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**Tennessee Craft Partners with Tennessee Department of Tourism**

*Craft Artists Demonstrate at Tennessee Welcome Centers across the State, October 2-11*

**NASHVILLE, TN** (Sept 29, 2015) Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Tennessee Craft partners with the [Tennessee Department of Tourism](#) to celebrate a new tradition, [Tennessee Craft Week](#), with craft artist demonstrations across the state of Tennessee, October 2-11. The public is invited to visit Tennessee Welcome Centers and support the craft artists from their communities. The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development encourages tourists to take a moment from their travels, experience the rich tradition of crafts, and realize why Tennessee is known as “The Soundtrack of America - Made in Tennessee.”

Honorary Chairman, the First Lady of Tennessee Crissy Haslam, will travel across the state to highlight Tennessee artists and events, October 2-11. Tennessee Craft Week honors the “makers” while emphasizing the collective impact of crafts to supporters, media, and the public. The Welcome Center demonstrations provide all a “hands-on” personal craft experience and are truly “Made In Tennessee.”

Teri Alea, Director of [Tennessee Craft](#) shares, “Tennessee Craft is excited to enhance the visitor experience by providing talented craft artists who can explain how pieces are created, connect with people and share how craft defines our heritage. Handmade craft becomes a hand-to-heart connection between the creators and those who connect with the work. Additionally, craft creates jobs for tens of thousands of Americans, creating vibrant communities where people want to live.”

**Tennessee Welcome Center Craft Demonstration Dates (West to East)**

**1) Memphis, Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Friday, October 9, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-40, Shelby County, Memphis | Mile marker .30, Eastbound I-40**

Craft Artist Becky Ziemer will be demonstrating the art of pottery/ceramics from 10am to 4pm at the I-40 Welcome Center in Memphis. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

## **2) Dyersburg Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Friday, October 2, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-155, Dyer County, Dyersburg | Mile marker 8.7, Eastbound**

Craft Artist Becky Ziemer will be demonstrating the art of pottery/ceramics from 10am to 4pm at the I-155 Welcome Center in Dyersburg. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

## **3) Clarksville Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Saturday, October 3, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-24, Montgomery County, Clarksville | Mile marker .40, Eastbound**

Craft Artist David Heustess will be demonstrating the art of wheel thrown pottery from 10am to 4pm at the I-24 Welcome Center in Montgomery County. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

## **4) Portland Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Sunday, October 4, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-65, Robertson County, Mitchellville | Mile marker 121.0, Southbound**

Craft Artist Courtney Adair Johnson will be demonstrating the art of art book and print making from 10am to 4pm at the I-65 Welcome Center in Robertson County. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

## **5) Ardmore Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Thursday, October 8, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-65, Giles County, Ardmore | Mile marker 3, Northbound**

Craft Artist Constance Beck will be demonstrating the art of Spinning from 10am to 4pm at the I-65 Welcome Center in Giles County. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

## **6) Carthage Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Saturday, October 3, 2015**

**TN Welcome Center | I-40, Smith County | Mile Marker 267, East and Westbound**

Craft Artist Breanna Rockstad-Kincaid will be demonstrating the art of wet wool felting using traditional methods from 10am to 4pm at the I-40 Welcome Center in Smith County. Using unspun wool, Breanna will carefully layer tufts of wool overlapping around a pattern. Then she wets the wool with soap and water. After rolling it for several minutes, she beats the fiber into a wool hat, baby booties or scarf.

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### **7) Jasper Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Monday, October 5, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | I-24, Marion County, Nickajack | Mile marker 160, westbound**

Craft Artist Tim Hintz will be demonstrating the art of making traditional ladder back chairs from 10am to 4pm at the I-24 Welcome Center in Hamilton County. Tim will split chair parts from a log and shape them with a drawknife on a shaving horse. He will also weave a seat with hickory bark strips. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **8) Chattanooga Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Tuesday, October 6, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-24, Hamilton County, Tiftonia | Mile marker 171.8 Eastbound**

Craft Artist Tim Hintz will be demonstrating the art of making traditional ladder back chairs from 10 am – 4 pm at the I-24 Welcome Center in Hamilton County. . Tim will split chair parts from a log and shape them with a drawknife on a shaving horse. He will also weave a seat with hickory bark strips. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **9) East Ridge Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Saturday, October 10, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-75, Hamilton County, Chattanooga | Mile marker 0.7, Northbound**

Craft Artist Olive Durant will be demonstrating the art of marbling on cloth from 10am to 4pm at the I-75 Welcome Center in Chattanooga. The craft of marbling is an ancient art of capturing artist is able to build surface tension between colors then capture the simple, transferrable design to fabric creating a mono-type print. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **10) Jellico Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Wednesday, October 7, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-75, Campbell County, Jellico | Mile marker 161, Southbound**

Craft Artist Anne Freels will be demonstrating the art of Corn Shuck Doll Making, 10am to 4pm at the I-75 Welcome Center in Campbell County. Anne has been making corn shuck dolls since corn shucks to create dolls depicting folk lore and has over the years developed a contemporary take on this traditional craft. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and

entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **11) Hartford Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Tuesday, October 6, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-40, Cocke County, Hartford | Mile marker 446, Westbound**

Craft Artist Anne Freels will be demonstrating the art of Corn Shuck Doll Making, 10am to 4pm at the I-40 Welcome Center in Cocke County. Anne has been making corn shuck dolls since 1975. Anne is also the author of "Making Colorful Corn Shuck Dolls". She uses natural and hand-dyed corn shucks to create dolls depicting folk lore and has over the years developed a contemporary take on this traditional craft. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **12) Bristol Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Saturday, October 3, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-81, Sullivan County, Bristol | Mile marker 75.3 Southbound**

Craft Artist Barbara Cara will be demonstrating the art of hand building clay from 10am to 4pm at the I-81 Welcome Center in Bristol. Barbara will be demonstrating the art of hand building clay bowls, platters, angels, tiles and tiny animals. Visitors will be able to play in clay and make their own creations. She will have examples of finished pottery on display. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **13) Kingsport Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Saturday, October 10, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-26, Sullivan County, Kingsport | Mile marker 5, East & West**

Craft Artist Carol LeBaron will be demonstrating the art of textile dyeing and stitching from 10am to 4pm at the I-26 Welcome Center in Kingsport. Carol's work is exhibited internationally; recently at the Textile Museum in Washington DC, the Shibori Conference in Hong Kong and the Nashville Airport. She teaches dye workshops out of her studio and at several craft schools. Currently Carol creates large commission work, lately installed at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

### **14) Erwin Craft Artist Demonstration**

**Sunday, October 4, from 10 am – 4 pm**

**TN Welcome Center | 1-26, Unicoi, Erwin | Mile marker/exit 46  
(Clear Branch Road, East & Westbound)**

Craft Artist Barbara Cara will be demonstrating the art of hand building clay from 10am to 4pm at the I-26 Welcome Center in Unicoi County. Visitors will be able to play in clay and make their own creations. She will have examples of finished pottery on display. Meet the artist and explore the rich heritage of

handmade Tennessee Crafts, a magical and entertaining experience! This event is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee Craft.

For a full listing of events in Tennessee, visit [TNVacation.com](http://TNVacation.com) and for events across the USA, visit [AmericanCraftWeek.com](http://AmericanCraftWeek.com)

*Follow Tennessee Craft on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest! #TNCraftWeek*

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Celebrating fifty years, Tennessee Craft, formerly The Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA) is a nonprofit organization working 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](http://www.tennesseecraft.org) and [Stories: 50 Years of Craft](#) to learn more. [Tennessee Craft Week](#) debuts October 2-11, in conjunction with the national [American Craft Week](#).