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WinterFest Arts Tour 2023

Sautee, GA: WinterFest Arts Tour is a weekend of festivals that presents 175 artists at 4 locations over 2 days. The Hardman Farm Historic Site, Helen Arts & Heritage Center, the Sautee Nacoochee Center and Unicoi State Park & Lodge present the 2023 WinterFest Arts Tour.

The dates and times at all four locations are Saturday, February 18 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 19 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. (President's Day Weekend), so there is no rush to see everything in one day.

At each location, local and regional artists will display, sell and demonstrate their skills and bring to life new and exciting pieces. Visitors may purchase raffle tickets to win artwork contributed by participating artists. Food service or vendors are present at some sites.

There is no charge for WinterFest at each venue, but a multipart ticket may be purchased to enter to win one of three Grand Prizes valued at \$250 and above. One ticket is \$10 or a book of five tickets for \$40. To be eligible to win, the ticket must be stamped at three locations. Tickets may be purchased online or during the event.

While a fundraiser designed to support the educational efforts of the Sautee Nacoochee Center, WinterFest is an important economic driver for Northeast Georgia during an otherwise

quiet time of year. The event is coordinated by the Sautee Nacoochee Community Association, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, and funded in part by the White County Commission and the Sautee Nacoochee Corporate Partners Program.

The Hardman Farm Historic Site is a unique stop on the WinterFest Arts Tour. The nineteenth century Italianate mansion will be open, with no admission, and period dressed docents will be available to share the story of the farm.

Experience a mixture of heritage, art, and fine craft at the Alpine Winter Festival at the Helen Arts & Heritage Center, which is located in downtown Helen. The Center's heritage museum presents the "Story of Helen". Over 50 artists are represented in the galleries.

The Fireside Arts and Craft Show at Unicoi State Park and Lodge is in its 47th year and some of the artisans who have attended the show since its inception 47 years ago still participate. The Park is open for adventure and exploration.

The artists at the Sautee Nacoochee Art Festival come from Georgia, the Carolinas, Florida, Tennessee and Alabama. All of the 30-plus artists who participate are juried, ensuring the best original local and regional artwork. Over 250 artists are represented in the Center's Gallery Shops.

A number of other opportunities to explore are also available at the Sautee Nacoochee Center. The Folk Pottery Museum of Northeast Georgia will be open and welcoming visitors for free. The Heritage Site slave cabin and blacksmith shop will be open and staffed. Hands-on activities will be offered in the Native Peace Garden.

Selected as one of their Top Twenty Events by the Southeastern Tourism Association in 2018, WinterFest continues to be an event that draws visitors from near and far.

Free parking is available at Hardman Farm, the Sautee Nacoochee Center and at Unicoi State Park with limited free parking at the Helen Arts & Heritage Center.

Information about and tickets for the WinterFest Arts Tour are available at www.WinterFestArtsTour.com or by calling 706-878-3300.

Located at 283 Hwy 255 N in Sautee, the Sautee Nacoochee Community Association is a member-based organization serving White and Habersham Counties and all of northeast Georgia. Its mission is to value and nurture individual creativity, along with the historical, cultural and environmental resources of the Sautee and Nacoochee Valleys and surrounding area. For more information, visit www.snca.org or call 706-878-3300.
