

Crafts Festival Foundation and the City of Fairhope



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# Table of Contents

Festival Chairman Welcome6
Sponsors and Mayor Welcome 8
Arts and Crafts Foundation 10-12
History of the Fairhope Arts and Crafts
Festival 13
Hannah Legg, Featured Artist 14
Festival Facts
Adopt an Artist
2025 Artists 19, 22-23
ESAC Outdoor Art Show
Judges and Awards24
Volunteers
Student Art Murals30
Entertainment
Children's Tent
Food Vendors 34

Pictured Below: Festival Chairman Marissa Thetford and Co-Chairman, Shannon Gandy, at the 2025 Featured Artist Reveal.



# Welcome to the 73rd Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival

Paint the Town

Welcome to the 2025 Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival!

On behalf of the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Foundation and Festival Committee, I am thrilled to welcome you to Fairhope. Whether you're a first-time visitor exploring our charming streets or a local enjoying our town's most anticipated event, we are excited to share this vibrant festival with you.

Photos by Stephen Savage Photography



The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival is a celebration of creativity and community, and this year's theme, Paint the Town, perfectly captures that spirit. For the first time, our featured artwork will become a permanent mural, commemorating this beloved tradition year-round. Created by the talented Hannah Legg, it will stand as a symbol of our community's artistic heart, greeting both visitors and residents alike in downtown Fairhope. (More details on this exciting project can be found on page 14.)

I want to express my deep gratitude to those who make this event possible. A special thank you to my outstanding co-chair, Shannon Gandy, and festival administrator, Lindsey Lawrence, whose dedication ensures everything runs smoothly. I also want to acknowledge the many volunteers, sponsors, and local business owners whose hard work and enthusiasm bring the festival to life. Your support truly embodies the spirit of community.

We invite you to explore the arts, entertainment, and activities this weekend, along with our wonderful local shops and restaurants. There's truly something for everyone to enjoy!

Thank you for joining in on my favorite hometown tradition. I hope you and your family make memories that will last for years to come.

Now, let's go Paint the Town!

Marissa Thetford 2025 Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Chairman







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# Beautiful Fairhope



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Council Members: Kevin G. Boone Jay Robinson Jack Burrell, ACMO Jimmy Conyers Corey Martin

Lisa A. Hanks, MMC City Clerk

Kimberly Creech Treasurer

Welcome to Fairhope! The Arts & Crafts Festival is such a special event for locals and visitors alike. Each year, the City looks forward to hosting this

outdoor festival in beautiful downtown Fairhope. Volunteers spend months preparing to make this festival a success for all those that attend.



Fairhope is a city that embraces the arts and hosting the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival allows everyone to celebrate artists from around the country. There truly is something for everyone at the Arts & Crafts Festival.

Make plans to visit Fairhope, celebrate the arts, enjoy good food, and make lasting memories with friends and family.

Shenzsillwan

Sherry Sullivan Mayor, City of Fairhope

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Special thanks to the Official Festival Photographer, Stephen Savage Photography (251-401-0008 - savagephoto@msn. com) and Marissa Thetford Marketing (marissatmarketing.com) for submitting images for the 2025 magazine. And Gulf Coast Media's Mckinzie Daniels (251-943-2151) for magazine layout.



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### The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Foundation

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Foundation was established in 2016 by dedicated volunteers from the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival Committee. Its primary mission is to preserve and advance the legacy and integrity of the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival, while fostering community appreciation for the arts and supporting art education through scholarships and grants.

Each year, the Festival's proceeds are distributed to deserving recipients in the form of grants and student scholarships. These beneficiaries are selected based on donation requests and scholarship applications, with final decisions made by the Festival's volunteers and board of directors. Eligible recipients must be involved in art-related endeavors, civic organizations, or initiatives that enrich the local arts community.

Recognized as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization by the IRS, the Foundation welcomes donations and inquiries about its work. Scholarship and





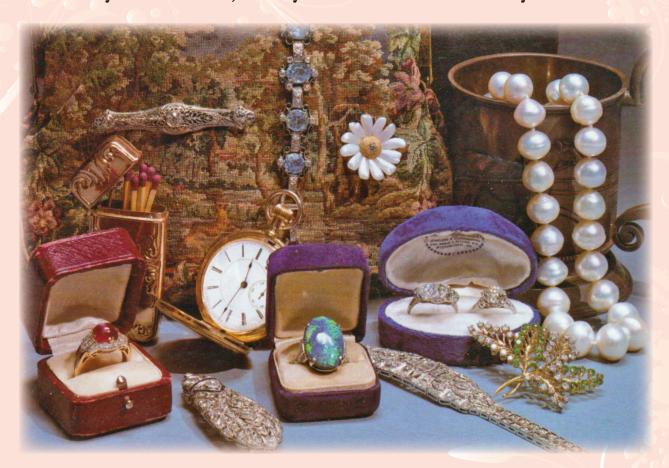
grant applications for 2025 are now available online at FairhopeArtsandCraftsFestival.com. For more information, you can contact the Foundation Administrator by mail at P.O. Box 2343, Fairhope, AL 36533, by email at fairhopeartsandcraftsfestival@gmail.com, or by phone at 251-229-1874





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#### **Board of Directors**

Foundation board members are:

President: Laura English Treasurer: Jodi Keating Secretary: Jim Bates

Sonja Pate

Stephen Roberts Mandy Bezeredi

2024/2025 Foundation Administrator:

Lindsey Lawrence

## Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival: Growing Stronger Through Volunteer Development, Commitment, and Community Support

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival volunteers work yearround preparing for the festival, and we are excited to add Lindsey Lawrence to support our volunteers. Having spent a decade as a dedicated volunteer and committee chair for the festival, Lindsey is no stranger to the heart and soul of the event.

Lindsey will serve as the constant point of contact for the festival year-round, managing communications and acting as the key liaison between the foundation board, committee chairs, volunteers, and the City of Fairhope. In this capacity, she will help streamline operations, ensure smooth collaboration, and champion the growth and development of one of the Gulf Coast's most anticipated events.

The transition highlights Lindsey's deep commitment and passion for the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival. Her extensive





background with the festival and the art scene in Fairhope gives her a unique perspective that will be invaluable in her new role.

She is dedicated to the festival that continues to evolve while preserving its cherished legacy. The foundation board and committee members are enthusiastic about this new chapter and confident that Lindsey's expertise will ensure a seamless and successful future for the

#### More Than 73 Years of Fairhope Arts & Crafts

A Treasured Local Tradition

According to records and newspapers, the Arts & Crafts Festival originally started as a tour, planned to coordinate with the Mobile Jaycees' Azalea Trail and Mobile Mardi Gras celebrations. The idea was that visitors attending these major events in Mobile would be attracted across the bay, giving both visitors and local residents a chance to experience some of the many talents of Eastern Shore residents. The first Arts & Crafts Tour took place from February 22 to February 28, 1953. All exhibits were displayed inside store windows and consisted of a wide variety of interests. The tour schedule included entertainment and craft demonstrations and lasted for an entire week. Although some artists did sell items, the majority of the "tour" consisted of exhibits for viewing only.

In 1965, the tour expanded to include exhibitors and activities from the cities of Spanish Fort and Daphne. The week's opening ceremonies were held in Spanish Fort and ended with a play in Fairhope. The Chamber reported 4,150 visitors, with 52 exhibitors and demonstrators highlighted, in addition to another 41 artists who participated. In 1967, there were more than a hundred displays, exhibits, and demonstrations. Although there was still no entry fee, all participants were asked to pay a 10% commission on their gross sales.

By 1975, craftsmen displayed their works and methods in "Craft-Houses" (vacant buildings repurposed for the event). For the first time in 1978, the show was condensed to three days. This was also the first year that craftsmen displayed their works on the sidewalks, rather than inside buildings and businesses. In 1983, the first prize money was awarded. The Best of Show recipient was given \$250, and booths were moved from the edge of the streets to the middle. The Mary McGrath Award was established in 1984, and the first Spring Fever Chase was organized in 1986.

In many ways, the Festival really took off in the nineties, despite torrential rains in 1991 that damaged the tents on opening day. There were many firsts: the first time the show was expanded to Magnolia, the first time there was a Food Court, the first time TV coverage was provided, the first time awards were exchanged between the



Chamber and the Art Center, the first time there were more than 700 applicants, and the first time it was named one of the Top 200 Festivals in the United States by Sunshine Artist magazine. Since then, the Festival has received this honor every year. Artists who participate in shows across the United States vote on this award.

Moving into the new millennium, the success of the Festival continued, drawing hundreds of thousands of visitors and artists from all over the country. In 2016, the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Foundation was created to continue the tradition and expand the Festival's purpose of community outreach. Since its inception, the Foundation has given back more than \$300,000 to the local arts community. The beloved local tradition, which consistently ranks as one of the top art shows in the country, is celebrating its 73rd anniversary in 2025.

As you can see from this history, the Festival has changed in many ways. Its exhibitors are no longer only locals; they come from across the United States. We no longer charge exhibitors a commission on their sales,

only an entry fee. The number of visitors has now reached six-digit figures, and the activities taking place in conjunction with the Festival have grown by leaps and bounds. The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival's purpose remains the same: to promote goodwill and festivity in Fairhope, to exhibit the highest quality artwork and craftsmanship available, and to host the Festival in the loveliest area in the world.



# 2025 Featured Artist, Hannah Legg

This year, the festival is unveiling something truly unique—a mural that will be created downtown, celebrating the festival and honoring its 70+ year tradition, which takes place every third weekend in March.

Hannah Legg's mural for this year's festival captures the essence of Fairhope's vibrant arts scene and community spirit. The fluid, organic shape reflects the creativity of the artists participating in the annual festival, while the iconic white tents of the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival line the streets. A dogwood branch nods to the Dogwood Trail Maids, the festival's beloved ambassadors, and a stunning Fairhope sunset represents the community's bayfront lifestyle.

Festival Chairman Marissa Fleming Thetford expressed her enthusiasm about working with Hannah Legg:

"When I was asked to chair this year's festival for a second time, I, along with my co-chair, Shannon Gandy, and our Festival Administrator, Lindsey Lawrence, knew we wanted to do something new and exciting. Fairhope is celebrated for its vibrant arts community, and Hannah has already made such an impact with her murals in Arts & Alley. This new mural will build on that momentum, creating a stunning addition to downtown that both locals and visitors will enjoy for years to come."

The original mural will be the centerpiece for this year's festival theme, Paint the Town, and will be showcased on promotional posters, t-shirts, note cards, and other festival merchandise. Additionally, Hannah will be live painting during the festival as she puts the final touches on the mural located on Section Street at the Fairhope Welcome Center.

#### Get to know Hannah

Hannah Legg is a local muralist, illustrator, and designer who was born in England and raised in Fairhope. Although Hannah has always been an "artsy kid," her early life was largely defined by time spent in the pool as a competitive swimmer on a local



swim team. After a successful high school career, Hannah raced her way to the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), where she earned titles and broke records in the pool, all while pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration in the classroom.

After graduating from SCAD in 2016,



Photo courtesy of Dana Lee Davis Photography

she returned to Baldwin County to begin her creative career. Since then, Hannah has worked as a freelance artist, in-house graphic designer, in-house illustrator, and, most recently, started her own muralist business. She became enamored with mural painting after realizing that the pace and physicality of it reminded her of her time in the pool. It also gave her the opportunity to create stunning, large-scale visual art while connecting with people and the community in a unique way.

You can see Hannah's mural work in Fairhope and surrounding areas, such as downtown Foley, across the bay in Mobile, and up in Spanish Fort. She is deeply inspired by nature, particularly the vibrant and diverse local environment, and her work often features natural motifs in bold colors and flowing, organic lines.

In 2024, Hannah had the wonderful opportunity to collaborate with several nonprofits. She is inspired to continue using art to "draw" attention to those making a positive impact on society. Hannah hopes to keep transforming walls and the world around her for years to come, grow her collection of paint-splattered clothing, and use mural painting as a means of bringing pride and connection to communities.

Outside the studio, Hannah enjoys spending time with her wonderful and supportive family, her fiancé Jesse, playing Dungeons and Dragons, snuggling with her cats, and sipping at local breweries!

For more information on Legg visit her website hannahleggartist.com or follow her on Instagram @hannsnleggs.

# Festival Quick Facts

The annual Arts & Crafts Festival is held every third weekend in March on the picturesque streets of Downtown Fairhope, located on the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay. For three days, downtown Fairhope transforms from its quaint, charming, old-fashioned streets into an outdoor art gallery, featuring paintings, jewelry, pottery, and other handcrafted treasures. Admission is free!

The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival is a 100% volunteer-run event. The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Foundation uses the proceeds to support the arts in the community through donations and scholarships. In addition to being recognized by various tourism departments and magazines as one of the top events in the South, it is also celebrated across the United States as one of the top Fine Art Festivals.

#### Directions:

If you are traveling along Interstate 10, take exit 35 and head south on US Highway 98. Continue on US Highway 98 for approximately 10 miles. Upon entering Fairhope, turn right onto Fairhope Avenue and head west into downtown Fairhope. The Festival is located downtown in the central business district.

#### Festival Merchandise:

Don't miss our official festival merchandise tent, located on Johnson Street at the Hot Wheels Shuttle Stop! There, you'll find this year's exclusive Paint the Town art print by Hannah Legg, along with a selection of commemorative t-shirts, hats, tumbler mugs, and more. All proceeds benefit the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival Foundation and support our mission to strengthen and promote the arts in our community. We accept cash and credit cards!

#### Parking:

#### **SHUTTLE SERVICES:**

Hot Wheels of Daphne provides shuttle service during the weekend. Parking for the shuttle will be available at the Piggly Wiggly parking lot in the Plantation Point shopping center,

located on the corner of Hwy. 98 and Fairhope Ave. **Shuttle Hours:** 

10:00 am to 5:30 pm Friday, Saturday and Sunday

The cost of the shuttle is \$5 round trip.

#### HANDICAP PARKING:

Handicap Parking will be available:

- On Bancroft in the parking lot behind the Fairhope Museum of History.
- In the Municipal parking lot on Bancroft Street

#### DOWNTOWN PARKING/TOWING:

Parking is limited in the downtown area and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please pay attention to no parking signs during the Festival and do not block driveways.

The City and Festival Committee make every effort to avoid towing vehicles, but it may be necessary if a driveway or residence is blocked or if your vehicle interferes with Festival activities. In the event that your car is towed during the Festival, please call Tony's Towing Services at 251-928-7324.

Parking is available:

- In the public parking garage off North Church Street.
- On the public parking lot off South Church Street
- At the First Baptist Church of Fairhope, St. Lawrence Church and the Fairhope United Methodist Church on South Section Street except during church services.
- Please avoid parking at Fairhope West Elementary school on Friday, March 14, 20205

Handicap Parking will be available:

- On Bancroft in the parking lot behind the Fairhope Museum of History.
- In the Municipal parking lot on Bancroft Street **Golf Cart Parking:**

Golf Cart Parking will be available at the Coastal Alabama Community College on Bancroft

#### **BICYCLE VALET:**

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee along with the Baldwin County Trailblazers will have Bike Valet set up in front of the Fairhope Public Library on Fairhope Avenue during event hours. For more information, please email the committee at fairhopepedbikeada@gmail.com.

# Congratulations! You've Been Adopted!





#### Fairhope's Adopt an Artist Program proves Southern Hospitality is alive and well

For over thirty years, the merchants of Downtown Fairhope have offered a unique service to artists participating in the Festival by pairing them with local businesses for the weekend.

It all began when a few merchants, whose stores were near Festival artists, offered a place to rest, snacks, and restroom access. This gesture was so well-received that the Downtown Fairhope Business Association formalized the concept, and the "Adopt an Artist" program was born.

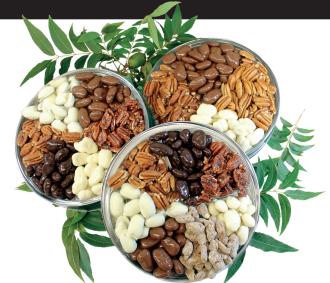
For more than three decades, Diane Douglas, owner of In the Company of Angels, organized the program in partnership with the Downtown Fairhope Business Association. In 2023, the honor was passed on to sisters Barbara Miller Levitt and Carol Miller Eberlein, owners of M&F Casuals.

Merchants volunteer to provide services like general information, refreshments, restroom access, and, of course, Southern hospitality to Festival artists. While not all artists take advantage of the offer, those who do often highlight it as one of the Festival's "major highlights." Some artists have even suggested the program to other Festivals, inspiring similar initiatives nationwide. Many local merchants cherish their time with the artists and request to be paired with the same artist year after year, building lasting friendships with little effort or expense.

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Foundation thanks all of our local business owners and their employees for their continued support and welcoming spirit, which make our Festival—and Downtown Fairhope—so special.



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#### 2025 Festival Artists

Artist Listings as of 2/10/25. Artists are subject to change. For the most up to date artist listing please visit Fairhope-ArtsandCraftsFestival.com or stop by the Festival Information Booth for a map and artist list.

#### Fibers/Leather

Gabriel Berg Melissa Bracken Dvlan Britt Astou Dioum Ronia Grillos Robert Hale Jennifer Hoertz Debbie Hoover Maryann Jefferson Mari Lydic Annie Mohaupt Allison Piracci Ilivana Skrobanska Shani Solomon Seema Sudan Lenora Thomas Yuliva & Ari Wolf Beth Wright Zhiyong Ye

Viroqua, WI Cincinnati, OH Higdon, AL New York, NY Durango, CO Robertsdale, AL Brewster, NY Calera, AL Mount Pleasant, SC Pace, FL Chicago, IL Niskayuna, NY Knoxville, TN Delray Beach, FL Shandaken, NY Pensacola, FL Hartford, WI Jackson, MS Leesburg, FL

#### **Functional Crafts**

Dale Cantrell Karen Cutrell Victor Edwards George Jones Jr. Neil Kahrs Joel Lockridge Ieff Mohr Bill Potzner Nancy Stroud Jon Thompson Sarah Thomsen Andrew Whittaker

Danville, IN Covington, LA Monticello, FL Florence, AL Dexter, KS Alabaster, AL Crawfordville, FL Daphne, AL Swainsboro, GA Lampe, MO Bloomingdale, GA Columbia, TN

#### Glass

Charles Adams Dennis Aplin Richard Bond Debb Cusick Robert Derwick **Scott Garrelts** Trish Shantz Fred Weber Autumn Wilkins Troy, AL Huntsville, AL Ottawa, Ontario Wapakoneta, OH Tallahassee, FL Douglass, KS Kalamazoo, MI Metairie, LA Fontana Dam, NC

#### Graphics, Drawing & Watercolor

Nicola Barsaleau Richard (Rich) Britnell Auburn, AL Jon Jahraus Amy Jamison Rita Kirkman Karen Libecap Craig Routh Marie Rust Joe Sheffield

Lacrosse, FL Parkville, MO Warrenton, MO New Braunfels, TX Hoover, AL Denham Springs, LA Bitely, MI Daphne, AL

#### **Jewelry**

Obayana Ajanaku Megan Austin Michael Bonardi Cora Carroll Kelly Civitarese Ash Gaines Alessa Gurrola Ienna Hirt Busarin Kittichareonsup Westfield, IN Cameron Kruse Christina Lacey Mary Lee Roxy Lentz Hannah Long Sandra Matasick Meena Mehta Carlos Montanaro Norman Morgan

Jim Norton Rocky Pardo Tammy Shaw Katherine Smith Martin Taber Regina To Bart Ziegler

Decatur, GA Canton, GA Columbus, OH Deadwood, SD Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Fairhope, AL Foley, AL

New Smyrna Beach, FL

Athens, GA Erie, CO Tallahassee, FL Clarksville, IN Philadelphia, PA Gainesville, FL Southbury, CT Indio, CA

Owens Cross Roads, AL Athens, GA

Alton, IL Spring Hill, KS Atlanta, GA

Bainbridge Island, WA

Key West, FL Burlington, WI

#### Mixed Media

Dan Bi Ryan Boase **Drew Brass** Jose Cov Garland Farwell Debo Groover Naomi Hart Ila Catherine Hofacker Columbus, OH Marirosa Hofmann Donna Hoyack

Markham, Ontario Greenville, SC Apopka, FL Waco, TX York, AL Tallahassee, FL St Cloud, MN Atlanta, GA San Antonio, TX



526 Falling Water Blvd, Fairhope MLS # 369518



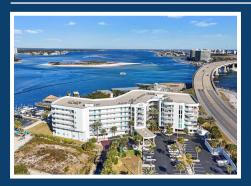
35853 Cramblitt Lane, Bay Minette MLS #373782



5020 Certain Circle, Orange Beach MLS # 364055



9370 Neumann Drive, Elberta MLS # 372952



27501 Perdido Beach Blvd, Unit #A205, Orange Beach MLS #373047



334 S Breakers Lane West, **Gulf Shores** MLS # 371837



25117 Romar Vista Place, Orange Beach MLS # 369014



Orange Beach MLS #372744



5362 Mississippi Avenue, Orange Beach Moondance on Perdido Bay Upscale, bayfront gated community



2717 West Beach Blvd, **Gulf Shores** MLS #373966







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Lake City, FL

#### **Painting**

Haijin Sun Hannah Amidon Steve Andrews Keith Andry John Armistead **Jaime Barks** Randall Bartlett Ashley Benton Jean Benvenuto Julie Brown Laurel Browning Cory Carlson Steve Carmichael Loran Chavez Andrea Chipser Claire Cormany Joan Curtis Lauchlan Davis Sky Stacey Edwards Jeremy Fowler Holly Glenn Deede Gram Maggie Grier Debra Grubbs Sydney Gruber Adam Hall John Hallidav Monica Iversen Kerream Iones Godwin Kou Michael Meissner Charlotte Miller Vanessa Carla Moll Virginia Nelson R Paulson

Oxford, FL Madison, TN Tallahassee, FL Baton Rouge, LA Tupelo, MŠ Chattanooga, TN Auburn, AL lackson, MS Portsmouth, VA Metairie, LA Trussville, AL Ruston, LA Riverside, AL Fairhope, AL Destin, FL Birmingham, AL Birmingham, AL Chattanooga, TN Greenville, AL Franklin, TN Liberty Hill, TX Chattanooga, TN Birmingham, AL Salem, NH Austin, TX Metairie, LA Mobile, AL Anderson, SC Jonesboro, GA Alpharetta, GA Spearfish, SD Mukwonago, WI Huntsville, AL Port Vincent, LA Birmingham, AL Greenwood, IN Alpharetta, GA Mountain Brook, AL Anne Schroeder Linda Scott Pete Sintes Iim Tucker Rianna Turner Zona Wainwright Caitlin Wallace-Rowland New Orleans, LA Steve Whitlock Alicia Woodward Peter Wii Jie Zhou Ying

Alva, FL Daphne, AL Fort Walton Beach, FL Richardson, TX Mobile, AL Folsom, LA Sarasota, FL Huntsville, AL Missouri City, TX Kingwood, TX Oxford, FL

#### **Photography**

Sheldon Anderson Jacob Barrett Dennis Casev Bill Chambers Micheal Paul Cole Angela Kullmann Brian Miller Neshama Roash Kvle Wilson

Ponchatoula, LA Memphis, TN Fort Worth, TX Milton, FL Hannibal, MO Harvard, IL Powell, TN Saint Louis, MO Selma, NC

#### Pottery/Ceramics

Olivia Avery **Iason Bove** Bradford Brackin Ienn Cole

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Katie Phillips

Porter Rivers

Van Doan Kellie Hastings Becca Irvin David Johnson Noah Kirk Tim Peters Amber Poole Leslie Smith Karl Stelzer Shelby Toole Alex Williams

Oakland, CA Foley, AL Candler, NC Collierville, TN Dade City, FL Winter Haven, FL Lexington, VA Birmingham, AL Cantonment, FL Oxford, MS New Orleans, LA

#### Sculpture

Whitney Clanton William Colburn Kevin Edgar Royal Miree Rommel Ricaurte Craig Riches Ionathan Rose Pornthep Ruang

Jacksons Gap, AL Birmingham, AL Manitowoc, WI Birmingham, AL Mount Pleasant, TN Fairhope, AL Tullahoma, TN Atlanta, GA

#### $\operatorname{Wood}$

Craig Babylon Magali Cereghino-Groves Orlando, FL **Emily Combs** Peter Czuk David Fortenberry Brian Frerichs Frank Kobilsek Kim Larue **Byron Lawrence** Andrew Mccall Richard Mccollum Paul Miller **Jared Moran** Anna Pausch John & Laurie Smith Amanda Terry Justin Walker

Covington, LA Springfield, OH Gobles, MI Gadsden, AL Knightdale, NC Mendota, IL Mount Washington, KY Palm Bay, FL Auburn, AL Bryn Athyn, PA Brockway, PA Bowling Green, KY Denver, CO Yalaha, FL Haleyville, AL Rockford, IL





#### Eastern Shore Art Center Outdoor Art Show

Adjacent Art Show Happening this Weekend

Did you know there are actually two art shows going on at the same time this weekend in Downtown Fairhope? The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival organized by the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival Foundation and the Annual Outdoor Art Show hosted by the Eastern Shore Art Center happen simultaneously every third weekend in March.

Now in its 52nd year, the Outdoor Art Show hosted by the Eastern Shore Art Center is located directly next to the Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival. Nearly 100 artist booths line the sides of Section Street north of Magnolia Avenue and Oak Street in front of the Art Center.

The ESAC Outdoor Art Show is a major fundraiser for the Art Center, allowing free admission to the public all year round. For more information on the ESAC Outdoor Art Show artist listings, visit www.esartcenter.org.

# 2025 Festival Judges

#### The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival; Judged and Juried

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival is a juried event. For those unfamiliar with the term, juried art events have a selection committee for exhibitors and require that applicants submit photos of work or products and booth displays, along with other information like art process, material descriptions, and/or other relevant information for their prospective art mediums or category. The selection committee (the jury) reviews all applications before choosing exhibitors for the event. On average, the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival receives nearly 500 applicants, with the final show consisting of roughly 220 to 240 invited exhibitors.

On the first day of the Festival three judges evaluate the more than 200 participants in the show. They select winners by scoring each individual artist and the artists with the highest overall scores get the largest awards. There is also an award for each artist with the highest score for their medium. Being selected a winner is not just about the honor – it comes with a cash prize and a coveted spot in next year's Festival. Meet the 2025 judges...

#### Dylan Nadsady

Dylan Nadsady is a dynamic multidisciplinary artist originally from Fallbrook, California, but his creative spirit was nurtured and shaped by the vibrant cul-



ture of the Florida Panhandle. Drawing from both his coastal upbringing and a deep connection to the natural world, Dylan finds inspiration in the existential questions and beautiful absurdities that define our lives. His work reflects a passion for exploring the emotional landscape, as he seeks to blend these contrasts into a harmonious common ground.

Through his art, Dylan strives to explore the profound beauty and complexity of both the physical world and the emotional experiences that make us human. Painting, for him, is more than just a medium—it's a way to deepen his understanding of the world around him, using each brushstroke to connect the raw energy of nature with the subtle intricacies of our inner lives. His work invites viewers to engage with the wonder and mystery that shape our existence, providing a visual space for reflection, discovery, and emo-

Whether capturing the serene power of nature or delving into the intangible emotions that color our experiences, Dylan's art is a testament to his commitment to exploring life's most meaningful questions, all while celebrating the beauty and absurdity that surrounds us.

#### Lorrie Lane

Lorrie Lane is an oil painter based in Tuscaloosa, AL, and the owner of Lorrie Lane Studio, a fine art studio and gallery in downtown Tuscaloosa. With over 30 years of experience in painting and exhibiting, Lane's work has been featured in numerous solo and group shows across the Southeast. She has been represented by galleries in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, New

York, and Oregon, and her art is managed by Victor Fine Art (www.victorfineart.com), with reproductions available through John-Richard.

In addition to her art career, Lane has taught art classes for the Birmingham Museum of Art Studio School, the Ala-



bama Prison Art and Education Project, and the University of Alabama OLLI program. She was a resident studio artist at the Kentuck Art Center in Northport, AL from 2010 to 2013 and again from 2016 to 2018.

Recent solo exhibitions include a show at the Columbus, MS Arts Council Gallery in 2023, and a dual exhibit with sculptor Steve Davis at Lowe Mill Arts in Huntsville, AL. A return show with Davis is scheduled for April 2025.

Originally from upstate New York, Lane graduated from Smith College in 1983 before moving to Tuscaloosa, AL, with her husband, Alan, Their daughter, Liz, is also a painter, and their sons, Charles and Sean, are involved in creative pursuits.

#### Paulette Dove



Paulette Dove is a talented artist and native of Biloxi, Mississippi, with a long-standing presence in the Gulf Coast art scene. Throughout her career, she has been an active member of the Ocean Springs Art Association, serving as the President of the South Mississippi Art League and as a Board Member of the Mississippi Art Colony. Paulette's artwork has been displayed in numerous exhibitions across the Southern United States, showcasing her skill and versatility.

Paulette earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) and Master of Education (M.Ed.) degrees from Mississippi University for Women and William Carey

College. Her passion for art extends beyond her personal work—she has taught art for many years in both Mississippi and West Virginia. Paulette has also served as an art educator for prominent institutions, including the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, the Walter Anderson Museum, and the Hancock Arts Center. Additionally, she has led various art workshops, sharing her expertise and inspiring others.

Known for her mastery in oil painting, mixed media, and pottery, Paulette enjoys exploring various mediums in her creative process. She currently works from her "Side Door" Studio in Biloxi, where she continues to produce captivating artwork that reflects her deep connection to the Gulf Coast and its rich cultural heritage.

#### Juried Award Categories

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival awards over \$20,000 in cash prizes to the top artists and craftsmen. A panel of three highly talented and respected judges were selected to choose the best works from the 73rd Annual Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival. The awards will be presented during the Artist's Dinner on Friday evening at the Fairhope Civic Center.

Juried Award Categories:
Best of Show
Chairman's Award
A&C Foundation Award
Jury Award
Merit Awards (5)
Awards of Distinction for each medium (10)







#### An Army of Volunteers

#### More than 500 volunteers work together to produce the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival



As soon as the Festival wraps up each March, our dedicated volunteers begin planning for the following year's event. The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival is powered by an all-volunteer team, with the exception of one year-round administrator. Their hard work ensures that every detail falls into place seamlessly.

Our volunteer-led committees are crucial to the Festival's success—some work year-round, while others focus on the week of the event. Each committee plays an essential role in making the Festival a reality.

People from all walks of life generously give their time, passing their passion for the Festival from one generation to the next. While we deeply appreciate the loyalty of our long-time volunteers, we also welcome newcomers eager to help continue this beloved Fairhope tradition, which has thrived for more than seventy years.

This dedication has helped the Festival grow from a small local event to one that attracts artists and visitors from across the nation. The Festival has earned accolades, including being named one of the top 10 festivals in the country by Sunshine Artist Magazine, as well as recognition by Southern Living and The New York Times.

2025 Festival Chairman Marissa Thetford and Co-Chair Shannon Gandy are excited to work alongside such a talented team of volunteers to present the 73rd Annual Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival. We also want to extend a special thanks to ColoréVous Salon Co for

serving as our volunteer headquarters this year!

Interested in volunteering next year? Visit our website and click on the "Volunteers" section.









# The 73rd Annual Artist Reveal

Hosted February 7th at Provision in Downtown Fairhope





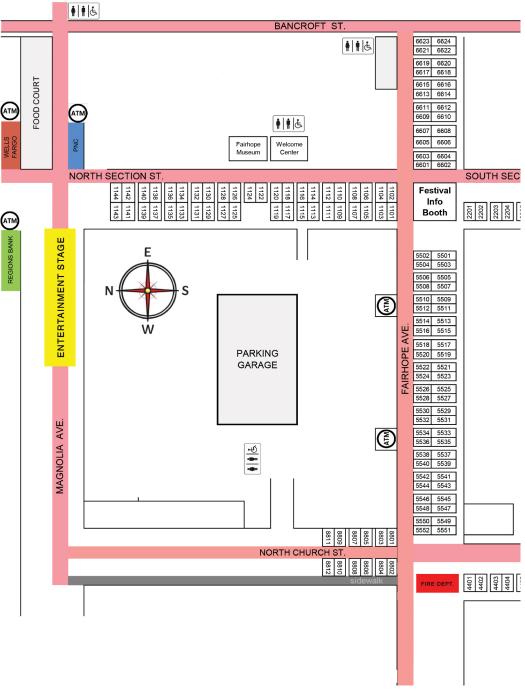






2025 Fairhope Arts and Crafts 27

# Explore the Art

















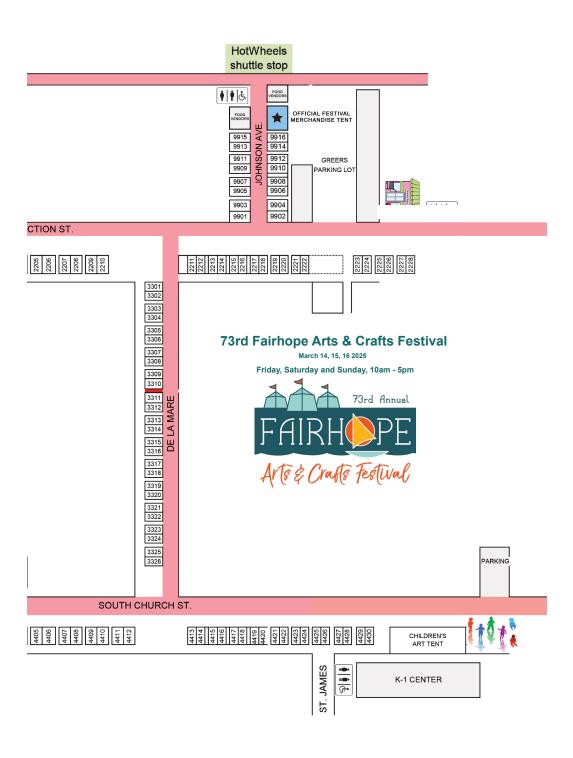
























#### Empowering the Artists of Tomorrow

### Student Art Competition

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Student Mural Contest has been a tradition since 2007, inviting Eastern Shore middle and high school artists to create murals inspired by the festival's theme. In past years, each school submitted one mural, which was displayed at the Artist's Dinner on Friday night. Festival vendors voted for their favorite piece, and the top three winners were announced after dinner, receiving cash prizes for their art departments.

In 2025, the festival foundation revamped the competition, allowing individual students and small groups to apply. We were thrilled by the number of submissions in the first year of open applications, and the board selected the top 25 pieces to be displayed at the Artist's Dinner. Artwork must be inspired by the 2025 theme, "Paint the Town," and created on canvases provided by the festival.

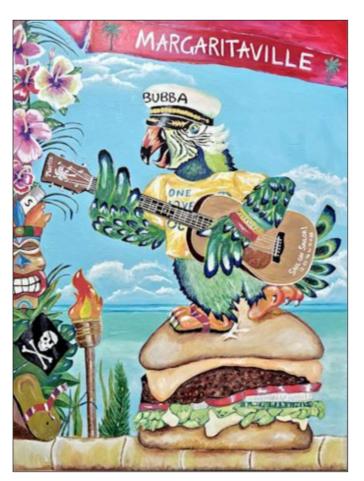
The top 25 submissions will be displayed at the Artist Awards Dinner on Friday, March 14, where participating festival artists will judge and vote on their favorite piece. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three winners and announced that evening. The winning artwork will be displayed at Fairhope Chocolate starting Saturday, March 15, and will remain on display until next year's festival.

We are proud to continue this tradition and to support the young artists of tomorrow. The Student Mural Contest is a great opportunity to showcase the creativity of Baldwin County's students while celebrating the arts in our community.

Last year's Student Art Mural Competition honored Jimmy Buffets legacy and his ties to Fairhope and the Gulf Coast. Congratulations to Daphne Middle School for their first place finish in the contest.

#### 2024 Winners:

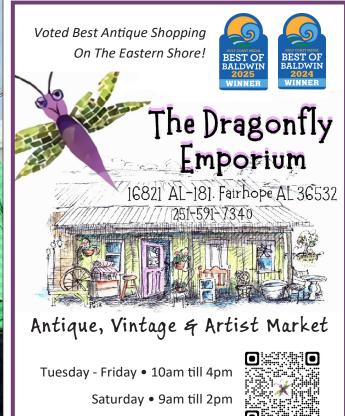
First Place - Daphne Middle School Second Place - Fairhope High School Third Place - St. Michael Catholic School Honorable Mentions: Daphne High School and Spanish Fort High School



Daphne Middle School - 1st Place 2024















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#### **Entertainment Stage**

Come and enjoy local and regional talent including live music, dance performances, and the presentation of the 2025 Dogwood Trail Court. The entertainment stage can be found at the intersection of Section Street and Magnolia Avenue across from the Festival Food Court.

(Schedule is accurate as of the print date and subject to change.)

#### Friday:

9:45 AM Opening Ceremony 11:00 AM Coastal Sound Jazz Band 1:00 PM Fairhope West Music, Ukulele (4th-6th Grade) 2:00 PM & 3:00 PM Noonday Drivers 4:00 PM TJ & Brad Duo

#### Saturday:

10:00 AM Mobile Symphony/Orchestra 11:00 AM Studio B Dance 12:00 PM 2025 Dogwood Trail Court Introduction 1:00 PM Marjorie Searcy Music 2:00 PM Drew Howard 3:00 PM Chris Johnson & Dauphin Street Stompers

#### **Sunday:**

10:00 AM Healing Bowls 11:00 AM Sounds of Life 12:00 PM Gypsy Chicks - Belly Dance Group 1:00 PM The Perrys of Spanish Fort 2:00 PM Baldwin County Youth Orchestra 3:00 PM Emily Herring





#### Children's Art Tent

#### Fun for All Ages

The Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival offers fun for the whole family, and this year, the Children's Art Tent, presented by Coastal Alabama Real Estate, is full of creative activities! Located on South Church Street across from Fairhoper's Community Park and the historic Fairhope Inn, the tent is the perfect place for young artists to explore their creativity.

Children can enjoy a variety of hands-on crafts, including bubble art, birdhouses, sunflower pots, sand art, kite building, and more. Local artist, and 2023 Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival Featured Artist, Mr. Ricky Trione, will also be painting with our young artists during the weekend.

We're also excited to have Nature Connect and the Fairhope Educational Enrichment Foundation back this year, providing additional crafts and activities for children to enjoy. Face painting will be available all day, every day. Plus, all children will have the opportunity to take home the crafts they make during the festival!

Don't forget to stop by and take pictures with the Bears at CARE!

The Children's Art Tent is open from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day, and all activities are 100% free.

(Schedule is accurate as of the print date and subject to change.)

Children's Art Tent Activity Schedule:

#### Friday:

10:00 ÅM - 11:00 AM: Clay Creations 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Bubble Art 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Birdhouses 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Sunflower Pots 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM: Sand Art 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Kites

#### **Saturday:**

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Painting with Mr. Ricky Trione

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Birdhouses 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM: Kites 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Sand Art

#### **Sunday:**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Bubble Art 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Kites 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Sand Art

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Shamrocks with Little Shrimp Mosaics

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM: Sunflower Pots 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Birdhouses

Children's art tent, generously provided by:









#### **Festival Food Court**

#### Come Hungry, Leave Happy

From festival staples to local flavors, the food court features a variety of vendors to satisfy your cravings. The food court is located on Magnolia Avenue, between Section Street and Bancroft Street. Additional food vendors can be found throughout the show, along with numerous local bars and restaurants throughout Fairhope.

#### 2025 Food Court Vendors:

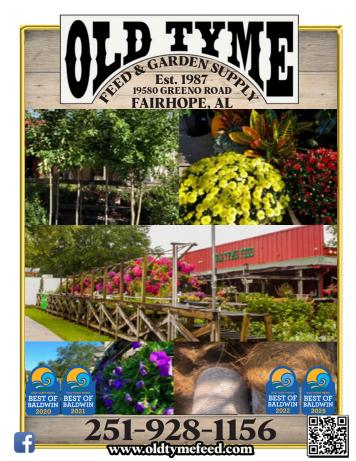
- Black Jack Grill (Mexican Food)
- Beyond Loaded Fries (Loaded French Fries)
- Copeland's Ice Cream (Ice Cream)
- Cousins Maine Lobsters (Seafood/Lobster Rolls)
- E M Concessions (Carnival Food)
- Genoa Italian Concessions (Italian Food)
- Island Noodles (Noodle Bowls)
- Jessica's Concessions (Carnival Food)
- Love Burger Box (Hamburgers)
- Monica's Concessions (Carnival Food)



- Southern Concessions (Carnival Food)
- Southern Smoke BBQ (Southern BBQ)
- Top That Chocolate (Chocolate and Sweet Treats)

#### **In-Show Vendors:**

- Copper Kettle
- Kitchen Works Scones
- Punta Clara Candy Kitchen
- Scotty's Apples
- Southern Concessions Lemonade Stands
- The Quirky Mac, Macarons













# OPENING SOON

~LATE SPRING of 2025~

#### Save the Date for the 2026 Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival

Our team of volunteers have already begun to plan how to celebrate the 74th Annual Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival.

Mark your calendar for March 13, 14, and 15, 2026 and join us in Fairhope, Alabama for the best art show in the country.













36 2025 Fairhope Arts and Crafts



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