



Tennessee Craft Week Debuts October 2 – 11, 2015

Statewide Initiative Spotlights Local Craft Artists and Events

NASHVILLE, TN (Sept 15, 2015) Tennessee Craft, marking its 50th Anniversary, is celebrating our state's makers with a new tradition – [Tennessee Craft Week](#), October 2-11. The public is invited to support and celebrate the craft artists of this state.

Tennessee Craft puts the spotlight on craft artists and craft events with the First Lady of Tennessee Crissy Haslam, lending her support as the Honorary Chairman. The public is invited to participate in the many craft events, displays and hands-on demonstrations. Tennessee Craft Week promotes and emphasizes the collective impact of crafts to supporters, media, and the public.

“The arts are fundamental in developing communities,” shares Teri Alea, Director of Tennessee Craft. “Craft creates jobs for tens of thousands of Americans, creating vibrant cities where people want to live. And in a world increasingly driven by technology, handmade craft becomes a hand-to-heart connection between the creators and those who desire the work.”

Traditional craft epitomizes the ultimate “DIY” mentality, which emerged as settlers moved across the state and made what they needed for everyday life. Today’s **“Maker Movement”** builds on that history, applying a new vocabulary to traditional craft skills, and often up-cycling raw or second-hand materials, building “grass-roots” economic growth in local communities.

Participants include The [Pink Palace Museum](#), [The National Ornamental Metal Museum](#), [The Museum of Appalachia](#), [Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts](#), [Dollywood](#), and Nashville events during [ARTOBER](#), a month of arts celebration.

For a full listing of events in Tennessee, visit [TNVacation.com](#) and for events across the USA, visit [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. More about Tennessee Craft: [Stories: 50 Years of Craft](#). Visit www.tennesseeecraft.org to learn more. Tennessee Craft debuts, [Tennessee Craft Week](#) October 2-11, in conjunction with the national [American Craft Week](#).