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## News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: April 4, 2024 Contact: Mahogany Waldon, 757/728-5316 mahogany.waldon@hamptoncvb.com Luci Cochran, 757/727-6436 lcochran@hampton.gov

## Hampton Mosaic Festival returns to Downtown Hampton April 20

**Hampton, VA** – City departments and community organizations in Hampton are collaborating for the 2024 Hampton Mosaic Festival. This Festival celebrates world cultures and the earth through history, art, music, and dance on Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in Mill Point Park at 100 Eaton Street, Downtown Hampton.

With a wide array of activities, performances, and mouth-watering cuisine, this festival promises to be a visual feast of colors and a celebration of unity. Set in the picturesque Mill Point Park, the Hampton Mosaic Festival aims to create a sense of belonging for everyone, regardless of age or background. As David J. McCauley, the Director of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services for the City of Hampton, affirms, "All activities for both children and adults are designed to create a sense of belonging. This event welcomes family and friends of all ages."

One of the highlights of the Hampton Mosaic Festival is the breathtaking showcase of traditional music, stories, drumming, and dance from civilizations representing Indigenous People, Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. This diverse range of performances allows festival-goers to immerse themselves in the rich cultural tapestry of Hampton and experience the beauty of different traditions. Guests can enjoy performances by bands like Grupo Ritmo Son, the Mosaic Steel Orchestra, the Doorway Singers, United Souls Reggae Band, and more.

Festival-goers can explore their creative side, engage in interactive activities, and make lasting memories with their loved ones. Food enthusiasts will also be delighted by the presence of food trucks and vendors showcasing traditional customs including Italian cuisine, Egyptian delicacies, and Soul Food.

For those looking to unwind, beer and wine will be available for purchase, catering to the tastes of adult attendees. However, please note that to purchase alcohol, attendees must be 21 years of age or older and present a valid ID.

To truly embrace the essence of the Hampton Mosaic Festival, attendees are encouraged to proudly wear their cultural attire. Whether it's traditional garments, accessories, or symbols, this festival celebrates the beauty of diversity and individuality.

This exciting festival is brought to you by the Hampton History Museum, City of Hampton

Special Events, Hampton Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Fort Monroe Authority Museums, Education, and Interpretation Department. Presenting sponsors of the event include Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services, the Hampton History Museum Association, and the Downtown Hampton Development Partnership.

This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the Hampton University Parking Garage next to Mill Point Park, the Settlers Landing Parking Garage, in spaces at City Hall, and in any legal, on-street spaces as marked throughout Downtown. Handicap-accessible spaces are available in the garages, at City Hall, and on-street as marked. Road closures are as follows:

- Closed Friday, April 19 from 2:00 p.m. to Saturday, April 20 at 8:00 p.m. Eaton Street from Queen's Way to Mill Point Condo Entrance.
- Closed Friday, April 19 from 5:00 p.m. to Saturday, April 20 at 8:00 p.m. Queens Way from Eaton Street to Wine Street.
- Closed Friday, April 19 from 2:00 p.m. to Saturday, April 20 at 8:00 p.m. Eaton Street Half of Public Parking Lot between Eaton Street and Wine Street.

While leashed pets are permitted with their responsible owners, for their comfort and safety in crowds we recommend they be left at home.

For more information visit <u>www.hampton.gov/mosaic</u>, follow Hampton, VA-Gov, Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services, and Hampton History Museum on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram or call 757-727-8311.

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Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Science Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.