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Tuscaloosa, AL – The 53rd Kentuck Festival of the Arts will be held **Oct. 19-20, 2024** in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The exact location of the 2024 festival will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Kentuck Festival of the Arts has a rich 52-year history as a nationally known arts and culture hub featuring more than 270 artists, live music, spoken word, activities for children, folk and contemporary craft demonstrations, food trucks and local craft brews. In addition to the two days of the festival, Kentuck's Artists in the Schools program brings 22 Kentuck Festival artists to 10 Tuscaloosa County and 10 Tuscaloosa City Elementary Schools for a morning of art demonstrations and hands-on activities the Friday before the Kentuck Festival.

Featured in numerous publications, Kentuck Festival of the Arts was most recently recognized by Alabama Department of Tourism as one of the top-ten events to attend in Alabama in 2018 and by Alabama Magazine as one of the "Best of Bama 2022." Kentuck has also been featured in Smithsonian Magazine, Southern Living, American Style Magazine, and National Geographic Traveler. The Kentuck Festival of the Arts has been named a "Local Legacy" by the United States Library of Congress. In 2018, the Festival was named 5th in the nation (based on artists' self-reported sales) in the category of Classic and Contemporary Craft Shows by Sunshine Artists Magazine.

"A new location for the Kentuck Festival of the Arts means new challenges, but also new opportunities," said Bobby Bragg, Kentuck Art Center's board president. "We have very high expectations for the 2024 festival. We have the utmost confidence in the people running this organization on a day-to-day basis to fulfill Kentuck's mission to perpetuate the arts, engage the community, and empower the artist."

"We are immensely grateful for the outpouring of support we've received from all corners of the state," said Bragg. "Thank you to the City of Tuscaloosa for their quick action, respect for the arts, and partnership moving forward."

"In the last several days, we have worked with Kentuck to explore ways to retain the festival in our region," Mayor Walt Maddox said. "This festival is a nationally recognized and time-honored event, and it was critical it stay in our community."

While the Kentuck Festival will be moving to Tuscaloosa for 2024, Kentuck Art Center is and will continue to be a cornerstone of Historic Downtown Northport. Kentuck Art Center is home to 3 on-campus galleries, 8 studio artists, and 2 classroom spaces. Kentuck is continuing to invest in Northport in 2024 by opening an additional classroom space, [Kentuck's Clay Studio](#), in February. The Northport campus also hosts a variety of art [workshops](#), [Art Nights](#), and [Saturday Art Markets](#). In 2023, Kentuck Art Center had 266 days of activity—meaning 266 days of scheduled events—on the campus in Historic Downtown Northport.

"Kentuck Art Center & Festival's future is bright, and we look forward to continuing to preserve and perpetuate the rich artistic legacy in West Alabama," said Amy Echols,

Kentuck Art Center's executive director. "The Kentuck Festival of the Arts is always a large component of our programming, but we invite each and every one of you to visit Kentuck Art Center's campus in Historic Downtown Northport for our other incredible events, which include Art Nights, Saturday Art Markets, and the variety of workshops we have for all ages."

Artists who would like to apply to be an exhibitor at the 53rd Kentuck Festival of the Arts can apply March 1-June 1, 2024. For more information about the application process, visit our [website](#) and sign up for email reminders so you don't miss any deadlines.

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Kentuck Art Center and Festival was established in 1971. Kentuck's mission is to perpetuate the arts, engage the community, and empower the artist. The Kentuck Festival of the Arts is nationally recognized for its quality, diversity, and celebration of artistic style ranging from folk to contemporary arts and traditional crafts.

Our Contact Information

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