

SC Festival of Flowers Takes Place in Greenwood, SC - June 8 - 11, 2023 and Beyond

The 56th SC Festival of Flowers, presented by Wesley Commons, takes place in Greenwood, SC, with the Main Weekend on June 8 - 11, 2023.

Located in the Piedmont region of South Carolina, our unique mix of events and attractions make us a one-of-a-kind place to visit. From art exhibits to BBQ cook-offs, free concerts to theatrical performances, we can fill your fun calendar. The arts and entertainment are alive and well with a wide variety of live performances and exhibits. And when it comes to shopping, you'll enjoy our blend of national retailers and unique boutiques. When the dinner bell rings, we answer with legendary BBQ, seafood, steaks, and Italian just to name a few.



One of the many topiary on display

Greenwood's mild year-round climate provides a wide variety of outdoor recreational options. The 11,000-acre Lake Greenwood is a fishing and boaters paradise. Woven around our picturesque forests and lakes are numerous campgrounds, parks and more than 15 quality golf courses. We're well known throughout the south for our many festivals like the South Carolina Festival of Discovery and South Carolina's Festival Of Flowers, but we're here to tell you, there's a lot more than flowers blooming in Greenwood.



One of the many topiary on display

The main event or attraction is the display of flowers, especially the "Signature" Topiary display, which will be on view the month of June.

You'll discover throughout Uptown Greenwood all kinds of animals and interesting garden sculptures. When it comes to gardening magic, everyone loves the topiaries - from the majestic elephant to the dabbling ducks to the Safari Jeep.

Main & Maxwell in Greenwood, SC, Features Works by Three Artists

Main & Maxwell in Greenwood, SC, will present *Seascapes, Earth Tones and Pearls*, highlighting the work of painter, Fran J Davies of Charleston, potter Bob Taft and jeweler Sheila Crowder, both of Greenwood, on view from June 1 - 30, 2023. A reception will be held on June 29, from 5-7pm.

Creating art has been a lifelong passion for Fran J Davies and she has been drawing for as long as she can remember. Growing up outside NYC, she was influenced by early trips to art museums and the Broadway posters created by Milton Glaser, Jim McMullen, and Paul Davis.

Davies earned a BFA in Illustration from Syracuse University and enjoyed a long career in NYC advertising agencies, rising to the level of Creative Director, Group Vice President working on TV, radio, and print ad campaigns. After serving an additional 10 years as marketing and communications director for several national nonprofits, she and her husband moved to Charleston in 2018.

In the Lowcountry, Davies has had the opportunity to study with a wide variety



View of a previous juried art show.

You will be astonished to see the variety of topiary sizes, the variety of plants, the amazing colors and the impressive textures. In all, 49 unique "living" creations are uniquely set in beautifully blooming landscaped areas in Uptown Greenwood.

Next in the category of visual arts is the annual juried art show, presented at the Arts Center in the Federal Building, located on Main Street in downtown Greenwood.

The 2023 South Carolina Festival of Flowers Juried Art Show is a sanctioned exhibition hosted annually by The Arts Center of Greenwood in concurrence with the award-winning festival. The exhibition will be on view in the main gallery from June 8 through Aug. 4, 2023. The exhibition represents exemplary contemporary art by artists from throughout the state and southeast and \$3,000 in cash awards will be awarded.



View of a previous outdoor art show.

Also on view at the Arts Center will be the *Juried Youth Art Show 2023*, on view from June 1 - 10, 2023. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on June 8, from 5-6:30pm.

A juried outdoor *Juried Show* will be held at the Uptown Market Greenwood, located on Maxwell Ave. on June 9 & 10, from 10am-6pm. Discover unique garden art, candles, jewelry, pottery, personalized gifts, handmade clothing, iron work, textile art, handbags and accessories, and so much more. Food trucks and concessions will be on-site too!

All these events and much more are free and open to the public. For complete information visit (<https://scfestivalofflowers.org/schedule-overview>).



Works by Bob Taft

of artists including abstract painter Tim Hussey, collage artist and painter Paul Christina, and pastelist Tammy Papa. She continues to take weekly figure drawing classes at Redux Contemporary Art Center and takes advantage of as many virtual lessons as possible on the internet.

continued above on next column to the right

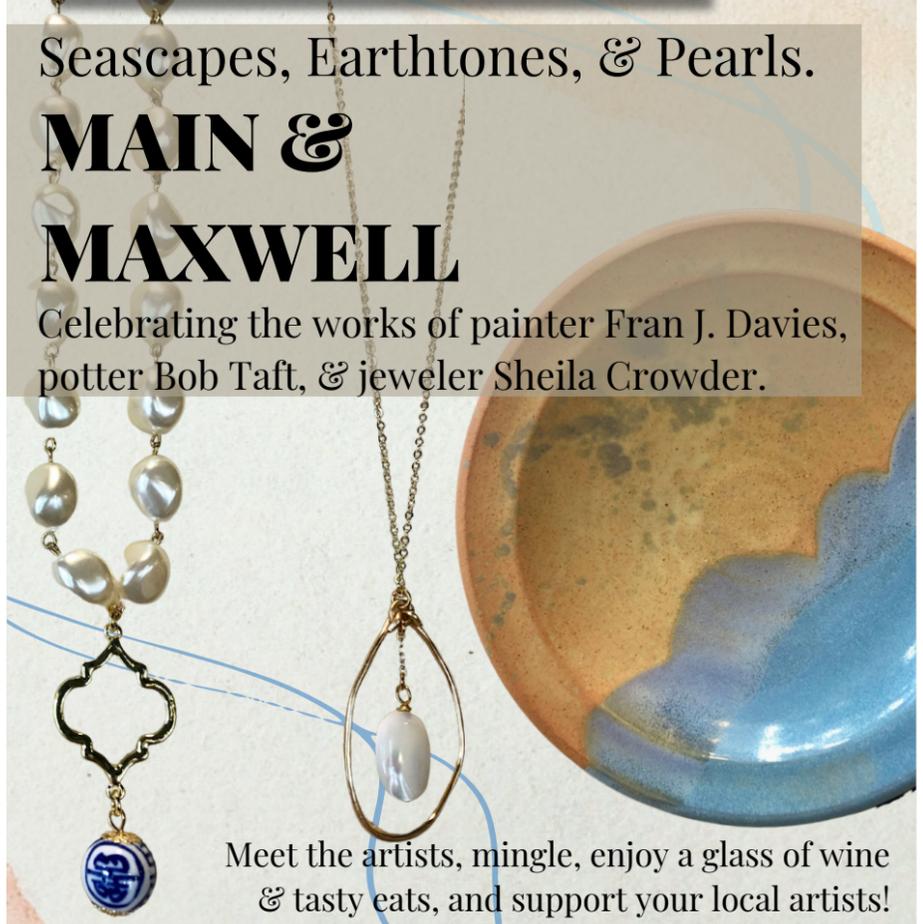


RECEPTION
JUNE 29, 5-7PM
210 MAIN ST
GREENWOOD SC

Seascapes, Earthtones, & Pearls.

MAIN &
MAXWELL

Celebrating the works of painter Fran J. Davies,
potter Bob Taft, & jeweler Sheila Crowder.



Meet the artists, mingle, enjoy a glass of wine & tasty eats, and support your local artists!

Melinda Hoffman

Icebergs, Tiny Icebergs, From the Iceland Series, acrylic on canvas, 20 x 24 inches



Studio @ East Butler Rd • Mauldin, SC 29662
MelindaHoffmanArt.com • 864.320.0973

Davies has a 'beginners mind' and loves exploring different mediums, subjects, and techniques as she continues her artistic journey. Currently she is working on collage and abstracts, pastels, and local landscapes in oil and acrylic.

Bob Taft has been creating pottery for over eighteen years, and can always be surprised by the outcome. Sometimes firing a piece doesn't go as planned because the kiln will always have its say. A piece you think is great going in, can die in the stress of the fire. A good piece can rise to greatness. It's a gamble, and that keeps the process interesting to him

Taft enjoys the fact that the creative process of creating pottery yields an actual product and he typically creates wood-fired stoneware forms, as well as raku and porcelain pieces. His work leans toward the traditional southern pottery style and he is particularly skilled at throwing large vessels and lidded jars.

Taft believes that fire was the first magic technology humans learned to control. It made the nights warmer and safer. It

changed the nature of food, making it safer and tastier. It transformed clay from mud into vessels and gods, helped to make tents to protect us and jars to keep wine and grain safe. While potters can still fire pieces in bonfire pits, the majority of today's work is fired by the electric kiln.

Occasionally Taft has opportunities to fire in the raging fires of an anagama or groundhog wood fired kilns. Whatever method, as a potter he conspires with luck, heat, time, and the chemicals of glazes to create a piece. And if everything aligns, he has created something greater than what went in.

Taft is a founding member of the Greenwood Area Studio Potters, a local potters guild with over 25 members. He studied wheel throwing with Gary Clontz at Piedmont Technical College's Creative Economics Program in Edgefield, SC. While the program is no longer available, in the years that it was active, it produced over 30 potters who still live and work in South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina.

continued on Page 11