



2026 REGISTRATION- FOOD VENDORS



You're invited to register for the

45th Annual

Hiddenite Celebration of the ARTS!

A one-day Street Festival and Folklife Pavilion celebrating cultural & heritage arts & folkways! Rain or Shine!

Saturday, September 26th, 2026

9am-4pm

Nestled in the foothills of North Carolina, the festival takes place in the street in beautiful downtown Hiddenite. Our small town is sure to captivate you with all activities held on shaded Hiddenite Church Road. The focus is around the Victorian era Lucas Mansion Museum listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and the home of the Alexander County Visitor Center.

REGISTRATION: We endeavor each year to improve the quality of our Festival. We reserve the right to select food vendors whose product and talent best reflect the standards of the event, and to eliminate those not consistent with these standards. If you participated in Celebration 2025, you still hold the option for your food item, pending the quality was acceptable by our committee. To protect our vendors, we maintain the rule of one food offering per vendor. Since food items may vary depending on how they are prepared, the applications will be considered on a case by case basis to uphold variety and quality while protecting vendors that hold their options. Vendors selling "unsanctioned" items will be closed down and not invited to return. Your honest and explicit description of your product will help our committee in the selection process. If you are applying for the festival for the first time, a minimum of 3 photos of your set-up should be sent via mail or email. You will be notified upon acceptance or refusal. A self addressed stamped envelope must be included for return of photos. If you have previously participated, your name remains on our mailing list.

FEES:

1. Application for one booth is \$65. Vendors may request side-by-side booths at \$65 each if needed.
2. Booth fee increases to \$70 per booth, effective August 1, 2026.
3. The last date for cancellation with refund of booth fees is August 15th, 2026.
4. **FOOD OPTIONS:** If we do not hear from you before July 1, 2026 regarding your standing food options, they will be offered to another vendor. SEE PAGE 2 CONCERNING PERCENTAGE FEES.
5. This event will take place rain or shine. We will not cancel based on rain alone. The Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center reserves the right to cancel an event if deemed a safety hazard due to lightning, heavy winds, flooding or any other reason deemed "Unsafe." There are no refunds, no transfer of funds and no rain dates if an event is cancelled due to Act of God scenarios as mentioned above that make it unsafe.

Sponsored by The Hiddenite ARTS & HERITAGE CENTER with funding from North Carolina Arts Council



Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center

316 Hiddenite Church Road P. O. Box 311 Hiddenite, NC 28636

Phone: 828-632-6966 FAX 828-632-3783

Email: hiddeniteeducation@gmail.com OR jenniferhiddenitearts@gmail.com

Website: www.hiddenitearts.org

IF WE DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU THIS YEAR, YOUR NAME WILL BE REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST.

RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR YOUR INFORMATION

*******MAIL THIS PAGE with FOOD VENDOR booth fee.**
Please print and fill out entirely.*****

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Exhibitor's name (Last) _____ (First) _____

(Business Name) _____

Booth Location _____

Booth Fee: \$ _____ Date Paid: _____ Cash _____ Check _____ Credit Card _____

Accepted _____ Rejected _____ Refund \$ _____

Return Date of Check _____ Return Date of Photos _____

Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

Business Name _____ Profit _____ Non-profit _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Day (_____) _____ Evening (_____) _____

Email _____ Website/Facebook _____

_____ Yes, I will see you at the Hiddenite Celebration of the ARTS Saturday, September 26, 2026.

_____ No, I cannot attend this year, but keep me on the mailing list.

_____ Please remove my name from your mailing list.

_____ I am a vendor requiring _____ booth spaces. Fee enclosed \$ _____ (\$65 per space)

My FOOD Products are: (BE SPECIFIC) _____

EQUIPMENT to be set up (INCLUDE SIZE Trailers, Tents, etc.): _____

*THIS PORTION MUST BE FILLED OUT FOR **NEW** APPLICANTS:*

Information: Include photographs (non-returnable without included SASE) of your food item with this application and check for your booth fee. Record name on each photograph and number each to correspond with the description below. Photos may be emailed in jpeg format to hiddeniteeducation@gmail.com OR jenniferhiddenitearts@gmail.com.

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
-
-

Make checks payable to Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center (\$65 per booth space or \$65 each for two or more side by side spaces) Checks will not be deposited until the selection process is complete. If your application is not accepted, your check will be returned. After August 1st, 2026, the fee increases to \$70 each.

I have read the rules of the Hiddenite Celebration of the ARTS and agree to abide by them. I understand and agree that I perform, or enter all of my work at my own risk and that the Center, any business involved, or any government agency will not be responsible for damages, theft, or loss during the period of the event.

Signature * _____ **Date** _____

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR PROCESSING APPLICATION

STANDARDS and RULES (FOOD VENDOR)

The **FOOD AREA** will be located on Hiddenite Church Street with all booths being street front booths. Designated **FOOD** spaces begin at the railroad tracks and continue to the corner of the Hiddenite Methodist Church . The map of **CELEBRATION** grounds will be included in the next letter from us and will indicate your exact location. Assignments will be based on need and type of food offered. Please indicate on your registration page **ALL EQUIPMENT** you will set up in your space (tents, cookers, tables, etc) to enable us to meet your needs. **NO ELECTRICITY** will be provided. To ensure a safe environment for everyone, do not ask neighbors for the use of their electricity. We suggest a safely operated generator located to the **REAR** of your space.

Your intent to hold the food option listed above remains open until **July 1, 2026**. Your food specialty will be offered to another vendor if you have not registered and paid your **\$65** booth fee by that date. Registration Fee increases to **\$70 as of August 1st, 2026**. The deadline for full refund of booth fee is August 15, 2026.

In addition to your booth fee, **Non-Profit Vendors pay 10% of your gross sales** (which includes churches, civic groups, non-profit organizations etc.) and **Profit Generating Vendors pay \$15% of gross sales payable within 10 days** of the festival. If no profit is realized, a signed statement should be sent to indicate so. No financial statement is required. We just ask for your honesty.

REMINDER : All food vendors are welcome to sell soft drinks as part of your offerings, as well as tea, coffee, fruit punch, etc. The only restriction is fresh lemonade for which a vendor has the option.

We are most grateful to the residents, churches, and businesses of Hiddenite for their generous use of space and property for this day. Thank you for your mindfulness of their property and for helping us keep good community relations; proper use of drip pans for cookers, extinguishing and disposal of coals, cleaning your area for trash, and leaving **NOTHING** behind!

USE of TENTS: Fire Marshall requires that all tents are “Fire Retardant” and labels should be on hand.

TRASH CANS: Please provide a trash can for your area for patrons. A dumpster is provided behind the Methodist Church to discard trash.

CHECK –IN TIME is 7:00 am until 8:30 am. Our policy is to clear the street of vehicles from the festival area by 8:30 am. Maps indicating parking lots, entrances to the festival area, scheduled check-in time and details on booth assignments will be mailed around September 14, 2026.

CLOSING TIMES: Exhibit/vendor areas are to be cleared and cleaned between 4:00 and 5:00 pm. Each one is responsible for clearing your belongings and trash. **NO** exhibitor/vendor may leave prior to the **4:00 closing time**, except in an emergency, which should be reported to the main information booth. Due to foot traffic it is simply **NOT SAFE** to do so. Thank you for helping keep vendors and guests safe. Noncompliance with closing requirements will result in ineligibility to return as a vendor for future festivals.

TAXES: Exhibitors are responsible for collecting and reporting **all taxes**.

Please note: Once your registration is complete, you will receive requirements from the Alexander County Fire Marshall about tents and Alexander Health Department about food service.

RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center
Post Office Box 311
Hiddenite, NC 28636

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Non-Profit
PERMIT #2
28636

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CONTACT for Further Information/questions : Kara Smith karahiddenitearts@gmail.com
Jennifer Hester jenniferhiddenitearts@gmail.com OR Allison Houchins hiddeniteeducation@gmail.com

This project is funded in part by the North Carolina Arts Council



North
Carolina
Arts
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*Fifty years
of leadership*