



CONTACT:
Laurie Davis
ldavis@tennesseecraft.org
davisgroupPR@gmail.com
615.491.5102

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Tennessee Craft Week Set for October 6 – 15, 2017 *Artists Call to Submit Events for Celebration of Handmade Craft*

Nashville, TN. (March 22, 2017) [Tennessee Craft](#) announces **2017 Tennessee Craft Week, October 6-15, 2017**. Launched in 2015 to highlight handmade crafts, **Tennessee Craft Week, is a collection of craft events and happenings designed to connect and celebrate craft artists, the work they create and the businesses that support them.**

This week-long celebration of craft is held in conjunction with [American Craft Week](#), an annual recognition of craft across the nation. This intense spotlight on hundreds of accomplished artists and innovative Tennessee craft-based events during TCW underscores the collective impact that [Made in Tennessee](#) craft has on our culture, community and economy.

Partnering with the **Tennessee Department of Tourist Development**, Tennessee Craft gained national attention earning top honors with the **American Craft Week 2015 Star Award** for its engaging artist demonstrations at the 14 Tennessee Welcome Centers and the Nashville International Airport. In 2016, Tennessee Craft Week built upon its previous success, garnering five **American Craft Week 2016 Star Awards**. For Tennessee Craft Week 2017, Tennessee Tourism will again sponsor craft artists at each one of the 15 Tennessee Welcome Centers across the state, promoting personal interaction with the artists and craft demonstrations to the public.

All Tennessee craft artists are encouraged to showcase their art and participate. Artists may create and submit an original event, participate in and submit an established community craft event or host an individual Open Studio Day as part of the [Tennessee Craft Week](#) activities. As the statewide advocate and educator for the art of handmade craft, Tennessee Craft urges craft artists to be a part of this successful campaign to brand and promote their skills as well as build the reputation of handmade products made in Tennessee. TCW 2016 showcased more than 66 events. More than 100 events are projected to take place during Tennessee Craft Week 2017.

Important Dates and Links

To be included as a Featured Event: Submit events no later than July 15 to be included as a featured event and published in the brochure. <http://tennesseecraft.org/tennessee-craft-week/submit-your-event/>

All featured events will be included in the TCW event calendar, promoted via Tennessee Craft social media platforms, listed on Facebook, and included in the TCW event listing on TNvacation.com. Events entered after the deadline will not be guaranteed the same level of promotion, due to the increased number of events projected this year.

Looking for Ideas? Click here: [Event and ideas/happenings from 2016](#)

Tennessee Craft Week Promotional cards, flyers and posters to download and print:
<http://tennesseecraft.org/tennessee-craft-week/promote-tennessee-craft-week/>

Find Your Chapter! Artists interested in joining a local Tennessee Craft Chapter:
<http://tennesseecraft.org/members/>

Tennessee Craft Week Creates:

- Awareness of authentic cultural experiences for residents and visitors in October 2017, where the general public can connect on a deeper level with local artists and their process.
- Engagement by connecting Tennessee artists across the state to each other and their communities, forging effective regional partnerships and expanding the reputation of Tennessee craft artists.
- Recognition for the economic, creative and cultural impact craft artists have on local communities, in both urban and rural areas.

Celebrating 50 years, Tennessee Craft, formerly The Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA), works to continue and create Tennessee's fine craft tradition. With more than 500 members throughout the state, Tennessee Craft serves as the premier connecting point for local, independent makers and their audiences through Craft Fairs, exhibitions, professional development, networking, mentorship and other educational programs. Visit www.tennesseecraft.org or email info@tennesseecraft.org to learn more.

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