

Fall festival celebrates region's cultural bounty

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By **JOHANNA CROSBY**
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Explore one of the Cape's iconic lighthouses.

Take in a live concert of classical or Celtic music, blues or rock 'n' roll. Or watch artists as they create in their studios.

That's just a sample of the hundreds of events that will pack the second annual Fall for the Arts Cape Cod, which is running Oct. 2-4. Local cultural organizations, museums, art galleries, theaters and libraries across the Cape are welcoming visitors and residents to soak up the rich cultural heritage of the region.

"Cape Cod is recognized nationally as one of the top arts destinations in the country, and we want to encourage everybody to come out," says Margaret Van Sciver, president of the board of directors of the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod.

The mega-festival celebrating the visual and performing arts was launched last year by the Arts Foundation in partnership with Cape Cod View magazine. It was such a hit that the 2009 version has been lengthened from two to three days. Three towns — Hyannis, Dennis and Falmouth — took part in the inaugural year. This year all 15 Cape towns are participating.

"It will showcase the unique treasures in each town," Van Sciver says. Some towns have an abundance of art galleries or art communities. Others boast museums and theaters.

"There is truly something for people of all ages and tastes," Van Sciver says, including art exhibitions, crafts demonstrations, theatrical performances, museum tours and lectures at more than 450 venues.

The Cape's many art galleries will be open for extended hours and will welcome visitors to meet exhibiting artists. Local libraries will be hotbeds of activities such as lectures, exhibits, live music, films and more.

Many activities are free and family-friendly, while others are offering discounted admission. The dilemma will be choosing where to go and what to see. A free 84-page program is available at local chambers of commerce and at participating venues.

Here are some highlights:

Spend the day exploring the villages in Barnstable starting with a children's art festival from noon to 4 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Hyannis Village Green. Take your pick of museums: the John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum, Cape Cod Baseball League Hall of Fame and Museum, Zion Union Heritage Museum or the Cape Cod Maritime Museum, all in Hyannis; the Centerville Historical Museum; Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit; or the Coast Guard Heritage Museum or the Trayser Museum in Barnstable Village.

Cover the art scene at the artists' shanties on Hyannis Harbor, the Guyer Barn Gallery and the artists' studios on Main and Pearl streets in Hyannis. For entertainment catch the Fred Clayton Blues Band from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 3 on the Hyannis green or Crispin Whittell's comedy "Darwin in Malibu" at 8 p.m. Oct. 2 and 3 or 2 p.m. Oct. 4 at Cotuit Center for the Arts.

Points of interest in Bourne include the Cataumet Arts Center, Aptucxet Trading Post Museum and the National Marine Life Center.

Brewster Ladies' Library will host a foreign film at 1 p.m. Oct. 2 and a free concert with classical pianist Igor Lovchinsky at 2 p.m. Oct. 4. Cape Rep Theatre will stage "A Class Act," a musical biography of Tony Award-winning lyricist Ed Kleban, at 8 p.m. Oct. 2 and 3 and 2 p.m. Oct. 4.

Stanley and Grimm will perform on the Celtic fiddle and guitar in a free concert from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 3 at Kate Gould Park in Chatham.

Check out the wool fair at the Dennis Village Green and go on the Dennis village art walk along Route 6A. See the exhibits at the Cape Cod Museum of Art.

Tours of Nauset Light in Eastham will be held Oct. 3 and 4.

Falmouth will be cooking with JazzFest Falmouth all weekend long, kicking off with a jazz performance at 5 p.m. Oct. 2 in the garden of the Falmouth Historical Society.

Harwich Junior Theatre will hold drop-in drama classes for kids and a behind-the-scenes look at its production of "Dracula." The Rip-It-Ups will rock at the Harwich bandstand from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 3.

Jazz artist Kami Lyle will perform from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 3 at Mashpee Commons.

Gallery artists will be painting in Orleans town center throughout the weekend.

Tour some of the dozens of art galleries in Provincetown and check out the exhibits at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. Visit the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum.

Sandwich Public Library will host free exhibits, films, a glass-blowing demonstration and more. Joanna White & Company will play pop and soul from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 3 on the lawn of the Painted Lady Café.

Truro Vineyards will offer free tours and wine-tastings.

Take a tour of the art galleries in Wellfleet. Daniel Byrnes will perform acoustic folk and pop at 2 p.m. Oct. 3 at Preservation Hall, and Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater will stage David Hare's "The Blue Room" at 8 p.m. Oct. 3 and 4.

Tour two historical homes in Yarmouthport: the Capt. Bangs Hallet House starting at 1 p.m. Oct. 2 through 4 and the Edward Gorey House.

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When: Oct. 2-4.

Where: various locations throughout the Cape.

Information: www.artsfoundation.org or 508-362-0066.

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