



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **53<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**

April 23-28 • Bicentennial Park

The **2019 Festival of the Arts** is right around the corner! Here are some fun things to look forward to this year.

### **Featured Artist**

["Born in a Day"](#) was created by Julie and Kevin Zuckerman to honor the great state of Oklahoma and legacy of the Native American population. The main image was inspired by the Great Eagle Feather and Olive Branch from the state flag. The background color represents the state wildflower, the Indian Blanket. The other vibrant colors honor the pride of the community such as the Oklahoma City Thunder, Oklahoma City Dodgers, Oklahoma City Energy, etc. Finally, the symbolism of the painting is to be bright, be bold, and make a difference in your community.

### **Festival Co-Chairs Susan Whittington and Randy Lewis**

The 2019 Festival Co-Chairs are available for media interviews upon request. A list of story ideas can be found in the 2019 Festival Media Kit, available by request from Arts Council OKC Communications Director Michelle Van Swearingen (contact info listed above).

### **Artists Square, International Food Row, Performing Arts**

As always, the Festival of the Arts promises hundreds of talented artists, engaging performances and an abundance of delicious treats and food demonstrations. With new and returning favorites, there is something for everyone to enjoy. The full schedule can be found online:

<https://www.artscouncilokc.com/festival-of-the-arts/>

### **Opening Ceremonies**

*Continued*

Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt will help us kick off the Festival in style with live performances and a catered lunch for our Fest-Officios. Prior to the opening ceremonies, our Festi-First buyers will have the opportunity to view and purchase art.

### **Angels and Friends Party, April 24, 5:30-9:30 p.m.**

The Angel's and Friends Celebration is Arts Council OKC's only fundraising party throughout the year. You're invited to join us as we celebrate spring with wining, dining and dancing the night away! Food will be provided by local favorites including Patrono, Big Truck Tacos, Back Door BBQ, Benvenuti's, Bin 73, Bricktown Brewery and Brown Egg Bakery. The band "Drive" will provide the entertainment featuring classic and contemporary chart-topping hits. Tickets start at just \$65 and help to support our year-round, free and low-cost programming, like All Access Arts, Art Moves, Festival of the Arts and the Sunday Twilight Concert Series.

### **OG&E Recharging Station and Midfirst Bank ATMs**

For your convenience, phone recharging stations and ATMs will be conveniently located on Festival grounds. Locations can be easily identified on the Festival map, in the Festival program and on large instructional kiosks in the center of Bicentennial Park.

### **Please Leave Your Pets at Home**

Even for humans, Festival is sensory smorgasbord. From delicious food to head banging rock concerts... the sights, sounds and smells of Festival are often overwhelming and can cause unnecessary anxiety for our furry friends. Pet owners are encouraged to use caution when considering taking your pet to large, crowded events. There may be foods and drinks that are dangerous or toxic for animals, including certain sweets and alcoholic beverages. And, the noises from the large concert stages are often too loud for your pet's sensitive ears. It's for these significant reasons that no pets are allowed on Festival grounds, other than service animals in compliance with the American Disabilities Act.

###

Arts Council Oklahoma City is a non-profit 501 ©(3) organization dedicated to bringing the arts and the community together through free or low-cost cultural events and a variety of arts outreach activities that impact underserved populations. Each year, Arts Council events, programs and services reach nearly one million Oklahoma City residents and visitors. Arts Council Oklahoma City is sponsored by Devon Energy, MidFirst Bank, Inasmuch Foundation, The Oklahoman, OG&E, Ozarka, Sonic - America's Drive-in, ICG, Toucan Production and Tyler Media. Arts Council Oklahoma City receives funding from the Oklahoma Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Kirkpatrick Family Foundation and is an Allied Arts member agency. For more information, call 405-270-4848 or visit [www.ArtsCouncilOKC.com](http://www.ArtsCouncilOKC.com).



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Click Photo Above to View Our 2019 Festival Promotional Video

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## 2019 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

April 23-28 • Bicentennial Park

Each year, **Festival of the Arts** captivates the crowds with live performances on three stages, 144 visual artists, and delectable food dishes to satisfy every craving. Without doubt, there is something for everyone at Festival of the Arts. Here are some things you won't want to miss this year.

### FESTI-PICS

Stop by the new Festi-Pics photo booth to get a one-of-kind photo with friends or to snag that perfect Festival selfie. Festi-Pics is located just south of Main Stage and costs \$3.

### LOW-COST OPTIONS

Festival is free for everyone! Browse the 144 various artists booths and check-out live performances on three stages throughout each day of Festival for no charge. Low-cost options include:

- *Mustard's Last Stand:* You don't have to break the bank to get a tasty meal at Festival. Mustard's Last Stand is located on South Food Row and offers tasty Festival favorites for \$3 or less.
- *Pottery Place:* Brought to you by Collin Rosebrook and the artisans of Paseo Pottery, you can learn how to make your own work of art for as little as \$5.
- *Face Painting:* Open to all ages, this iconic festival highlight is hosted by Bricktown Clowns. Prices range from \$1-\$15 depending on the complexity of the design.

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## CHILDREN'S OPTIONS:

- *Creation Station*: Children and adults are welcome to participate in creating this free, larger-than-life, masterpiece located on the west lawn of City Hall.
- *Young-at-Art Mart*: Located near Creation Station, this exclusive art tent is only open to children ages 5-12. Children are encouraged to purchase artwork of their choice. Prices range from \$0.50 to \$5. It's never too early to start an art collection. Only one piece per child, please.
- *Children's Art Field*: Located on the west lawn of City Hall, children ages 3-12 may create three different art projects for \$3 total.

## FESTIVAL'S GONE GREEN

Since 2009, the Go Green committee has made monumental changes to Festival of the Arts, earning national recognition and achieving its goal of being one of the largest eco-conscious events in the United States! We are proud that entirely compostable or recyclable materials are used at every food location. Help us be green by looking for educational signage and recycling and composting receptacles across Festival grounds.

## PLEASE LEAVE YOUR PETS AT HOME

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## INFO AND FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS

Have questions? Need directions? Lose your group? Go to Headquarters on Colcord Drive for all of your Festival needs.

## FESTIVAL HOURS

11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Tuesday- Saturday

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday

All proceeds from Festival of the Arts support Arts Council Oklahoma City's year-round, free and low-cost arts programming throughout the greater Oklahoma City community. Hope to see you there!

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## **MEDIA GUIDE: 2019 Festival of the Arts**

April 23-28 • Bicentennial Park

Arts Council Oklahoma City welcomes you to the 2019 Festival of the Arts. Enclosed you will find helpful information for covering the events at Festival.

### **FESTIVAL HOURS**

11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Tuesday- Saturday  
11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

April 23, 7:30 a.m.: Festi-First, Festival's exclusive early buying program  
April 23, 11 a.m.: Opening Ceremonies  
April 24, 5:30-9:30 p.m.: Angel's and Friends Celebration

### **MEDIA CHECK-IN, POLICIES AND PARKING**

- **All media and media staff must check in and check out** at the Festival of the Arts Media Tent located at the corner of Walker and Colcord. All media must wear credentials in order to interview and film on Festival grounds. Stations may broadcast live, but must coordinate camera placement with the Media Tent.
- Media-only parking is available on the west side of Walker Ave., south of Colcord Drive. **Please text Michelle Van Swearingen at (405) 652-9843 15 minutes prior to arrival** to remove the barricades protecting your parking spaces.

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- No promotional items are allowed for handout. This includes, but is not limited to, handbills, bumper stickers, magnets, brochures, etc.
- A separate tent may be available for media use and interviews, upon request. Subject to availability.

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FESTIVAL OF  
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ARTS COUNCIL OKLAHOMA CITY

## **53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of the Arts Story Ideas**

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Welcome to the 2019 Festival of the Arts. If you're looking for that perfect spin on this year's Festival, here are a few ideas to get you started.

### **STORY IDEAS**

- Fun food facts (like how many strawberries does it take to make a festival?)
- Festival of the Arts production and volunteers
- Festi-pics
- Opening Ceremonies
- Low-cost options
- Children's activities
- Hispanic music, food and visual arts
- Locally famous food demos
- New this year
- Beer Wine permitted throughout festival grounds
- Artist highlights and the lifestyle of a traveling artist

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