



Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival
Seville Square ♦ Pensacola

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival comes to Downtown Pensacola Nov. 2, 3 and 4, 2018

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 2018 festival is Nov. 2, 3 and 4. Admission is free.

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, oil/acrylic, photography, printmaking/graphics, sculpture, watercolor and wood.

This family-friendly festival is ranked in the top 50 Fine Art Shows in the nation by *Sunshine Artist Magazine*.

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.

Entertainment

The Festival features great music on the Main Stage, dance and more on the Parrish Performing Arts Stage. The Children's Stage features local performing arts, dance and musical groups. See demonstrations of traditional arts and crafts in the Heritage Arts area.

Food

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

The Festival Poster

The 2018 Festival Poster was designed by Michelle Corley. Michelle's worked for 23 years as a graphic designer in practically every facet of advertising design, from logo development to digital design and broadcast production. Winner of multiple industry awards, she currently uses her powers for good as Art Director for Duncan McCall Advertising. She also serves on the board and handles design work for The Choral Society of Pensacola. Born and raised in Louisiana, Michelle's called the Pensacola area home for 20 years.

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 2018 Invited International Artist is Abigail Nnaji, a Nigerian painter who experiments with paper cutting. You can find the artist and her work during the festival near the Gazebo.

Emerging Artists

Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival's Emerging Artists Program is in its fifth year. 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 James Amerson and Lawrence Lazare were selected as this year's Emerging Artists. Amerson is a sculpture artist and Lazare is a landscape and street photographer. Please be sure to visit these two artists in their booth 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

Other Details

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

Media resources

Download logos, 2018 poster and hi-res photos: <http://www.ggaf.org/media>.

Get the full entertainment schedule; learn more about GGAF community outreach and more at www.ggaf.org.

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