



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Easy, Free and Accessible Parking Announced for 78th National Folk Festival

Salisbury, MD – Parking locations and a free shuttle service have been announced for festival goers wishing to drive to the 78th National Folk Festival taking place over the weekend of September 7- 9, 2018, in downtown Salisbury. Presented FREE to the public, the Festival is a national showcase for America's finest traditional artists, and will feature over 350 artists—musicians, dancers, craftspeople, storytellers, and other tradition bearers—with more than 35 different groups performing on the Festival's seven stages.

“With about 1,000 parking spaces located in our downtown parking lots and garage, plus 5,000 parking spaces available at and next to the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, we have space for everyone,” said Caroline O'Hare, local manager of the National Folk Festival

Free parking provided by the City of Salisbury include the following downtown locations:

- Lot 35, Fitzwater St & W. Main St
- Lot 7, Lemon Hill Ln
- Lot 13, W. Chestnut St
- Lot 9, E. Salisbury Blvd
- Lot 10, E. Church St & Poplar Hill St
- Lot 5, E. Main St
- E. Market St
- Downtown Parking Garage

The National Folk Festival has partnered with ShoreTransit to provide free shuttle service to the Festival's satellite parking lots located at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, Wicomico County Stadium, and on the parking grounds of the former Salisbury mall. Shuttles will pick-up festival goers every 10 minutes and will run in 30-minute cycles.

To learn more about festival parking, please visit <https://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

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

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