

Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival comes to Downtown Pensacola Nov. 4, 5 and 6, 2016

PENSACOLA, FLA. – Painting, sculpture, ballet, jewelry, Pensacola Symphony, Shakespeare, crafts from the past, great food – all the arts come together at the Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival in historic downtown Pensacola.

The 2016 festival is Nov. 4, 5 and 6 in Seville Square. Admission is free.

Art Show

The juried art show draws more than 200 of the nation's best painters, potters, sculptors, jewelers, graphic artists, craftsmen and other artists. The artists compete for a total of \$25,000 in prize money in categories including ceramics, drawing, fiber/leather, glass, jewelry, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking/graphics, sculpture, and wood.

This family-friendly festival is ranked #30 in Fine Art Shows in the nation by Sunshine Artist Magazine.

Main Stage

The Festival features great music on the Main Stage. Friday kicks off with Kim Carson and Jonathan Byrd. Saturday's line-up includes Rick Udler, Nikki Talley, Jonathan Byrd, Claire Lynch, and Du & the Zydeco Krewe. The Pensacola Symphony Orchestra will be returning to the GGAF stage this year on Sunday. Sunday's line-up also includes Nikki Talley and Holly Shelton. Get the details at ggaf.org/music.

Heritage Festival

Travel back in time as you watch traditional artisans create handmade crafts before your eyes in Pensacola's oldest and most historic neighborhood. A favorite of festival fans, The Heritage Arts area provides an authentic setting for craftspeople from around the country to demonstrate such arts as blacksmithing, engraving, spinning, weaving and other skills.

Children's Festival

Neighboring Bartram Park is the site of the Children's Arts Festival with hands-on art projects for kids of all ages plus an entertainment stage just for kids! Activities are all provided free of charge. The Children's Festival is open Friday for children with special needs from selected schools and is open to everyone on Saturday and Sunday.

Also in Bartram Park, you'll find the Student Art Show which showcases the talents of both private and public school students of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Over 2,000 pieces of art from elementary, middle and high school students will be on display.

Dance and Performance

The Parrish Performing Arts Stage showcases dance including folk, ballet, and more. Performing companies, dance schools, community groups, and area folk groups have their time to shine. The Children's Stage features local performing arts, dance and musical groups.

Food

Some of Pensacola's best-known restaurants will be onsite serving favorite local concessions, along with dozens of booths serving traditional festival fare. Beer, wine and other lively sprits are also available.

The Festival Poster

The 2016 Festival Poster was designed by Agie Kaminski. Agie has been a resident of the Gulf Coast for 39 years and has been doing art for just as long. She has also received a first place award from Vanity Fair for her art. She loves using vibrant colors in oils with a variety of different subjects. The design is turned into a limited-edition poster, T-shirts, and other items which have become local collectors' items. The only way to get posters and T-shirts is at the Festival.

Invited International Artist

Each year, the Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival selects an International Artist for a direct cultural exchange with our community. The 2016 invited International Artist is Diego Carbajal, a Peruvian artist/silversmith who creates sculpture. You can find the artist and his work during the festival at 11 Epstein Way.

Emerging Artists

Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival has started an Emerging Artists Program. The program is designed to introduce young (in experience) artists to the Art Festival circuit. GGAF partnered with Artel Gallery in developing the program and searching for new artists.

Pensacola artists Elizabeth Matthews and Hannah "Wolfy" Howell were selected as this year's Emerging Artists. Matthews is a mixed media artist and Howell works in watercolor and ink. GGAF provided them with mentors — local professional artists Kreg Yingst and Tony Krysinsky — to help them learn the ins and outs of festival exhibiting. Yingst and Krysinsky also have their own booths in this year's show. Please be sure to visit these two young artists in their booth at
1 Lewis Lane by the Gazebo.

Hours:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday,
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday

Children's Festival Hours:

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Parking

- An interactive parking map is available at www.pensacolaparking.com.
- Handicap parking is at Bartram Park. Patrons with handicap permits should enter from Main Street at Barracks Street. Present your permit to the police officer manning the street closure for access.
- For real-time traffic updates, visit FL511.com, call 511 toll-free.

Other Details

- Pets are not allowed at the Festival.
- Posters and t-shirts are available for sale at the festival.

Media resources

Download logos, the 2016 poster, and hi-res photos: <http://www.ggaf.org/media>.

The full entertainment schedule and other details will be available on the website at www.ggaf.org.

###