North Carolina theme park.

Eventually, there was a Youth Committee that programmed arts and crafts activities at a Youth Tent. The two most popular children's activities for many years were an annual Dog Show and a Bike Parade. Highlands Ballet frequently performed a ballet during the festival, and for many years there was a youth talent competition, "Abingdon's Got Talent." Of course, throughout the festival's 75-year history, Barter Theatre has had plays for children. ✨



New Adult Classes

Dance your way to fitness!

**Open
Registration
For Kids**

Class	Day	Time	Start Date
Ballroom	Thurs./Sat.	6:30pm	Ongoing
Barre/Pilates Fusion	Wednesdays	6:15pm	Ongoing
Beginner Tap	Thursdays	6:30pm	Ongoing
Intermediate Tap	Tuesdays	5:30pm	Ongoing

Call/Text
423-963-9007
540-818-7802

Email:
highlands
ballet
company
@gmail.com



**contact us for up to date schedule & class add-ons
(privates available)**

www.highlandsballet.org



Friends of the Washington County Public Library Annual Festival Book Sale

205 Oak Hill Street, Abingdon

Two blocks from the Festival Arts & Crafts

Friday, July 26, 5-7 pm - Preview Night for Members, \$10
(Membership can be purchased that night)

Saturday, July 27, 10am-5pm

Sunday, July 28, 2-5pm

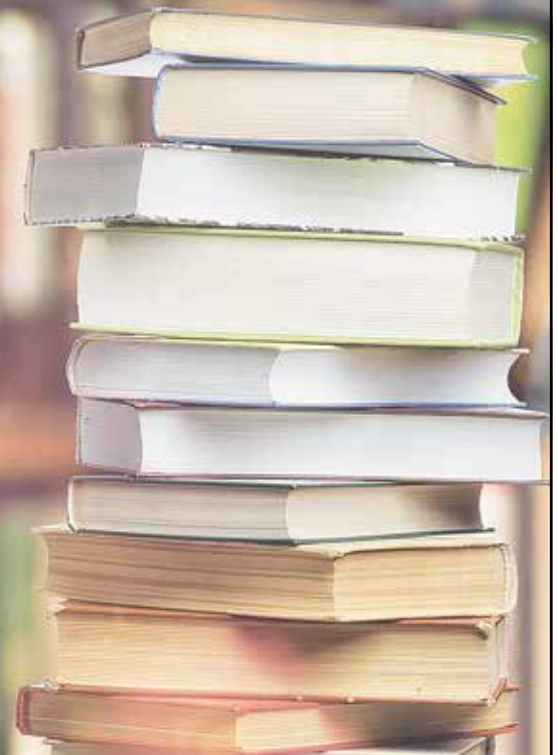
Monday, July 29 through Saturday, August 3—10am-5pm

Sunday, August 4, Bag Day, 2-5pm

(All the books you can put in a bag, \$5)

Thousands of gently used hardcovers and paperbacks, including popular and classic fiction, crafts, cookbooks, art, reference, history, religion, military, romance, travel, collectibles, jigsaw puzzles, and children's books.

Cash and Credit/Debit Cards accepted



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ABINGDON, VA



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AND FAMILY CENTER #1966
WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CHAPTER #2019

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for weekly specials
and event details



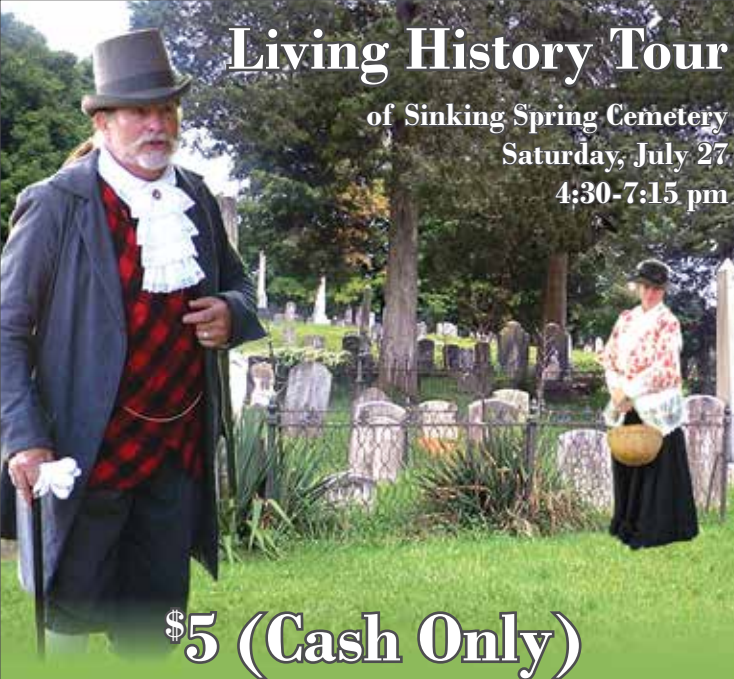
PO Box 321 Abingdon, VA 24212-0321 Ph:276-628-2764

FESTIVAL
LUNCHEONS

St. Thomas
Episcopal Church
124 E. Main St.

Monday, July 29
Wednesday, July 31
11:00-1:00
Adults \$14.00
Children (under 12) \$10.00
Quiche, salad, dessert, and beverage
Ham biscuits \$5.00

All proceeds donated to ministries in the Abingdon area, the
Appalachian region, and the global community.



Living History Tour
of Sinking Spring Cemetery
Saturday, July 27
4:30-7:15 pm

\$5 (Cash Only)
at the gate

Entrance at Russell Rd. & Valley St.

Presented by the
Historical Society of Washington County, VA
Graphic Design by: Stephen Wolfsberger

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Historic Homes Tour

Abingdon Historic Homes Tour

Saturday, August 3 10am-4pm • \$25

Downtown Abingdon

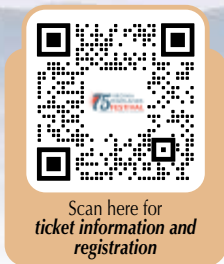
Abingdon prides itself on its well-preserved downtown historic district and its commitment to historic preservation. Tour the interiors of a variety of the best-preserved Federal, Victorian, and early 20th-century houses and buildings in Virginia, all within walking distance of downtown. The Martha Washington Inn and Spa will have guided tours every half hour.

Find complete descriptions of all the houses on the tour on the festival website at vahighlandsfestival.com

Tickets are \$25 each. Purchase tickets online at vahighlandsfestival.com, or during the month of July at Shady Business (180 East Main St.) On the day of the tour, purchase tickets at Shady Business or at the house at 242 Grove Terrace.

*Even if you have purchased a ticket online, you must pick up the printed house guide and map to the houses at Shady Business or 242 Grove Terrace on the day of the tour. ✨





Gotwalt House on Historic Homes Tour

Jessica Gotwalt described finding their antique home as a “happy accident.”

“I have a dangerous habit of checking Zillow constantly,” laughed the Abingdon homeowner. “I saw this beautiful house full of potential and in need of a lot of love. It had everything I wanted, and I knew it could keep me busy for a lifetime.”

In May 2022, Jessica and her husband Chris Gotwalt bought the home and have spent the past two years restoring the infrastructure and putting in their personal touches.

The house is an American Four-Square design, an Arts and Crafts architecture style popular from the mid-1890s to the late 1930s as it utilizes every square foot of floor space. The house will be part of the annual Abingdon Historic Homes Tour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4 where participants can tour a variety of the best-preserved Federal, Victorian, and early 20th century houses and buildings in Virginia, all within walking distance of downtown.

The aging house was far from perfect when they started. While it captured their hearts for its convenient proximity to downtown attractions, spacious one-acre grounds, and beautiful woodwork, it needed a full infrastructure renovation. The extensive list of repairs included new electric wiring; plumbing; gutters; a new roof; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; and kitchen and bathroom renovations.

“And, lots and lots of paint,” said Jessica. “We did almost everything except for taking it down to the studs, which enabled



The renovated living room of the Gotwalt house

us to preserve the original plaster walls.”

Through the renovation, the couple’s goal was to preserve the feel and character of the house. “We are old house lovers,” said Jessica as she showed each room. “These spaces have a feel and charm that can’t be duplicated.”

In their house the charm shows up in the stately mantels, original oak trim, and wavy glass windows. In fact, the day they bought the house, they pulled up yellow shag carpeting to find beautiful intact oak floors with irreplaceable one-and-one-quarter inch wide boards that now look almost like new after refinishing.

The real fun came when it was time to decorate the interior with an overarching theme inspired by nature. The couple used wall colors that offer a moody modern style. “I feel like the house demands bold colors,” said Jessica. The dining room walls are covered with large Dutch-inspired floral wallpaper that resembles the 1920s. A taxidermy peacock and deer are whimsical conversation pieces in the room.

Wall space is decorated with bright and lively paintings she found at local antique and thrift stores. The living room with its vivid blue walls contrasts with the emerald green velvet sofa—a combination that invites you to linger. The black walls in the sun room accentuate the numerous windows that open to beautiful scenery. Pink chairs offer a comfortable and cozy feel.

“A friend told me the décor resembles a British library,” said Jessica. “Bold colors and cozy nooks are my vibe, so I loved that description.”

“This year the house turns a hundred, she said and we are absolutely thrilled to celebrate its preservation and renewal by being on the home tour.” ✨

History Tours & Lectures

Abingdon Spirit Tours

Friday, July 26-Saturday, August 3 7:30pm

\$20 (cash only)

Meet at Wolf Hills Coffee, 112 Court St

Join Abingdon's "Haint Mistress" Donnamarie Emmert as she guides participants on her Abingdon Spirit Tour, now in its 28th year. Walk along historic Main Street delighting in the town's history and the ghost stories of businesses and homes along the way. Not recommended for children under 10, or people in wheeled conveyances. Tours will be called off in case of heavy rain. ☀



Barter Theatre: History and Backstage Tour

Friday, July 26 11am-12:30pm • \$10 at the door

Friday, July 26 5pm-6:30pm • \$10 at the door

Friday, August 2 11am-12:30pm • \$10 at the door

Friday, August 2 5pm-6:30pm • \$10 at the door

127 W. Main Street

Learn about the history of Barter Theatre, from its beginnings during the Depression of the 1930s to its becoming the State Theatre of Virginia and one of the most respected repertory theatres in the United States. Visit the backstage area, dressing rooms, and maybe even get to see the mysterious "Barter tunnel."

This tour will be at least one and a half hours long and includes several flights of stairs, as well as lengthy periods of standing. Tours are limited to no more than 25 people, on a first-come, first-served basis. ☀



Abingdon Walking Tour

Sunday, July 28 7:30pm • Free

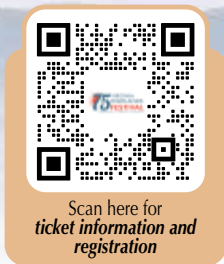
Wednesday, July 31 7:30pm • Free

Sunday, August 4 7:30pm • Free

Meet at the front steps of the Washington County Courthouse

How are the salt industry, Shangri-La, Daniel Boone, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the American Southwest all connected to Abingdon? Join local historian and Abingdon native Garrett Jackson on this walking tour of Abingdon's known and little-known history. Learn how a small frontier town became a center for the arts, culture, politics, and religion in Southwest Virginia, and how it is connected to locations nationally and internationally. ☀





Myths and Legends: Abingdon's History Revisited

Thursday, August 1 7:30pm • Free

Illustrated Lecture, Executive Auditorium SVHEC

It is natural that towns such as Abingdon, with a rich history going back to the Revolutionary War, would romanticize events from its past, preferring myths and legends rather than facts. Was the Martha Washington Inn or the Tavern used as a Civil War hospital? Did a young girl at Martha Washington College nurse a wounded Yankee spy back to health? Did Daniel Boone visit Abingdon in 1760 and name it Wolf Hills because wolves attacked his dogs? Is there a mysterious tunnel between the Martha Washington Inn and the Barter Theatre? Walter Jenny, president of the Historical Society of Washington County Virginia, aided by Dr. Jim Hagy's research, will sort out the facts versus the myths of Abingdon's past. ✨



Living History Tour of the Historic Sinking Spring Cemetery

Saturday, July 27 4:30-7:15pm • \$5 (cash only)

123 Russell Rd.

The Historical Society of Washington County Virginia presents a Living History Tour of the Sinking Spring Cemetery. The guided group tours will walk through the picturesque burial ground, where the graves of at least nine Revolutionary War veterans, two governors of Virginia, and numerous Civil War veterans are among the notable graves in the cemetery. Also buried here is Landon Boyd, a 19th-century African-American leader who served on the petit jury empaneled by the federal government to try former Confederate President Jefferson Davis for treason. Interpreters in period costumes at selected grave sites will tell the remarkable stories of the people lying at rest.

The tours start at the cemetery entrance and last about an hour. Tickets will go on sale at 4:15pm with the first tours beginning at 4:30pm. The last tour will begin at 7:15pm. Comfortable shoes are recommended as the tour involves walking over uneven ground. This event is not recommended for wheelchairs. Small children may find the event boring. Tours will proceed rain or shine unless there is severe weather. ✨

How to Clean Tombstones with Charlie Barnette

Saturday, July 27 1pm • Free

Sinking Spring Cemetery, Valley St. at Russell Rd.

Many people have family cemeteries that are in disrepair, with tombstones discolored or covered with lichens. This workshop will teach you the best way to clean tombstones. Do you use soap and water, a spray washer, the D2 Biological solution, or do you simply use a brush? Charlie Barnette became interested in tombstone repair and cemetery restoration a decade ago when he was researching his own family's cemeteries. ✨



Abingdon Muster Grounds Activities

Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution ***Every day of the Festival, 10am-5pm • Free*** ***1780 Muster Place (Colonial Road)***

Learn about perhaps the most significant event in Abingdon's history--the mustering of troops for what became the Battle of Kings Mountain.

When the call to arms was made during the Revolutionary War in response to a challenge by British Colonel Patrick Ferguson to the Overmountain settlers of North Carolina and Virginia, the men of Washington County, Virginia, answered in force. Four hundred men made their way to the muster grounds in Abingdon, a well-known meeting place.

The field at the Abingdon Muster Grounds is a remnant of the original muster ground, then known as Craig's Meadow. They gathered under Colonel William Campbell on September 24, 1780, said goodbye to their loved ones, and headed south that

same day to join other Patriot militia who were gathering at Fort Watauga at Sycamore Shoals (today Elizabethton, Tennessee) on September 25.

Concurrently, troops were mustering throughout the foothills and mountains of the Upper South as well. Although they didn't know it yet, these Virginia troops would end up marching the farthest of any regiment of the campaign on their quest for safety and independence.

The resulting confrontation with Ferguson's troops, called the Battle of Kings Mountain, resulted in an overwhelming victory for the Patriots and is now seen as one of the most important turning points of the Revolutionary War.

The Abingdon Muster Grounds features the W. Blair Keller, Jr. Interpretive Center, and the northern terminus of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. ✨



Appalachian Highland Thunder: Celtic Tribal Music ***Saturday, July 27 5-6pm • Free*** ***Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place***

Experience one of the inaugural concerts of Appalachian Thunder, a new Celtic group, musicians from the Appalachian Highlanders Pipe and Drum Corps, who are interested in exploring new pipe and drum music. Their music looks back to the medieval tribal roots of Celtic music, at the same time updating the music to incorporate rock rhythms and a more contemporary feeling. ✨

Muster Grounds Musick Fife and Drum Demonstration

Sunday, July 28 1-2 pm • Free
Abingdon Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place

For the young settlers living on Virginia's frontier, serving as a militiaman was for men 16 years old or older. The younger boys, wanting to serve, were recruited as field musicians. The field musicians used drums, fifes, and horns to signal duty commands in camp and on the field of battle. Muster Grounds Musick serves the Abingdon Muster Grounds as the field musicians for



events and educational programs. Come hear a sampling of fifes and drums that was the communication system of the colonial militias. ✨



Hidden Treasures: A Walk Along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Saturday, July 27 10am Free

Abingdon Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place

Starting at the Keller Interpretive Center at the Abingdon Muster Grounds, join a National Park Service Ranger from the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail to discover some of the interesting history of the Abingdon Muster Grounds and how it impacted the American Revolution. You will also have the opportunity to see the streambank restoration project along Wolf Creek and see what kind of amazing natural treasures are hiding in downtown Abingdon. This out-and-back walk along the paved trail will cover approximately 1.5 miles total. 🌟



Following William Campbell: A Walk Along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Sunday, July 28 10am Free

Abingdon Muster Grounds, 1780 Muster Place

Starting at the Keller Interpretive Center at the Abingdon Muster Grounds, join a National Park Service Ranger from the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail to hear about how in 1780 Abingdon-area leader William Campbell helped fight a battle that turned the tide of the American Revolution. This out-and-back walk along Wolf Creek will cover approximately 1.5 miles total along a paved trail, taking in the beauty of the streambank restoration project and discussing William Campbell's role in the American Revolution and the Battle of Kings Mountain. 🌟



I Have a Trail to Tell: The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Monday, July 29 7:30pm

Lecture, SVHEC

Did you know that Abingdon has a National Park facility? Learn about the story of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, which begins at Abingdon and goes 330 miles to South Carolina. In the summer of 1780, about 1,000 militiamen gathered in the Abingdon Muster Grounds to begin a trip over the mountains to track down British Major Patrick Ferguson who had threatened the "Overmountain Settlements" in Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. They met other militias and defeated the British troops at the Battle of King's Mountain, one of the turning points of the American Revolution. 🌟



Abingdon Muster Grounds Activities

Stories from The Backcountry

***Friday, July 26 - Sunday, August 4 3-4pm • Free
1780 Muster Place***

Historic interpreters from both the Sons and the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, and other heritage organizations will be recounting stories of the early Southwest Virginia settlers and militiamen who helped conquer the wilderness and secure our independence. ✨



Colonial Crafts Demonstrations

***Saturday, July 27 10am-3pm • Free
Sunday, July 28 10am-3pm • Free
Saturday, August 3 10am-3pm • Free
Sunday, August 4 10am-3pm • Free
1780 Muster Place***

At the Abingdon Muster Grounds, experience what life was like in the Backcountry of Virginia during the Colonial era. What were the various roles of the men and women? Demonstrators will demonstrate the skills that the colonists had to master to survive in the hostile environment. ✨



Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree

***Friday, July 26 - Sunday, August 4 2-3pm • Free
1780 Muster Place***

As they age, most people begin to look back to the past and become interested in their ancestors and where they came from, searching to find bits of information about their lives. Historians and genealogists will conduct a workshop/demonstration to give visitors tips on researching their ancestors. Online resources are important, but visiting relatives and seeking out archives and repositories of historical data are important too. The Revolutionary War and Civil War heritage organizations have member genealogists to help with finding records from those periods in history. ✨





**A Conventicle with
the Fightin’ Parson**
Sunday, July 28 10am-Noon
Sunday, August 4 10am-Noon
Free, 1780 Muster Place

Join historical interpreter Michael Henningsen as he recreates a Presbyterian conventicle that one of Abingdon’s founders, Fightin’ Parson Charles Cummings, might have preached to his 18th-century congregation. Cummings was an Indian fighter in addition to being a Presbyterian minister. He established the Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church, and his cabin is preserved in the Sinking Spring Cemetery. ✨



Muster Grounds Events

Friday	July 26	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
		5-5:30pm	Flag Retirement Ceremony
Saturday	July 27	10am	“Hidden Treasures” Walk
		10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		10am-3pm	Colonial Craft Demonstrations
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
		5-6pm	Appalachian Highland Thunder-Tribal Celtic Music
Sunday	July 28	10 am	“Following William Campbell” Walk
		10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		10am-Noon	A Conventicle with The Fightin’ Parson
		10am-3pm	Colonial Craft Demonstrations
		1-2pm	Muster Grounds Musick-Fife & Drum Demonstration
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Monday	July 29	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Tuesday	July 30	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Wednesday	July 31	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Thursday	August 1	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Friday	August 2	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Saturday	August 3	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		10am-3pm	Colonial Craft Demonstrations
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry
Sunday	August 4	10am-5pm	Interpretive Center OPEN
		10am-Noon	A Conventicle with The Fightin’ Parson
		10am-3pm	Colonial Craft Demonstrations
		2-3pm	Who do you think you are? Growing your Family Tree
		3-4pm	Stories from the Backcountry

History & Related Events

Tour of White's Mill

Friday, July 26-Sunday, July 28 10am-5pm • Free
Thursday, August 1-Sunday, August 4 10am-5pm • Free
12291 White's Mill Road

Tour one of the last working grist mills in the region. White's Mill has recently undergone a complete renovation to the outside of the building, including a new roof, siding, windows, and major structural work to the hurst frame and south wall. Visit the Mercantile, and shop for goods by local artisans as well as White's Mill cornmeal and grits. ✨



Duncansville One-Room Schoolhouse Tour

Saturday, July 27 10am-4pm • Free
Sunday, July 28 2pm-4pm • Free
Saturday, August 3 10am-4pm • Free
Sunday, August 4 2pm-4pm • Free
225 Stanley St. between the Coomes Center and E. B. Stanley Middle School

Tour the fully restored late 19th century schoolhouse, hosted by the Washington County Retired Teachers, who give visitors a glimpse of what early education was like, including wooden desks, inkwells, slates, and a pot-bellied stove. ✨



History of the *History Committee*

Abingdon has been the center of the region's history for two hundred years. As the Virginia Highlands Festival developed to celebrate the arts and culture of the area, it was natural also to showcase the town's history in the annual festival. The first history events were historical homes tours, not only in the town of Abingdon but also bus tours to historical properties in Emory and Bristol in the surrounding areas. The last excursions on the Virginia Creeper Railroad occurred during the festival.

As the tourism agencies in Abingdon began to market heritage tourism, historical reenactments of events from the Revolutionary War and Civil War, as well as reenactors portraying historical figures from Abingdon's past began to appear annually. For two years in the 1970s, there was an outdoor drama during the festival, "The Fighting Parson," based on the life of one of the town's founders, Parson Charles Cummings. Walking tours, ghost tours and history lecture series became popular. Then in the 2000s, with the establishment of the Abingdon Muster Grounds as the northern terminus of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, a part of the national park system, there has been renewed interest in celebrating Abingdon's role in American history ✨

"VIRGINIA CREEPER"

SPECIAL EXCURSION Train To West Jefferson, North Carolina
DURING
Virginia Highlands Arts & Crafts Festival
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1962

Train leaves Abingdon Station 12:45 P.M. Eastern DAYLIGHT Time; returns to Abingdon 7:45 P. M., E.D.T. with one-half hour stop in West Jefferson. Train will be made up of air conditioned, reclining chair coaches, and open air gondolas for photographers. This trip will cover 111 miles round trip. At White Top Station, the elevation is 3517 feet, the highest point on any standard gauge passenger-carrying railroad East of the Rocky Mountains.

Price of Round Trip Ticket includes Delicious Chicken Box Lunch.

Advance sale prior to 6:00 P. M. E.D.T., Saturday, August 4	\$7.00	\$3.50
After 6:00 P. M. E.D.T., Saturday, August 4	\$8.00	\$4.00
Children Under 5 Years Old - FREE		

Soft Drinks, Candy, Ice Cream and Sandwiches will be available on the train.



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Monday – Saturday: 8am – 8pm
Sunday: 9am – 6pm
**Tumbling Creek Cidery & Delta Blues BBQ Coming Soon*

238 W. MAIN

Abingdon Commons parking is accessible from W Main Street directly to the left of the main entrance.

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Upcoming Festival Events

Plein Air Abingdon

It's the perfect pairing: the centuries-old practice of painting "en plein air" (in the open air), and the beauty of Virginia's southwestern highlands. From the charming historic district of Abingdon (3rd place winner of USA Today's Best Small Town), to rugged mountain waterfalls, and the rolling farm fields in between, treasures wait to be captured.

Plein Air painting adds something special to each piece of art. There are subtle hints of color, moods, and passing moments that find their way into the final painting that—if it were painted from reference materials in the studio—would not have been observed.

Mark your calendars for Plein Air Abingdon 2024! Artists, come enjoy some world-class painting opportunities, networking, and sales galleries. Art lovers, come observe some incredible artists in their "natural habitat," see how their amazing art

2024 Prizes

Best in Show - \$1500

1st Place - \$1000

2nd Place - \$750

3rd Place - \$500

Honorable Mention - \$250

Quick Draw Winner - \$500



2023 Best in Show by George Van Hook

comes together, and take advantage of opportunities to purchase a treasure that will bring you joy for life.

"The Virginia Highlands Plein Air event in Abingdon, VA is one of the hidden gems of the circuit. It combines the nicest people with a magnificent landscape and superb organization. I predict that it will soon be on everyone's list," said George Van Hook, the 2023 Best in Show winner. ✨



Logan Falls



Capturing the Historic Sinking Spring Cemetery



Scan here for
ticket information and
registration

75 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA



Jeremy Sams



Watauga Lights



Sam's Cashiers Path



Sam's Crystal Clear

Jeremy Sams to be Plein Air Juror

Jeremy Sams won his first art award at age six. His passion for art was already evident. His talent and drive made it possible for him to begin his professional art career by age 19. His artistic growth took on a new form in 2011 when he was introduced to painting en plein air. This same year, he and his wife mourned the death of two children. Through this trying time, Jeremy found new inspiration and healing through painting outdoors.

"Painting en plein air has become a means of therapy and release of emotion for me. I can enjoy God's creation and relish in the beauty He has given us to enjoy in this short life. I particularly love the challenge of capturing the moods of light and atmosphere and the composing of the elements in order to tell a story without using words. My aim is to help elevate the souls of the viewer and bring a sense of peace and hope."

Jeremy has won over 55 awards for his work, including 1st place prizes in the Bath County Plein Air Festival, Artists on Location: Knoxville, Blowing Rock Plein Air Festival, and more. He was the featured artist in Plein Air Magazine in 2017.

For more information about Jeremy, or to view more of his work, visit www.jeremysams.com. ✨



October 3-5, 2024
ABINGDON, VA



Experience the fall tapestry of Southwest Virginia set upon the canvas of our beautiful Appalachian Mountains. Be inspired by the plethora of textures, colors, and majestic scenery to create your masterpiece.



Best in Show 2023
They Tail on the Land by George Van Hook
oil on canvas

REGISTRATION OPENS JAN. 15th
pleinairabingdon.com



Upcoming Festival Events



Scan here for
ticket information

EAT. DRINK. LOVE. VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS

Small businesses, farmers, growers, and restaurants have put Abingdon on USA Today's "Best Small-Town Food Scene" for the last six years. In 2025 Virginia Highlands Festival culinary events will happen year round.

In April 2024, Eat.Drink.Love Virginia Highlands was a month-long celebration of food. At the Stormbrew farm, participants sipped rhubarb and sorrel mocktails. Willie Bordwine from the Martha's Sisters restaurant showed how to adapt historic recipes. After tasting Willie's grandma's recipe, an attendee said it was "the best biscuit on the planet." Our local James Beard-awarded pastry chef, David Collier at the Girl and the Raven taught how to make croissants using laminated doughs. Other activities included placemat knitting and crochet classes at A Likely Yarn and an apron kit available from My Little Fabric Store.

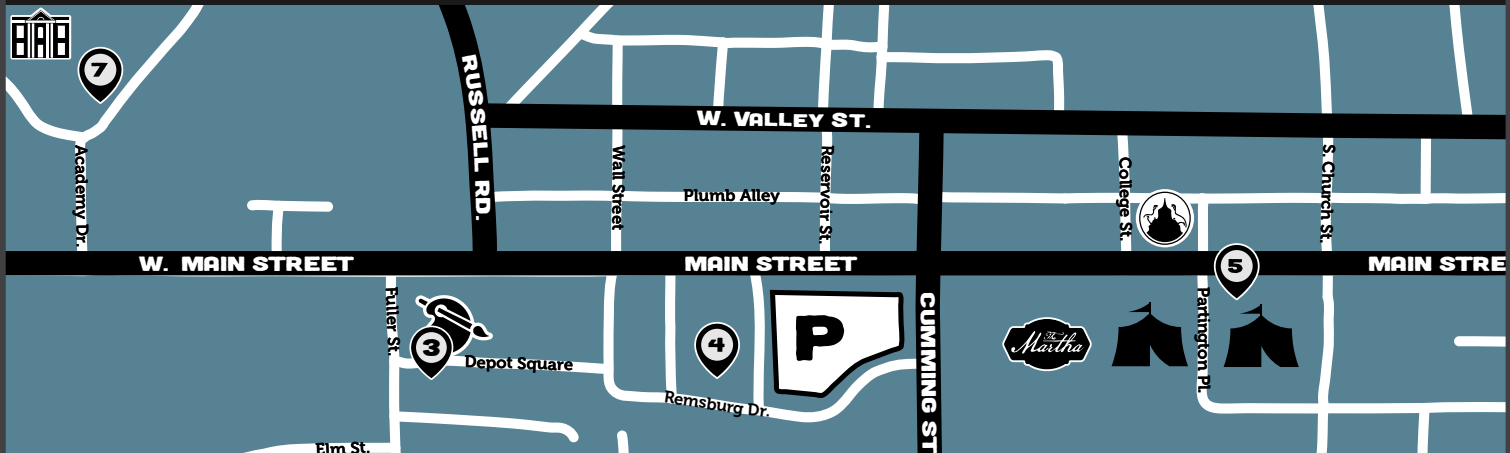
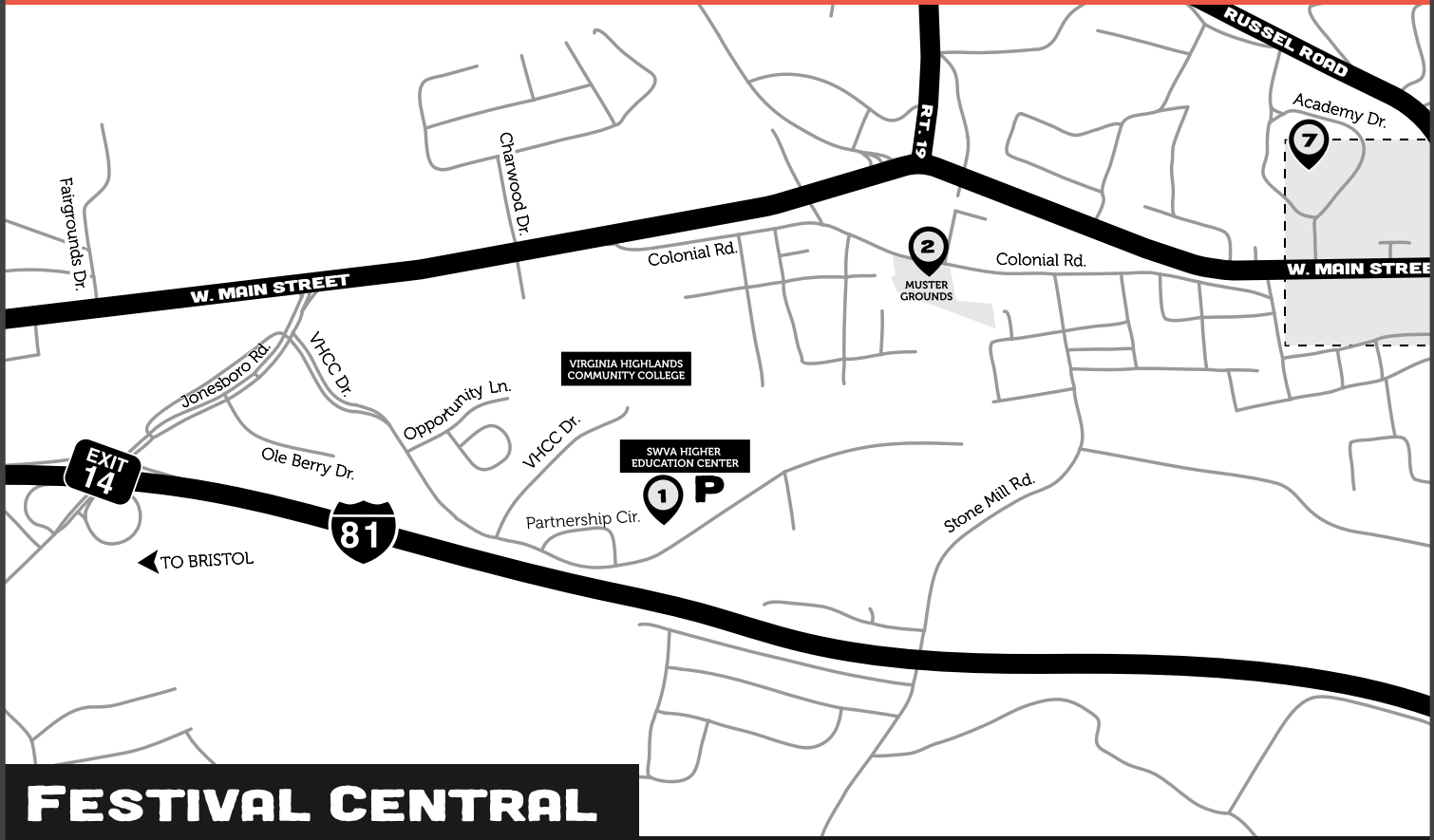
Some culinary events are already planned for the next year. In the fall there will be a tasting tour of the new Commons including samplings from Brazen Raven, Rise, Platter & Pour, the Henhouse and Tumbling Creek Cider Company. In December a Gingerbread competition will kickoff the holidays. Chef Collier has promised to teach how to temper and use chocolate in baking. Many of our popular events will also be back next year.

Don't miss any Eat.Drink.Love Virginia Highlands events throughout the year by visiting www.vahighlandsfestival.com. Check out our restaurants at A Taste of Abingdon. ✨





2024 HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL MAP



PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

FREE BUS SERVICE

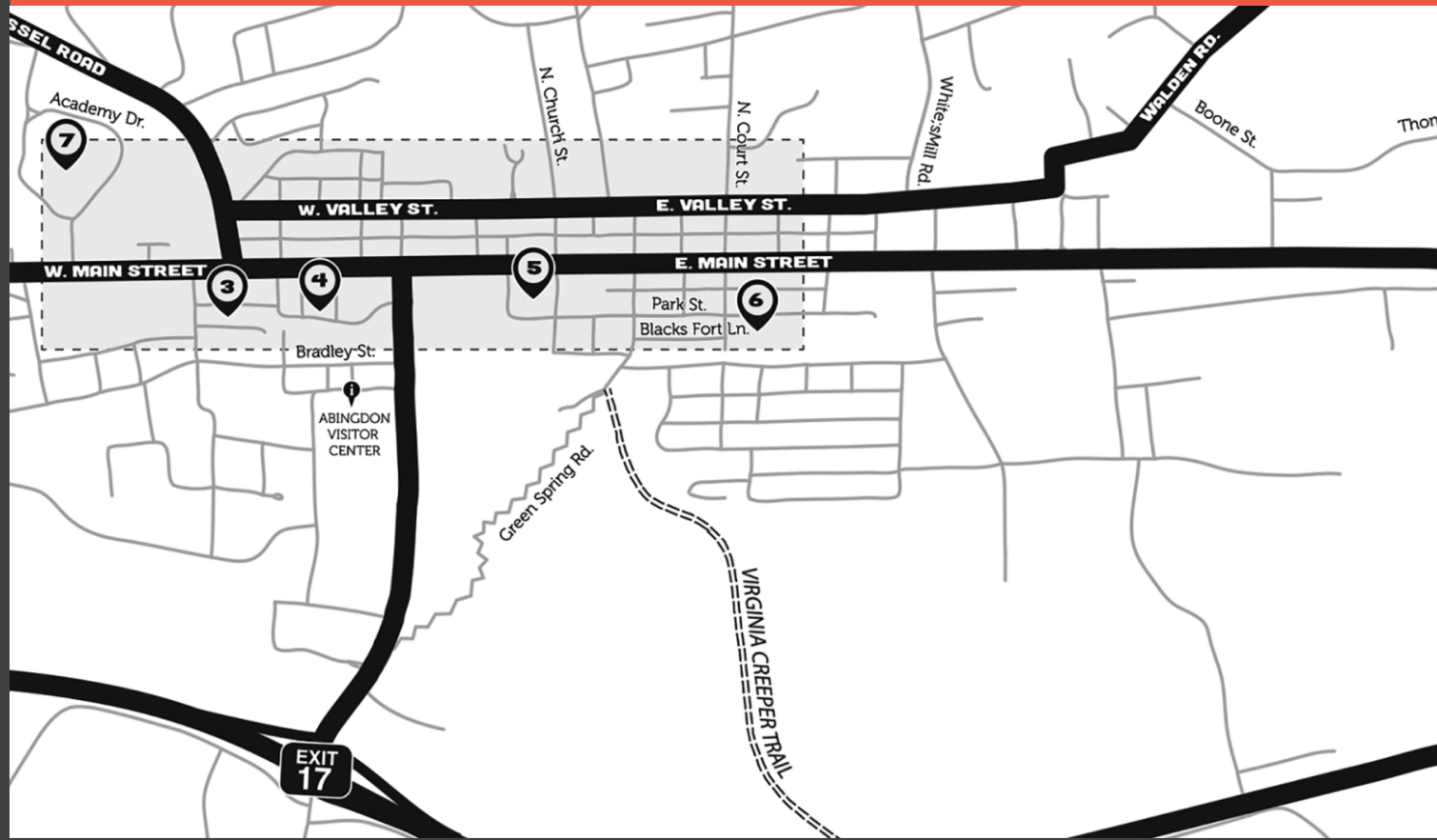
MONDAY - THURSDAY:

Bus stops every 30 minutes from 10am at SWVA Higher Education Center
Bus stops every 30 minutes from 10:15am at Barter Fountain
Final Returning Bus: Barter to SWVA Higher Education Center @ 5:45pm

FRIDAY - SUNDAY:

Bus stops every 15 minutes from 10am at both SWVA Higher Education Center and Barter Fountain
Final Returning Bus from both locations @ 5:45pm

Ample parking available in the Festival lots off I-81, take Exit 14 for SWVA Higher Education Center
Street parking & smaller lots are available throughout downtown Abingdon.



FESTIVAL MAP KEY

- Bus Stops
- Juried Fine Art
- William King Museum of Art
- Juried Arts & Crafts
- Barter Theatre
- Holston Mountain Artisans
- Parking
- The Martha Washington Inn & Spa

WELCOME TO THE

75 VIRGINIA
HIGHLANDS
FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF APPALACHIA

FESTIVAL BUS STOPS JULY 26-AUG 4, 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM

- 1 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL ANTIQUES & VINTAGE SHOW** (Southwest Virginia Higher Ed. Center, 1 Partnership Circle)
- 2 MUSTER GROUNDS** (1780 Muster Place)
The 9-acre Abingdon Muster Grounds is the premier center for Colonial Backcountry history from the American Revolutionary Period in Southwest Virginia.
- 3 ARTS DEPOT** (314 Depot Square) View the Virginia Highlands Festival Juried Fine Arts Show and visit working artists' studios.
- 4 THE COMMONS** (238 West Main Street)
- 5 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW AND BARTER THEATRE** (127 West Main Street)
- 6 HOLSTON MOUNTAIN ARTISANS** (214 Park Street) Handmade Arts and Crafts Shop featuring artists within a 100-mile radius of Abingdon.
- 7 WILLIAM KING MUSEUM OF ART** (415 Academy Drive)



Doug Beasley
276-623-7279



Taylor Bettis
423-341-2408



Patrick Campbell
276-780-5566



Stan Dailey
423-930-0716



Sharon Dye
423-845-0452



Dave Fletcher
276-345-6994



Lori Foster
276-274-6211



Mike Guffey
423-383-1619



Natasha Honaker
423-612-4992



Roberta Hylton
276-356-5700



Debbie Kiser
276-698-4960



Bear Lloyd
276-608-0522



Heather Moses
276-393-9518



Josh Murray
276-245-0894



Aaron Napier
276-274-0871



Pam Patrick
276-356-5432



Dave Prater
276-685-7418



Phyllis Ramey
276-623-6806



Joe Robinson
276-706-0373



Cindy Rollins
276-200-8986



Tim Sproles
423-612-8747



Kenton Thompson
407-982-9377



Lindsay Trudeau
276-780-6371



Steve Willinger
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Jenny Woods
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2024 VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Schedule subject to change without notice.
Addresses are in Abingdon unless stated.*

Wednesday, July 24

10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
2pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
6-8pm	Talk.Taste.Tour.	\$50 online	The Tasting Room at Nicewonder

Thursday, July 25

10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
2pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
6pm	Appalachian Supper	\$200 online	Hickory Fine Dining
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.

Friday, July 26

8-8:30am	Writers & Readers Days	Registration onsite	SVHEC
8:30-9:15am	Writers & Readers Days	1-day ticket \$40, 2-day ticket \$70, available on site & online	SVHEC
8:45-9am	Arts & Crafts Ribbon Cutting	Free	Barter Green
9-10am	Early Bird Shopping Antiques & Vintage Market	\$30 (includes antiques season pass)	SVHEC
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
9:15am-4:15pm	Writers & Readers Days Workshops	1-day ticket \$40, 2-day \$70 available on site & online	SVHEC
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10am-noon	Stream Discovery	Free (registration required by 7/25, call 276-628-1600)	12314 Whites Mill Road, Abingdon, VA
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place

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Website: appalachiancenterforballet.com

10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road
11am-12:30pm	Barter Theatre: A History and Backstage Tour	\$10 at door	127 W. Main St
12pm	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
4:30-5:15pm	Exclusive Patrons Reception	(closed to public/free for Patrons)	Arts Depot
5-6:30pm	Barter Theatre: A History and Backstage Tour	\$10 at door	127 W. Main St
5-7pm	Annual Festival Book Sale: Preview Night for Members only	(membership can be purchased on site \$10)	205 Oak Hill St. Washington County Public Library
5:15-6:30pm	Juried Fine Art & Youth Art Show winners announced	Free	Arts Depot
6-8:30pm	Area Fly Fishing Indoor Class	Free	SVHEC, room 240
7-10pm	Diamond Gala: Dinner & Swing Band	tickets online (free swing lesson at 6pm)	Martha Ballroom
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Saturday, July 27

8-8:30am	Writers & Readers Days	Registration onsite	SVHEC
8am-1pm	Abingdon Farmers Market	Always Free	Remsburg Drive
8am-1pm	2nd Annual Urban Pathway Walk/Run	Free	Start at A Likely Yarn, finish at Farmers Market, prizes for participants
8:30-9:15am	Writers & Readers Days	1-day ticket \$40, 2-day ticket \$70, available on site & online	SVHEC
8:30-11am	Fly Fishing & Aquatic Entomology	Free (register by 5pm, 7/26, call 276-614-8964)	Virginia Creeper Fly Shop, 16501 Jeb Stuart Hwy, Abingdon
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
9:15am-4:15pm	Writers & Readers Days Workshops	1-day ticket \$40, 2-day ticket \$70, available on site & online	SVHEC
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10am	Hidden Treasures: A Walk Along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-2pm	2nd Annual Community Day	Free	Visitors Center Lawn
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent on Barter Green
10am-3pm	Colonial Crafts Demonstrations	Free	1780 Muster Place





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10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-4pm	Sawdust Festival	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-4pm	Duncanville One-Room Schoolhouse Tour	Free	225 Stanley St.
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road
12-4pm	Kitchen Tour	\$40 online	Abingdon Commons (from 11:30am-12:30pm)
2pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
4:30-7:15pm	Living History Tour: Historic Sinking Spring Cemetery	\$5 cash	Russell Rd. at Valley St.
5-6pm	Appalachian Highland Thunder: Celtic Tribal Music	Free	1780 Muster Place
7-10pm	Tuatha Dea Concert	Free	Abingdon Farmers Market
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Sunday, July 28

9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am	Following William Campbell: A Walk Along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-noon	Abingdon Vineyards Tour	\$5 at site	Abingdon Vineyards
10am-noon	A Conventicle with the Fightin' Parson	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-3pm	Colonial Crafts Demonstrations	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place



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10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road
1-2pm	Muster Grounds Music: Fife and Drum Demonstration	Free	1780 Muster Place
1-4pm	Farm Tour: Food.Flowers.Fiber.	Free	Meet at Full Bloom Farm House
1-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans, 241 Park St.
1-4:15pm	Snorkeling at Whitetop/Laurel Creek	\$20 register online by 7/26	Straight Branch Parking Lot, Mt. Rogers (rain date 8/4)
1-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
1-5pm	William King Museum of Art: Exhibits	Free	415 Academy Dr.
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
2-4pm	Duncanville One-Room Schoolhouse Tour	Free	225 Stanley St. between Coomes Center & E.B. Stanley Middle School
2-5pm	Annual "Festival Book Sale"	Free	Washington County Public Library
3pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
7pm	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
7pm	Abingdon Downtown Walking Tour	Free	Meet at steps of courthouse
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Monday, July 29

9am-1pm	Strenuous Hike: Backbone Rock to Damascus	Free (register online by 7/27)	Meet at Damascus Town Park
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent Barter Lawn
10am-4pm	Arts & Crafts Demo: Seat Weaving w/Jason Lester	Free	Martha Lawn
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans, 241 Park St.
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
11am-1pm	St. Thomas Episcopal Church Luncheons	\$10, adults; \$6 children under 12	124 E. Main St.
2pm	Lecture: How to integrate Antiques into a modern décor w/Carolyn Thomas	Free w/Antiques pass, limited to 20, register online	SVHEC room 103

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Highlander | 81

2pm	The Miraculous Magical Balloon	adults \$10, youth \$5 (12 & under) online & at door	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
4pm	Synetic Theatre Workshop: Learn the Basics of Physical Theatre (12 & up)	Free (register online)	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace
5-6pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
7pm	The Miraculous Magical Balloon	adults \$10, youth \$5 (12 & under) online & at door	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace
7-8pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
7:30pm	Lecture - I Have a Trail to Tell: Overmountain Victory National Trail	Free	SVHEC
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Tuesday, July 30

9-10am	Tree Identification Walk w/Mark Archibald	Free	William King Museum of Art
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10-11am	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent on Barter Green
10am-4pm	Arts & Crafts Demo: Wood Carving	Free	Gazebo, Martha Lawn
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
2pm	Lecture: The origin and masters of hand-crafted Kentucky antique cherry furniture w/Joyce Williams	Free w/Antiques pass	SVHEC room 103
2pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2-3pm	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
2-4pm	Watercolor workshop	\$20 online	WKMA
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place

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3-6pm	Abingdon Farmers Marker	Always Free	Remsburg Drive
4-5pm	Is It Real or Illusion Workshop w/Dave Vaught	Free (register online)	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace
5-6pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
6-7:30pm	From Our Field To Your Table w/Blue Door Garden	\$40	23413 Walden Rd
6-8:30pm	Grow Your Own Microgreens	\$30	SVHEC room 240
7-8pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee
7:30pm	Bearwise Talk w/Katie Martin	Free	SVHEC
8pm	The Second City Comedy & Improv: Comedian Rhapsody	\$45 available at Barter box office & online	Barter's Gilliam Stage

Wednesday, July 31

9am-noon	Hike: Clyburn Hollow Trail	Free (register online by 7/30)	Hungry Mother State Park, Marion, VA
9am-7:30pm	Extended Shopping Juried Arts & Crafts Show w/live music	Free	Barter Green
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent Barter Lawn
10am-4pm	Arts & Crafts Demo: Basket Weaving w/Carolyn Neal	Free	Gazebo, Martha Lawn
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans, 241 Park St.
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
11am-1pm	St. Thomas Episcopal Church Luncheons	\$10, adults; \$6 children under 12	124 E. Main St.
2pm	Lecture: What do a Rose, a European, and a Mine all have in common? w/Standee Schnall	Free w/Antiques pass	SVHEC room 103
2pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories from The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
4-5:30pm	Appalachian Heritage Distillery Tour	Free	Damascus, VA
5-6pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
5-7pm	Crooked Road Music	Free	Gazebo, Martha Lawn
6-7pm	Ballroom Dance Workshop: Foxtrot & Rumba w/Appalachian Ballroom	Free (register online)	SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace
7pm	Abingdon Downtown Walking Tour	Free	Meet at steps of Courthouse
7-8pm	Local Hard Cider Tasting	\$10 at site	Tumbling Creek Taproom (ID required)
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee
7:30pm	Raptors over SWVA w/Ron Harrington	Free	SVHEC

Thursday, August 1

9am-4pm	Great Channels Hike	Free (register online by 7/30)	Hayters Gap Community Center
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.

10-11am	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent on Barter Green
10am-4pm	Arts & Crafts Demo: Fabric Collage Art w/Christina Warren	Free	Gazebo, Martha Lawn
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road
2pm	Lecture: Everything you wanted to know about Sterling but were embarrassed to ask! w/JR Angvine	Free w/Antiques pass	SVHEC room 103
2pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2-3pm	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
2-4pm	Build your own panel workshop	\$30 online	WKMA
3-4pm	Stories From the Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-5pm	Nicewonder Farm & Vineyards Tour	Free	Meet at The Tasting Room parking lot
5-7pm	Antiques & Vintage Sip 'n Shop	\$25 online (includes admission, one drink ticket, live music)	SVHEC Grand Hall
6-7:30pm	From Our Field To Your Table w/Blue Door Garden	\$40	23413 Walden Rd
7:30pm	Lecture - Myths and Legends: Abingdon's History Revisited	Free	SVHEC
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Friday, August 2

9-10am	Day in Saltville: Birds & Flowers of the Saltville Well Fields	Free	Saltville Food Country Parking Lot
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent Barter Green
10am-4pm	Arts & Crafts Demo: Needle Felting w/Sue Melkowski	Free	Gazebo, Martha Lawn
10am-4pm	Day in Saltville: Museum of Middle Appalachians	\$3-\$5	Museum of Middle Appalachians



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10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road
10:30-11:30am	Day in Saltville: Geology, How Saltville Came to Be with Dan Manweiler	Free	Museum of Middle Appalachians Conference Room
11am-12:30pm	Barter Theatre: A History and Backstage Tour	\$10 at door	127 W. Main St
12pm	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
2pm	Lecture: What Do I Do with This Old Thing? w/Joel Harte from Joel Harte Furnituremaker	Free w/Antiques pass	SVHEC room 103
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories From The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-5pm	Farm Tour: Tumbling Creek Cider Company	Free	30558 Old Saltworks Rd, Meadowview VA
5-6:30pm	Barter Theatre: A History and Backstage Tour	\$10 at door	127 W. Main St
7pm	Mark Nizer 4D	\$12 available at Barter box office & online	Barter's Smith Stage
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.

Saturday, August 3

8am-1pm	Abingdon Farmers Market	Always Free	Remsburg Drive
8am-1pm	2nd Annual Urban Pathway Walk/Run	Free	start at A Likely Yarn, finish at Farmers Market, prizes for participants
8am-2pm	Creeper Trail Ride to Honor Lawrence the Legend	Free	Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead
9am-1pm	Hike: Buzzard Rock on Whitetop	Free (register online by 8/1)	Meet at Lowes at Exit 19 in Abingdon or the Damascus Trail Center to carpool
9am-6pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
9:30am-noon	Leisurely Creeper Trail Ride	Free	Virginia Creeper Trail Trailhead
10am	Barter Theatre: Snow White	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
10-11am	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
10am-2pm	Youth Adventures	Free	Youth Tent on Barter Green



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10am-3pm	Colonial Crafts Demonstrations	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-4pm	Abingdon Historic Homes Tour	\$25 available online or at Shady Business (180 East Main St.) during July. On the day of the tour, buy tickets at 242 Grove Terrace or at Shady Business. Even if you have purchased a ticket online, you must pick up the printed house guide and map to the houses on the day of the tour at Shady Business or at 242 Grove Terrace.	
10am-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
10am-4pm	Duncanville One-Room Schoolhouse Tour	Free	225 Stanley St. between Coomes Center & E.B. Stanley Middle School
10am-5pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Exhibits: William King Museum of Art	Free	415 Academy Drive
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale	Free	Washington County Public Library
Noon-3pm	Tour Sweetbay Brewing Company & Highlands Native Plants	Free	149 Deadmore St.
2pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
2pm	Mark Nizer 4D	\$12 available at Barter box office & online	Barter's Smith Stage
2-3pm	Coffee Tasting	\$10 at site	Wolf Hills Coffee
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
3-4pm	Stories From The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
5-10pm	Concert Extravaganza: Moonlite Theatre & VHF Celebrate 75 years	tickets online & at gate if available	Moonlite Drive-In Theatre & Venue
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: The Shawshank Redemption	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Barter Theatre: Cry It Out	tickets available at box office & online	Smith Stage, 110 W. Main St.
7:30pm	Abingdon Spirit Tours	\$20 cash only	Meet at 112 Court St., Wolf Hills Coffee

Sunday, August 4

9am-5pm	Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Free	Barter Green
10am-noon	A Conventicle with the Fightin' Parson	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-3pm	Colonial Crafts Demonstrations	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-4pm	Antiques & Vintage Market	\$7	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Abingdon's Role in the American Revolution	Free	1780 Muster Place
10am-5pm	Highlands Writers Fair	Free	SVHEC
10am-5pm	Whites Mill Tour	Free	12291 Whites Mill Road



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1-4pm	Virginia Highlands Quilt Show	Free	Holston Mountain Artisans
1-5pm	Antiques Discovery Day	tickets available online, \$10 for one item, \$25 for three items	SVHEC
1-5pm	Juried Fine Art Show including Youth	Free	Arts Depot
1-5pm	William King Museum of Art: Exhibits	Free	415 Academy Dr.
2-3pm	Who Do You Think You Are? Growing Your Family Tree	Free	1780 Muster Place
2-4pm	Duncanville One-Room Schoolhouse Tour	Free	225 Stanley St. between Coomes Center & E.B. Stanley Middle School
2-5pm	Annual Festival Book Sale, Bag Day!	Free admission, bring a bag, fill with books \$5	Washington County Public Library
3pm	Barter Theatre: Wizard of Oz	tickets available at box office & online	Gilliam Stage, 127 W. Main St.
3-4pm	Stories From The Backcountry	Free	1780 Muster Place
7pm	Abingdon Downtown Walking Tour	Free	Meet at steps of courthouse



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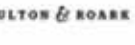
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October

Saturday

5

6:30 PM

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Join us for a night of music, food, drink, silent auction, opportunity for a pair of one carat diamond ear rings and much more.

All proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society for breast cancer research, patient programs and education.

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Saturday, October 26th

Virginia High School

Registration 10 AM

Walk 10:30 AM

**Walk along our "Treat Trail", register for our
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If you are a survivor register and have a shirt sent to
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Form a team, register as a survivor or join our committee!!

www.makingstrideswalk/easttnswva

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