

MEDIA IMAGES

Smithsonian Folklife Festival

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SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

In 2023, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival celebrates diverse American cultures through two programs: *Creative Encounters: Living Religions in the U.S.* and *The Ozarks: Faces and Facets of a Region*. It takes place between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets on the Mall, June 29 to July 4 and July 6 to 9.

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Photo by John Korb, Smithsonian Institution



Photo by Phillip Lee, Smithsonian Institution



The demonstration kitchen is a popular Festival attraction. Joseph Frantz Pierre cooks at the 2004 Haiti program.
Photo by Michael Thompson, Smithsonian Institution



The main music stage, located right outside the Smithsonian Metro station, includes a dance floor for visitors.
Photo by Stephen Kolb, Smithsonian Institution



Ukrainian American artist Laryssa Czebiniak will teach the tradition of *pysanky*, intricately designed and dyed eggs.
Photo courtesy of Laryssa Czebiniak



Ofelia Esparza is a sixth-generation Chicana altar-maker, renowned in East Los Angeles and around the world.
Photo courtesy of Esparza family



Riyaz Qawwali, a Sufi devotional music group from Houston, will return to the Festival to share the stage and collaborate with gospel band the Jones Family Singers.
Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives



The Venerable Lama Losang Samten helped introduce Tibetan Buddhist sand mandalas to the West when he moved to the United States in 1988.
Photo courtesy of Losang Samten



Afro-Cuban American musician Bobi Céspedes performed at the Folklife Festival in 2016 and returns for an evening concert on Friday, July 7.
Photo by Joe Furgal, Smithsonian Institution



Artisans from Kazakhstan will demonstrate traditional felt making during the second week, as part of a pop-up by the Smithsonian Artisan Initiative.
Photo courtesy of Union of Artisans Kazakhstan



An old-fashioned pie auction to benefit a century-old schoolhouse in rural Webster County, MO, is an example of Ozarker community-building events.

Photo by Kaitlyn McConnell/Ozarks Alive



As the founder of Eating the Ozarks, Rachael West prepares foods from foraged ingredients, like these meringues with curly dock curd and bachelor button flowers.

Photo by Rachael West



For decades, the “McClurg Jam” in Missouri has brought amateur musicians together on Monday nights to play old-time Ozarks music.

Photo by Kaitlyn McConnell/Ozarks Alive



The Ozark Mountain Daredevils, formed in Springfield, MO, in 1972, perform an evening concert on July 4.

Photo by Jim Mayfield



Jake Blount returns to his hometown to perform in the Folkways at 75 anniversary concert on July 6.

Photo by Tadin Brego



In a collaboration between the Ozarks program and Smithsonian Folkways, bluegrass band the Po’ Ramblin’ Boys perform on July 8.

Photo by Amy Richmond