



SMOKY HILL RIVER FESTIVAL

NEWS RELEASE

FESTIVAL MEDALLION QUEST 2015 LAUNCHES FOR THIRD YEAR IN A ROW AT ART A LA CARTE IN THE PARK

(SALINA 05-15) As River Festival time draws near, many will dust off their sleuthing skills for the start of the Festival Medallion Quest. The first Medallion Quest clue will be shared live from Eric Stein Stage in Oakdale Park during the Art a la Carte in the Park concert on Friday, May 29, sometime between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m.

The Festival Medallion Quest was launched in 2009 by Salina Arts & Humanities in partnership with Craig and Brenda King of King Industries Inc., who enjoyed a similar activity during their dating years in Wichita. The annual Medallion Quest demonstrates the creativity and connectivity that the River Festival embodies.

Since the Festival Medallion Quest's inception six years ago, thousands have taken part. The custom-designed Medallion is handcrafted and is different each time. In previous years, it has been made from wood, paper, clay or plastic, designed by a selected artist to resemble a leaf, nut-and-bolt, seed pod and other common objects. In 2014, the Medallion was a magnetic arrow placed on a one-way sign just off of Eighth Street near Iron Avenue.

"The Quest parallels the spirit of the Festival over its 39 years," says SA&H Director Brad Anderson. "It brings together family and friends to think creatively, problem-solve and explore the world around them in a fresh way."

For the first time, two different Festival Medallion Quest clues will be provided each day, at 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., after Day one. Each clue will be posted near the Eighth Street door of the Smoky Hill Museum at 211 W. Iron and on the Festival Medallion Quest page's RSS feed at riverfestival.com, at riverfestival.com/festivalquest.cfm.

The Festival Medallion Quest 2015 prize package includes:

- \$2,000 cash
- \$2,000 in Festival Gift Certificates, to be used for purchases in the Fine Art Show, Four Rivers Craft Show or Art/Craft Demonstration Area
- Four Festival admission Buttons
- One on-grounds Festival parking pass (weather permitting)
- Invitation for four to the Art Patron Breakfast on Sat, June 13
- Assorted Festival T-shirts, CDs, and other Festival memorabilia

RELEASE DATE:
Immediate

CONTACT:
Brad Anderson or Kay Quinn
at (785) 309-5770
brad.anderson@salina.org

DATE SUBMITTED:
May 26, 2015

For the third year, the Festival Medallion Quest launch is part of the Art a la Carte in the Park concert that ends the spring Carte season. The first Medallion Quest clue will be read live from the Eric Stein Stage sometime between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m on Friday, May 29. In case of inclement weather, the concert and launch will be held at the same times on the main stage of the Stiefel Theatre for the Performing Arts, 151 S. Santa Fe, with free Pepsi and Chapman's Take Away on-site.

Other activities that begin at 11:30 a.m. that day include free Pepsi samples, Festival Buttons and T-shirts on sale, a radio remote by News Radio 1150 KSAL, plus live music by the Rob Northcutt Band from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Prize drawings for three \$100 gift certificates for purchases at the Festival's two art shows and Art Demo area will be given at 12:15 p.m. and 12:45 p.m., with on-site prize registration that day. Salina Media Group and the *Salina Journal* are the designated media partners for the Medallion Quest launch and concert event.

There is no cost to participate in the Festival Medallion Quest. Participants must be 18 years of age to claim the prize. See complete Medallion Quest rules at riverfestival.com/festivalquest.cfm or by clicking on the tan magnifying-glass Medallion Quest icon in the right margin of any page at riverfestival.com.

For more information on the Festival Medallion Quest, the Art a la Carte concert series or the Smoky Hill River Festival, call 785-309-5770, visit riverfestival.com or find Smoky Hill River Festival or Salina Arts & Humanities on Facebook.

For needed accommodations, please call Kathy Burlew at Salina Arts & Humanities at 785-309-5770 between 8:00 a.m. - Noon and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Every effort will be made to accommodate known disabilities. For material or speech access, please call at least five working days prior to the event.

The Smoky Hill River Festival is the flagship event of Salina Arts & Humanities. A department of the City of Salina, SA&H has served a unique role in arts advocacy and support since 1966. The Smoky Hill River Festival, Horizons Grants Program, Smoky Hill Museum, Arts Infusion Program in schools, Cultural Connections, and Art a la Carte concert series are among the programs of Salina Arts & Humanities, located at 211 W. Iron Avenue in Salina.

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City of Salina
300 W. Ash
P.O. Box 736
Salina, KS 67401
www.salina-ks.gov