



## MEDIA RELEASE

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## 78<sup>th</sup> National Folk Festival Performance Schedule and Map Unveiled

Salisbury, MD – The National Folk Festival unveiled its complete schedule of performance times and stage locations for more than 350 performers, demonstrators, and artisans set to appear September 7 through 9 in Downtown Salisbury, Maryland.

From bluegrass, Irish and rockabilly — to reggae and mariachi, this year's complete Festival schedule of performances and activities is now available at <https://www.nationalfolkfestival.com/schedule>

"There is so much to see. With the schedule in hand, you can choose to stay at one location and watch performers take the stage all day long. Or you can jump from stage to stage and manage to see every artist in this year's lineup," says Caroline O'Hare, Local Manager for the National Folk Festival.

The three-day celebration begins on Friday evening, September 7 at 6pm on the City Stage, with a performance from one of New Orleans' most beloved artists, the Tremé Brass Band. The music is sure to get everyone on their feet as the Band moves from the stage and joins with the crowd for the Festival's traditional opening parade through downtown Salisbury. Everyone is invited to join in.

Friday's schedule runs until 10:30pm. Saturday's schedule begins at noon, and runs all day until 10:30pm. Sunday Festival hours are noon through 6:30pm.

Four of the Festival's stages will operate during **all** Festival hours as noted above:

- The **PRMC Stage**, across from the Peninsula Regional Medical Center, on the corner of S. Division Street and E. Carroll Street.
- The **City Stage**, in front of the Government Office Building, located near N. Division Street and Church Street.
- The **Perdue Dance Pavilion**, situated at the corner of W. Main Street and Small Street.
- The **Richard A. Henson Stage**, a large, covered venue close to Circle Avenue and W. Market Street.

Four additional themed stages / areas will operate on Saturday and Sunday:

- The **Pohanka Auto Family Stage** at S. Division Street and Camden Street
- The **Salisbury University Amphitheater** positioned along the Riverwalk, near S. Salisbury Blvd.
- The **Maryland Traditions Folklife Area** on W. Market Street
- The **Avery Hall Maryland Traditions Stage** next to the Wicomico Downtown Public Library

"The detailed planning and hard work by our community over the past year is about to pay off with this incredible festival." Says O'Hare. "There is so much to choose from, so many artists to explore and experience. It is a joyous

celebration free to all who wish to partake. However, while the festival is free to attend, it is not inexpensive. We hope everyone has a great time, but also hope everyone can chip in a few dollars too.”

As in past years, festival organizers will again solicit contributions on site for the weekend through a traditional bucket brigade effort throughout all three days. A suggested contribution of \$10 is suggested to help keep the Festival free.

For more information on the 2018 National Folk Festival please visit [www.nationalfolkfestival.com](http://www.nationalfolkfestival.com)

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### **About the 78th National Folk Festival in Salisbury, 2018**

Produced by the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) and the City of Salisbury, with a host of local, state and national partners and supporters, the National Folk Festival begins its three-year residency in downtown Salisbury this year, its 78th year, from September 7 – 9, 2018. The FREE, three-day event is America’s longest-running festival of traditional arts; celebrating the best of nation and best of Maryland, it will set the stage for a continuing festival in 2021, after the “National” moves on.

### **About the National Folk Festival**

Since it was first presented in St. Louis in 1934, the National Folk Festival, the NCTA’s flagship event, has celebrated the roots, richness, and variety of American culture. Championed in its early years by Eleanor Roosevelt, it was the first event of national stature to present the arts of many nations, races, and languages on equal footing. It was also the first to present to the public musical forms such as the blues, Cajun music, polka, Tex-Mex *conjunto*, Peking Opera, and many others. Today, the National is an exuberant traveling festival, produced by the NCTA in partnership with communities around the country, that embraces the diverse cultural expressions that define us as a people in the 21st century. [www.nationalfolkfestival.com](http://www.nationalfolkfestival.com)

### **About the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA)**

A leading non-profit in the field, the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) is dedicated to the presentation and documentation of folk and traditional arts in the U.S. Stressing excellence and authenticity, the NCTA presents the nation’s finest traditional artists in major festivals, tours, concerts, workshops, demonstrations, exhibitions, media productions, school programs, cross-cultural exchanges, and other activities. It works in partnership with American communities to establish new, sustainable traditional arts events that deliver lasting social, cultural, and economic benefits. Over 7,000 hours of the NCTA’s archival audio recordings dating from the 1930s are permanently housed at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The NCTA champions the interests of folk and traditional artists and organizations in the arena of public policy. [www.ncta-usa.org](http://www.ncta-usa.org)

### **About the City of Salisbury, Maryland**

Founded in 1732, Salisbury is the county seat of Wicomico County, a place where John Smith touched land in 1608 during his exploration of the Chesapeake Bay. Situated on Maryland’s historic Eastern Shore at the crossroads of the Delmarva Peninsula, Salisbury is now one of the region’s largest cities, and serves as the capital of the Eastern Shore, a rural area defined by its agricultural and maritime traditions, landscapes, and industries. The Chesapeake Bay is central to this distinctive identity. Though a relatively small city, Salisbury is the geographic and economic hub of one of the nation’s fastest-growing Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Led by a dynamic mayor, the City of Salisbury is working to build its reputation as an arts and culture destination, and is aligning its downtown development and revitalization efforts with the arts. Salisbury believes hosting the National Folk Festival is the perfect catalyst to further a cultural renaissance and urban renewal. [www.salisbury.md](http://www.salisbury.md)