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# Georgia Southern University to Host 33rd Annual ArtsFest April 11

April 7, 2015



ArtsFest'13 Tie-Dye ArtStop, 2013

Georgia Southern University's Sweetheart Circle will come alive on Saturday, April 11, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. as thousands of people are expected to visit campus, celebrating visual and performing arts at the 33rd annual ArtsFest.

Hosted by the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, the free art festival welcomes and encourages the community to become artists for the day. Festival-goers can express their artistic abilities at more than a dozen ArtStops. ArtStops allow participants to explore types, techniques and media of art while learning about various subject matters. Patrons can paint, sculpt, craft a pattern, measure a fish, create paper flowers, tie-dye a commemorative ArtsFest T-shirt, repurpose materials, shoot a painted arrow, pet an instrument and much more – all for free. Guests can also grab something to eat and admire one-of-akind artwork made by local artisans in the Artist Market.

"ArtsFest allows our community, young and old, to celebrate the importance of the arts in our everyday lives," said Stephanie Arends Neal, director of ArtsFest. "Through the arts, we develop lifelong skills such as decision-making, motor skills, collaboration, analytical and critical thinking, inventiveness, self-

expression, confidence and cultural awareness. It has been an honor to be a part of ArtsFest and watching it evolve over the years."

Neal encourages everyone, but especially youngsters, to visit as many ArtStops as possible during the event to get a well-rounded artistic experience. "Art can be delightfully messy, so be sure you wear clothing that can get as colorful as your ArtsFest experience," she added.

In addition to the ArtStops, attendees can experience the musical talents of headlining acts, Those Cats, F-Beams, and Pladd Dot School of Rock & Roll.

ArtsFest is a nonprofit event made possible by community and University volunteers.

"ArtsFest is made possible because of individuals who have devoted their time and love of the arts to give back to the community and university. Volunteers and ArtStop hosts consist of community members and faculty, staff, students and alumni from Georgia Southern." said Neal. "The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art takes pride in giving back to the local community while offering events and services to provide students with valuable professional and leadership experience."

Learn more and plan your day at <a href="GeorgiaSouthern.edu/ArtsFest">GeorgiaSouthern.edu/ArtsFest</a>