



DEEP ELLUM ARTS FESTIVAL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS WITH NEW EVENTS AND MUSICAL MAINSTAYS

The newly-rebranded Texas Fantastic Stage and a mini-film festival are just two of the new additions

(DALLAS, February 2019; source: CultureHype) - 25 years ago, Dallas residents enjoyed the first ever **Deep Ellum Arts Festival**. The debut event was a one block street party that showcased the finest music Deep Ellum had to offer. This tradition, and this now internationally renowned festival was born.

This year, the **Deep Ellum Arts Festival** celebrates a quarter century with a festival that honors its storied traditions and enhances the event for a new generation of Dallas denizens. From **Friday, April 5** through **Sunday, April 7**, festival attendees will enjoy the sights, sounds and soul of Dallas' most innovative and creative neighborhood in an event that stretches six city blocks from Malcolm X Blvd. to Exposition Ave. The Festival features over 200 juried fine artists from throughout the nation displaying and selling their original works. The exquisite collections showcased will include paintings, sculptures, photography, jewelry, woodworking, ceramics, mixed media, leatherworks, fashion and other unique works of art and fine crafts. The festival also features entertainment from over 100 performers from all over the Metroplex, the country and the world. All artists will perform original music or material, and will represent a variety of genres on four outdoor concert stages, several street corners and two indoor performance spaces in the iconic **Sons of Hermann Hall**. While sculptors, body painters, graffiti artists and live musicians create vibrant works, dozens of concessionaires and restaurateurs will whip up dishes displaying the best of Dallas eats.

The festival consistently earns well-deserved plaudits and praise inside Dallas and far beyond, and thanks to a few key additions, the event's 25th year may prove to be its finest. Read on to discover what's new at this year's Fest.

Deep Ellum Artists' Village:

Situated at the main entrance to the Festival, the Deep Ellum Artists' Village puts local arts and music front and center. While Deep Ellum's distinguished musical acts mesmerize audiences from the concert stage, this space will be solely devoted to local artists creating live masterpieces and showing local artwork.

The Newly-Branded Texas Fantastic Stage:

The well-known Texas Lone Star Stage at Exposition Ave has been rebranded this year - The Texas Fantastic Stage! It will bring audiences a bevy of high quality local and national acts, with an emphasis on diversity and cultural performances. Local creative Iris Candelaria and local arts org/publishing company Wavelength Magazine have teamed up to bring a program of live art, poetry, dance, and interactive art activities. To celebrate the city's homegrown talent, local arts magnet school Booker T. Washington will showcase some of their music ensembles--and some exciting, top secret alumni.

The Dallas Film Society Mini-Film Festival:

The Dallas International Film Festival (DIFF) makes its triumphant return to Deep Ellum with a showcase of the best shorts of the last 25 years. The mini-fest takes place inside the iconic Sons of Hermann Hall on Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6.

Expression Wall:

The extremely popular Expression Wall will return again for the second year at Hall and Main Street. All attendees are invited to use colorful dry-erase markers to create art and positive messages throughout the festival weekend.

Artist Court Stage:

This year, the music on the Artist Court Stage at Trunk Street is being programmed by local favorite Deep Ellum Radio. Together with the Deep Ellum Artists' Village Stage, this musical mainstay will bring a roster of heavy hitters from the local music scene.

By bringing a score of new events and artists to the masses, Deep Ellum Arts Festival honors the past and opens a new chapter of its storied history.

"I am very proud of the success this major arts festival has achieved for the past 25 years and for the rare opportunity to showcase the thousands of selected performing artists who have presented only their original music and for the thousands of juried fine artists who have displayed and sold their magnificent original works of art, said Stephen Millard, Festival Founder and Executive Producer. "Our creative Festival is a true labor of love presented by our dedicated staff of Celebration Engineers who plan all year to present the unexpected."

About the Deep Ellum Arts Festival:

Created in 1994 by Dallas based Main Events International (MEI) the Celebration Engineers®, The Deep Ellum Arts Festival® is the signature event for Deep Ellum, in Dallas Texas and has remained free to attend thanks to the generosity and support of past and present sponsors. Beneficiaries of the Deep Ellum Arts Festival include The Deep Ellum Community Association and The Deep Ellum Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. The weekend of the Festival is one of the biggest days of the year for most of the restaurants, bars and shops in the area.

Location:

Deep Ellum Entertainment District in downtown Dallas: 2900 - 3400 block of Main Street, between Malcolm X Blvd., and Exposition Ave. and between Elm & Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas 75226.

Dates:

April 5 - 7, 2019. Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. | Sunday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Admission:

Free (thanks to the generosity of the festival's sponsors, exhibitors and concessionaires). Detailed festival information can be found online at www.DeepEllumArtsFestival.com or by bookmarking the Festival guide directly at www.defest.guide.

Parking:

DART and ride sharing services are strongly encouraged during the Festival, as parking can be challenging to find around Deep Ellum. Take the DART Rail Green Line to the Baylor University Medical Center station for the closest stop just two blocks away. The Deep Ellum Dart Station will drop you off six blocks west of the Festival entrance which is at Malcolm X and Main St. Fares are available from the GoPass Mobile Ticketing App, at any DART Rail Station from a Ticket Vending Machine or from a bus operator. A \$5 Local Day Pass is good for round-trip service.

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