

MMFA

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE MONTGOMERY MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BRINGS ARTISTS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER AT NEW FALL FESTIVAL

The Fall Festival brings the best of both worlds together into one fantastic, two-day event on Saturday, September 23 and Sunday, September 24, 2023.



Montgomery, AL, September 1, 2023 – The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts invites the public to a new fall arts festival on Saturday, September 23, from 10 AM to 5 PM and Sunday, September 24, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Set against the backdrop of the Museum’s Caddell Sculpture Garden and the Lowder Gallery, the Fall Festival will bring local artists, makers, musicians, brewers, and community members together.

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
One Museum Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117
334.625.4333 | @MontgomeryMFA | mmfa.org



Jewelry maker Queen Opulence at the 12th Annual Artist Market

The Fall Festival expands on the Museum’s long-running and beloved Artist Market by adding art-making opportunities, artist-led demonstrations, community partner tables, and gallery talks. The two-day festival also extends the Market’s offerings beyond shopping to include live music from Village Green Records (Saturday) and Baldwin Arts and Academics Magnet School (Sunday), beer and wine tastings from Common Bond Brewers (Saturday) and Justified & Worthy Brewing Co. (Saturday), and tasty fare from local food trucks including Chill Out LLC (Saturday), Funky Forte (Saturday and Sunday) and Plant Bae (Sunday). For the complete list of partners by day, see below.

At the Artist Market, visitors can expect to see familiar faces—such as painter George Taylor, jewelry maker Queen Opulence, textile artist Janice Dennis, and ceramicist Chris Greenman—along with several artists new to the event, like painter Shawna Covington, 3D-printer Windham Graves, photographer Adrienne Gaines, and mixed-media artist Deirdre Sanders—showcasing the best of the River Region’s diverse art scene. With price points for every budget and one-of-a-kind artwork in various media, there is truly something for everyone.

MMFA Board President Laurie Jean Weil, D.V.M. says, “Fall Festival beckons all Montgomerians to enjoy and celebrate the joys of creativity, in many delightful ways! Treat your senses to the beauty of the MMFA and its Sculpture Garden, the creativity of artists of all backgrounds working in various media (whether paintings, ceramics, jewelry, textiles or food and beverage fare) and your own creative expression. If the weather grows too hot, you will be able to refresh and revive in the coolness of the Museum among treasures from the MMFA’s collection.”

“We’re excited to expand Artist Market to two days—giving shoppers more time to engage with the regional artists and discover the wealth of creativity here in Alabama,” adds MMFA Head of Learning and Programs Emily Stuart Thomas. “The new Fall Festival adds fun elements such as artist demonstrations, artmaking activities, music, food, and beer tastings to the marketplace, which we hope will encourage visitors to spend the day at the Museum and build new community connections.”

“The Fall Festival represents an incredible opportunity to meet artists from every part of the state and see what different points of view and styles of expression Alabama has,” shares Mobile-based mixed-media artist Deirdre Sanders. “Personally, I’m drawn to the colors found along the Alabama coastline, from the sun-bleached yellows and limpid blues of a tranquil beach to the drama and contrast found in the nighttime sky.”

Returning artist and local “crochet-preneur” Janice Dennis says, “participating in the MMFA’s Artist Market has been instrumental in getting my fiber art recognized throughout the art scene of Montgomery and the surrounding areas. I feel proud to know that my work is represented and recognized in such a well-known and community-oriented establishment.”

FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES + EVENT PARTNERS

Unless otherwise noted, activities will take place throughout the day. We recognize that an event of this size can be overwhelming. With that in mind, the second day of Fall Festival is designed to be sensory friendly—a quieter day with artmaking activities, music, food, and art demonstrations appropriate for all visitors.

Saturday, September 23 | 10 AM–5 PM

Artist Market

- See below for a complete list of participating artists.

Partners + Vendors

- Alabama Shakespeare Festival
- Embrace Nu – Self Care
- Provitt Prints – Custom T-Shirts

Artmaking

- King's Canvas
- Amal x Chintia Kirana

Music

- Village Green Records

Photo Booth | 10 AM–4 PM

- Chrietzberg Photography

Artist Demonstrations

- Lynn Marino, Alabama Craft Guild
- Lyndanne Phillips, Alabama Craft Guild
- Janice Weinstein, Alabama Craft Guild
- David Byland, Alabama Craft Guild
- Ronnie Seitel, Alabama Craft Guild
- Laura Bocquin
- Sara Crocker
- Windham Graves
- Sunny Paulk
- Queen Opulence

Artist-Led Gallery Talks | 11 AM–1 PM

- Sarah Adkins-Jablonsky
- Alisa Beck
- Richard Brown
- Amy Feger
- Sara Gevurtz
- Cam Guarino
- Will Jacks
- Meredith Knight
- Ellen Mertins
- Katharine Murray
- Rebecca Olson
- Sunny Paulk
- Enid Probst
- Edward Sikora
- Larry Silver
- Liphus Swindall

Food + Drink Vendors | 11 AM–2 PM

- Chill Out Food Truck
 - Common Bond Brewers
 - Justified & Worthy Brewing Co.
 - Fork in the Road Food Truck
 - Funky Forte Food Truck
-

Sunday, September 24 | 10 AM–3 PM

Artist Market

- See below for a complete list of participating artists.

Partners + Vendors

- Alabama Shakespeare Festival
- Embrace Nu – Self Care
- Autism Support of Alabama

Animals in the Arts | 10 AM to Noon

- Hands-on experiences with the Montgomery Zoo Animal Ambassadors
- Art for sale made by animals who live at the Zoo

Music | 1–3 PM

- Baldwin Music

Artist Demonstrations

- Laura Bocquin
- Windham Graves
- Queen Opulence

Food + Drink Vendors

- Funky Forte Food Truck
 - Plant Bae Food Truck
-

ARTIST MARKET – PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Jewelry

- Queen Opulence Ra
- Deirdre Sanders
- Joanne Staley

Mixed Media

- Laura Sonnen Cutchen
- Sarah Tanner

Oils or Acrylics

- Camilla Armstrong
- Steve Barrington
- Shawna Covington
- Warren Christopher
- Trish Gober
- Linda Lee
- Patricia Snow
- George Taylor

Prints + Pen and Ink

- Jonathan Marks
- Sharon Samples

Photography

- Adrienne Gaines

Stone or Ceramics

- Earthborn Studio Pottery
- Christopher Greenman
- Randy Shoults

Textiles

- Winki Allen
- Janice Dennis

Watercolors and Pastels

- Laura Bocquin
- Rhonda Hancock

3D-Printing

- Windham Graves

Proceeds from Artist Market benefit the local artist community and educational programming at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.

SUPPORT + ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Annual support for events was made possible by the following sponsors and grantors. Lead sponsors and grantors Alabama State Council on the Arts, The Ford Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Barrie H. Harmon III, Lamar, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and Rheem Manufacturing, with additional support from sponsors AlaCOMP, Gene and Ray Ingram, Margaret and Jimmy Lowder, Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC, and MAX Credit Union, and co-sponsors Confero, Dixie Heating, Plumbing and Air, Explore Media, The Frazer Lanier Company, Morgan Stanley, Ms. Mary Lil Owens and Mr. Bill Little, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce S. Reid, Raymond James and Associates, Inc., Renasant Bank, Dr. and Mrs. J. Douglas Robertson, and Rushton Stakely.

MMFA BACKGROUND

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts was founded in 1930 by a group of local artists as a place for both exhibiting art and space for art education. The original intentions of our founders—to exhibit and teach—continue to inspire and inform every action and activity here at the Museum which, since 1988, has shared the 277-acre Blount Cultural Park with our partners across the lake at the celebrated Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

Today's MMFA visitors stroll through art-studded grounds and permanent collection galleries. They see compelling changing exhibitions and learn about art by playing in our interactive gallery, ArtWorks, making art in its bustling studios, or by participating in other engaging events and programs. And, as of late September 2018, MMFA visitors can now relax and recharge in the serenity of our stunning new three-acre sculpture garden.

While the Museum's collection is still home to the art of many of the regional artists who first established it, over time it has become known for its strength in American art and Old Master Prints. Recent, important acquisitions of art made by African American and Asian artists and works inspired by images and themes related to the experiences of these groups represent the breadth and depth of the lives and concerns of those who now call Montgomery and the River Region home. Through the

exhibition of this work as well as the programs and events that help connect our communities with it, the MMFA is recognized as a leading arts and cultural resource here in the state and Southeastern region.

The MMFA is a department of the City of Montgomery and is supported by funds from the City of Montgomery, with additional funds from the Montgomery County Commission and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association. Programs are made possible, in part, by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- WHAT/WHEN:** Fall Festival
- WHEN:** Saturday, September 23; 10 AM–5 PM
Sunday, September 24; 10 AM–3 PM
- WHERE:** Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park
One Museum Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
- INFORMATION:** mmfa.org
334.625.4333
@MontgomeryMFA
- HOURS:** Galleries, ArtWorks, Sculpture Garden, Terrace, and Shop
Mondays, Closed
Tuesdays–Sunday, 10 AM–5 PM
Last entry at 4:45 PM
- ADMISSION:** Free! With ample, free parking.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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