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Tennessee Department of Tourist Development Partners with Tennessee Craft for Tennessee Craft Week Oct. 5-14

Craft Artists Demonstrate at Tennessee Welcome Centers, October 5-14

NASHVILLE, TN (September 19, 2018) The [Tennessee Department of Tourist Development](#) partners with Tennessee Craft to sponsor craft artist demonstrations in all 15 **Tennessee Welcome Centers** during Tennessee Craft Week Oct. 5-14.

Tennessee Craft Week shines a spotlight on craft artists across the state each October, celebrating handmade craft artwork and encouraging the public to take home an authentic treasure. The Tennessee Craft Week campaign is held in conjunction with [American Craft Week](#).

Talented craft artists at the Tennessee Welcome Centers will share their creative process and skills with guests traveling across Tennessee. In 2017, more than 14 million people visit the Tennessee Welcome Centers annually, creating memories of a "Made in Tennessee" experience. Both residents and guests visiting the state are invited to stop at one of the welcome centers, be inspired by the rich tradition of handmade crafts, and continue to explore Tennessee's beautiful fall foliage and fun family destinations.

"Showcasing these artisans at our Welcome Centers highlights to our guests the authenticity and creative spirit of Tennessee," said **Tennessee Department of Tourist Development Commissioner Kevin Triplett**. "It offers an experience that not only is 'Made in Tennessee,' but a product as well."

Tennessee Craft Week Honorary Chairman, Demetria Kalodimos will visit artist demonstrations and events to highlight Tennessee artists. Kalodimos, an award-winning media personality and a collector of handcrafted work, is pleased to promote the "makers" while educating the public about the economic and creative impact craft artists have on Tennessee communities and culture.

"Tennessee Craft Week continues to grow each year with more artists and events showcasing the depth and breadth of talent," said Teri Alea, Tennessee Craft executive director. "Craft artists make a personal connection with guests traveling through the state, and demonstrate how our rich craft tradition not only defines our heritage, but also our future."

For a full listing of events in Tennessee, visit TNVacation.com or TennesseeCraft.org
For events across the USA, visit AmericanCraftWeek.com.

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

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About Tennessee Craft

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 to learn more.

About Tennessee Department of Tourist Development

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development is to motivate travel to and within Tennessee by inspiring enjoyment, creating memories, producing a desire to return, and establishing key, long-term relationships that result in visitors becoming residents. The promise of Tennessee—the birthplace of the blues, bluegrass, country, gospel, soul, rockabilly, and rock ‘n’ roll—is to be the global music destination of choice. To deliver an unparalleled experience of beauty, history, and family adventure, infused with music that creates a vacation that is the “Soundtrack of America. Made in Tennessee.”

About Demetria Kalodimos: An award-winning journalist, Kalodimos anchored and reported the news for more than 35 years. Top awards in broadcast journalism include sixteen Emmys, induction to the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame, recognized as AP Broadcaster of the Year, and honored with three IRE Awards and two Edward R Murrow Awards for investigative reporting. Consistently winning the Best Local Anchor by readers of the Tennessean and the Nashville Scene, she is recognized as a community leader. Kalodimos sits on the Advisory Board for the MTSU College of Media, and also produces original award-winning documentaries, music videos, and other visual content through her company Genuine Human Productions, headquartered at The Filming Station, in Nashville.

