

## 65th Craft Fair in Asheville, NC

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traditional to contemporary.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild has a rich history which continues to thrive through markets such as the annual Craft Fairs. The Fairs are not only a place to purchase fine crafts, but with education as an important factor of the Guild's mission, craft demonstrations are a key element of the shows. In addition, beginning on Friday of each Fair weekend, mountain musicians share their love of old time and bluegrass on the arena stage.



Photo courtesy of Southern Highland Craft Guild.

Asheville, nestled within the Blue Ridge Mountains, provides the perfect backdrop for the Craft Fair. Long known as an arts and crafts destination, Asheville offers architectural charm, eclectic restaurants and a wide variety of lodging. As an organization, the Guild has been serving artists in this area since 1930.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization established in 1930 to bring together the crafts and craftspeople of the Southern Highlands for the benefit of shared resources, education, marketing and conservation. The Craft Fairs are one of the ways in which the Guild fulfills its mission.

Craft demonstrations are a highlight at the Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands. Watching and interacting with highly skilled craftspeople as they create is entertaining and educational. Throughout the show, visitors will have the opportunity to observe works by over 200 members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild and learn about their inspiration and methods. There are also scheduled demonstrations to enhance the experience.

**October Schedule of Demonstrations:**  
 Cassie Dickson - flax to linen. Dickson of Sylva, NC, will lead Fair visitors through the process of transforming flax into linen. She will also have an overshot coverlet display as part of her demonstration. She has been a member of the Southern Highland



Work by Matt Tommey. Photo courtesy of Southern Highland Craft Guild.

Craft Guild since 1998.

Dede Styles - natural dyeing and spinning. Styles of Swannanoa, NC, will demonstrate spinning and the traditional craft of using natural plant dyes to color yarn outside the US Cellular Center. She has been a member of the SHCG since 2000.

Collene Karcher - stonecarving. Karcher of Bakersville, NC, will demonstrate the nearly lost art of hand-carved letters in stone. The demonstration will consist of a storyboard showing the process beginning with the stone quarry, sketches, the painting of slate and the carving of slate. Karcher will be cutting letters into slate with her hammer and chisel. She has been a member of the SHCG since 2011.

Chuck Robertson - bird carving from wood. Robertson of Linville Falls, NC, will share with visitors the various stages of bird carving, beginning with a block of wood through feather detailing. He has been a member of the SHCG since 1984.

Sue Grier - wheel-thrown pottery. Grier of Leicester, NC, will demonstrate throwing pottery on the wheel. She will show examples of her completed objects including a variety of whimsical teapots. She has been a member of the SHCG since 2011.

Greg Schaffer - blacksmithing. Schaffer of Bristol, VA, will be outside the US  
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Cellular Center with his forge, greeting Fair goers while demonstrating the craft of using heat to transform metal into art. He became a member of the SHCG in 2012.

**Music during the Fair:**

Friday, Oct. 19, at 11 am - Southern Crescent Bluegrass: Asheville area musicians, led by Tommy Thompson, specializing in traditional bluegrass standards.

At 12:30pm - Hot Duck Soup: Kazoos, slide whistles, banjos, guitars, ukes, an antique cornet, washtub bass, and the Cacophonium! Hot Duck Soup plays old tunes like you've never heard 'em played.

At 2pm - Cary and the Stuart Brothers: Twin brothers from Haywood County, Trevor plays fiddle while Travis plays banjo, accompanied by the lovely Cary Fridley on bass and vocals, playing old-time music.

At 3:30pm - Timberline: Smooth folk harmonies characterize this band featuring guitarist Gene Holdway, a travelling bluegrass troubadour with 30 years experience.

Saturday, Oct. 20, at 11 am - Ross Brothers: Levi and Zeb Ross of Waynesville, NC, will be making their debut appearance on the stage at the Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands. These brothers have grown up in a musical family and are sure to delight the crowd.

At 12:30pm - Honey Holler: An all-woman string band that captures the traditional sound of Southern Appalachia with spirited songs and fiddle tunes.



Work by Steven Forbes deSoule. Photo courtesy of Southern Highland Craft Guild.

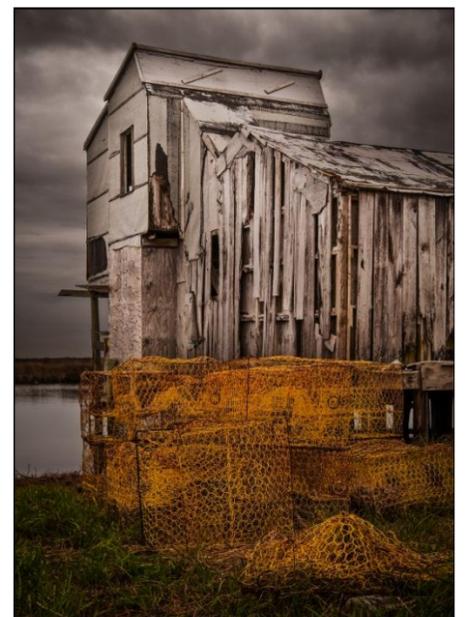
At 2pm - Ric Ledford and the Reems Creek Incident: From the mountains of western North Carolina, this group blends traditional and contemporary bluegrass,

along with a few "grassed up" originals.

At 3:30pm - Buncombe Turnpike: Featuring songwriter, playwright and longtime bandleader Tom Godleski, Buncombe Turnpike boasts original songs and the banjo picking of teenage sensation Seth Rhinehart.

Sunday, Oct. 21, at 11 am - Carol Rifkin

and Paul's Creek: Carol shares her exten-  
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