



Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Downtown Festival & Art Show National Ranking Rises to Historic Heights

For the first time, the Downtown Festival & Art Show has ranked among the top 20 art festivals in the nation in Sunshine Artist magazine's "200 Best" list. The festival, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, has grown along with the city of Gainesville and now boasts a no. 16 ranking. Its leap from last year's no. 30 spot on the list makes the Downtown Festival & Art Show the third-highest ranked festival in the state of Florida.

Out of nearly 1,000 art and craft festivals across the nation, the Downtown Festival & Art Show stands out as one of the most profitable for attending artists. To create the list, Sunshine Artist analyzes thousands of ballots from artists who record the amount of money they earn at the festivals they attend. Shows receive points based on these earnings, and the ones with the most points gain the top spots in the rankings.

The Downtown Festival & Art Show has ranked among the top festivals in the nation since 1996, making it into the top 30 for the past five years. This year's festival will take place on Saturday, Nov. 12, and Sunday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 100,000 visitors are expected to attend this nationally-recognized event featuring 250 talented artists who showcase their oils and acrylics, watercolors, sculptures, jewelry, ceramics and photography. Live entertainment, delicious food and an Imagination Station for children help make the Downtown Festival & Art Show Gainesville's premier fall festival. This prestigious event is presented by the City of Gainesville Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. For more information, visit www.gvlculturalaffairs.org or call 352-334-ARTS.