

1919 Commerce Drive Suite 290 Hampton, VA 23666 757-722-1222 800-487-4600 fax: 757-896-4600

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Contact: Mahogany Waldon, 757/728-5316

mahogany.waldon@hamptoncvb.com

Briana Hudnall, 757/727-6471

briana.hudnall@hampton.gov

Hampton Mosaic Festival comes to Mill Point Park April 22

Hampton, *VA* – Communities and organizations in Hampton are joining together to present the Hampton Mosaic Festival: A Celebration of Culture, History, Art & the Earth We Share on Saturday, April 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mill Point Park. The festival will include family fun for everyone. Mill Point Park is located at 100 Eaton Street.

The City's goal is to create a festival celebrating our diverse history, cultures, and the environment's impact on us all through dance, music, visual art, storytelling, demonstrators, food, crafts and unique vendors.

"A visual feast of color will greet everyone and all activities for both children and adults are designed to create a sense of belonging. Set under the shady trees of the city's waterfront downtown Mill Point Park, this event welcomes family and friends of all ages," says David J. McCauley, Director of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services for the City of Hampton.

In the past, Hampton History Museum's Heritage Day, the City's International Children's Festival, and Earth Day events attracted more than 20,000 people to the City. Combining these closely-linked elements of our world – history, culture, and the environment – the new Hampton Mosaic Festival focuses on the best elements of each in one, larger festival with more entertainment, food, features and fun!

The Hampton Mosaic Festival will include traditional music, stories, drumming and dance of civilizations representing Indigenous People, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas. Also featured are more than 20 activities for both kids and adults, including themed games and do-it-yourself art stations, multiple stages of entertainment, earth day nature and environmental activities, working artists and demonstrations, cultural displays and demonstrations, heritage crafts, an interactive "Wishing Tree" to make and more.

International food trucks and vendors of traditional customs will sell food and merchandise, and beer and wine will also be available for purchase (must be 21 with ID). Everyone is encouraged to proudly wear their cultural attire, whatever that may be.

The Hampton History Museum, City of Hampton Special Events, Clean City's Division with support from Hampton Arts, Hampton Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Fort Monroe Authority Museums, Education, and Interpretation Department have created this special day. Presenting sponsors of the event include the Hampton History Museum

Association, Hampton Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Services, and the Hampton Convention & Visitor Bureau.

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 21, 2023, from 2 p.m. to Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8 p.m. Eaton Street from Queen's Way to Mill Point Condo Entrance.
- •Closed Friday, April 21, 2023, from 5 p.m. to Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8 p.m. Queens Way from Eaton Street to Wine Street.
- •Closed Wednesday, April 19, 2023, from 6 p.m. to Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8 p.m. 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 hampton.gov/mosaic, 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.