



SMOKY HILL RIVER FESTIVAL



2015 FESTIVAL MEDALLION QUEST MEDALLION WINNER CONFIRMED

(SALINA 06-15) Salina Arts & Humanities announces that the winner of the 2015 Festival Medallion Quest is Nick Kingan of Salina. Kingan, a Salina Fire Department paramedic, along with his son Declan, age 1, found the rock-shaped Medallion at around 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3.

The Medallion was found in a WPA-era sandstone and concrete retaining wall at the dead end of Penn Avenue at Riverside Boulevard downtown, north of Elm Street.



Festival Medallion Quest winner Nick Kingan, with son Declan, holds the rock-shaped Medallion in Riverside Park. Photo courtesy Tom Dorsey/Salina Journal

Kingan, age 32 and a native of Lincoln, Kansas, is the seventh winner of the Festival Quest. Started in 2009 by the Smoky Hill River Festival in partnership with Craig and Brenda King of King Industries, Inc., the Quest's goal is to foster a sense of creativity and connectivity in a way that reflects the spirit of the River Festival. This year's rock-shaped Medallion was created from cast resin by Wichita artist Randy Regier.

The 2015 Quest lasted for six days—five less than the 11 days it took Billy and Nick Taylor to find the arrow-shaped Medallion in 2014.

NEWS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE:

Immediate

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“I found it in a rock wall at the intersection,” says Kingan. “The clue on Wednesday morning—“Chinese or American,” tipped me off, as there are two sets of elm trees that led me to Riverside Park, close to North street. Tuesday’s second clue, “beyond the overhang,” also seemed to fit.” To view the full set of Festival Medallion Quest clues, go to riverfestival.com/festivalquest.cfm.

Kingan holds an associate’s degree in paramedic training from Barton Community College and is a graduate of Lincoln High School. He and his wife Sarah plan to use the cash prize towards a new home.

Kingan and family receive a prize package of \$2,000 in cash, as well as \$2,000 in gift certificates to be used specifically for shopping at the Festival’s upcoming Fine Art and Four Rivers Craft Shows or in the Art/Craft Demonstration area. King Industries is the sole sponsor of the Festival Quest prize package. Other prizes include four Festival admission buttons, a complimentary on-grounds Festival parking pass, an invitation for four to the Saturday-morning Art Patron Breakfast in the formal Rose Garden in Oakdale Park, and assorted Festival T-shirts, Festival entertainer CDs and other event memorabilia.

Two additional \$100 Gift Certificates may be awarded to others who participated in this year’s Festival Medallion Quest, to be announced soon.

The Smoky Hill River Festival, now in its 39th year, is the flagship event of Salina Arts & Humanities, a department of the City of Salina. The River Festival draws about 60,000 local residents and out-of-town guests annually to Salina to enjoy outdoor art installations, the Fine Art and Four Rivers Craft Shows, four stages of live entertainment, the Artyopolis kid’s area, Festival food, and more. The River Festival generates approximately \$3.5 million for the Salina economy in May and June.

Advance-price Festival admission Buttons are available until Thursday, June 11 at 1 p.m. at 39 locations across Salina and in 18 other regional cities. Children 11 and under get in FREE.

For more information on the Festival Medallion Quest or the Smoky Hill River Festival, call 785-309-5770 or visit riverfestival.com.

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.

Salina Arts & Humanities, a department of the City of Salina, 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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