



**SALINA**  
**ARTS**  
& HUMANITIES



**2024 FESTIVAL MEDALLION QUEST  
WINNER CONFIRMED ON MAY 17**

(SALINA 05-24) Salina Arts & Humanities announces that the winner of the 2024 Festival Medallion Quest (FMQ), sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, is Mandy Copp.

On Friday Evening Copp and her family; her son Jacob Copp and husband Sean Copp along with their friend Jon Loader, headed to Centennial Park to search for the Medallion. The fourth clue, "South of the King" directed them her to the park, thinking that the Medallion was south of Spangles on Crawford. She also stayed in this spot because she interpreted the third clue, "West of a wide path." as representing Broadway Blvd.



Her son Jacob had been exploring the area where the Medallion was found, laying on his stomach and poking his fingers in the holes of the railroad tie along the sidewalk. He and was part of the reason Copp stayed in the area and started searching more thoroughly. The group had visited Centennial Park that morning, and revisited it later this afternoon after the fifth clue was released. Copp found the medallion around 4:45 pm on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Copp is no stranger to the Festival Medallion Quest and has participated for eight years. Mandy Copp is the 18<sup>th</sup> winner of the Festival Medallion Quest, which was started in 2009 by the Smoky Hill River Festival. "I love looking for the Medallion every year with my team and talking with other hunters. We bounce ideas off other people when we are out in the field," says Copp.

The Quest took three days and five clues. The clues were shared online at [festivalmedallionquest.com](http://festivalmedallionquest.com) and posted outside the Eighth Street Salina Arts & Humanities office doors. The complete

**RELEASE DATE:**  
Immediate

**CONTACT:**  
Brad Anderson or Anna  
Pauscher Morawitz  
(785) 309-5770  
[sah@salina.org](mailto:sah@salina.org)

**DATE SUBMITTED:**  
May 17, 2024

The 2024 Medallion was hidden near the Friendship Center in Centennial Park, disguised as a rebar stake inside a railroad tie. A colorful note with directions for the winner were also hidden inside the stake.

The 2024 Quest winner receives a prize package of \$1,000 in cash and \$2,000 in Gift Certificates for shopping at the River Festival 2024 Fine Art and Craft Show. Other prizes include four Festival admission wristbands, a complimentary on-grounds VIP parking pass, an invitation for four to the Thursday evening PREMIERE Art Patron party, and four River Festival 2024 T-shirts.

“I appreciated the positive exchanges people had on social media and the cooperative spirit that Medallion hunters showed,” said Salina Arts & Humanities Executive Director Brad Anderson. “The Festival Medallion Quest celebrates our community's patronage of the arts. It is exciting to see how Questers explore and think differently about their city in search of the medallion as it leads up to the Smoky Hill River Festival,” said Visual Arts Coordinator Crystal Hammerschmidt. Over the years, families have searched side by side, solved riddles, and endeavored to find the Medallion. It marks the official countdown to the River Festival.

The Smoky Hill River Festival, now in its 48th year, is the flagship event of Salina Arts & Humanities, a department of the City of Salina. The River Festival draws many local residents and out-of-town guests each year to Salina to enjoy outdoor art installations, the Fine Art and Craft Show, three stages of live entertainment, the Artyopolis kid’s area, Festival food, and more. The River Festival generates approximately \$3.5 million in revenue annually within the local community.

Advance-price, four-day Festival Wristbands are available until late Tuesday, June 11, at 40 Salina locations 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](http://riverfestival.com).

For needed accommodations, please call Amanda Morris 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 as an arts advocate and resource partner since 1966. The Smoky Hill River Festival, Horizons Grants Program, Smoky Hill Museum, Arts Infusion Program in schools, Community Art & Design, and Creative Connections are among the programs of Salina Arts & Humanities, located at 211 W. Iron Avenue in Salina.*

###

**City of Salina**  
**300 W. Ash**  
**P.O. Box 736**  
**Salina, KS 67401**  
**[www.salina-ks.gov](http://www.salina-ks.gov)**