SMITHSONIAN
FOLKLIFE
FESTIVAL

2022

EARTH OPTIMISM
× FOLKLIFE

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
LIVING LANDSCAPE | LIVING MEMORY

JUNE 22-27
AND JUNE 30-JULY 4

On the National Mall
Washington, D.C.

festival.si.edu
CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

All of our programs share the common goal of inspiring people to connect through cultural experiences and sustaining cultural diversity around the world.

- The Smithsonian Folklife Festival brings tradition bearers from around the world to share their cultures on the National Mall each summer.
- Smithsonian Folkways Recordings shares “music of, by, and for the people” as the institution’s nonprofit record label.
- Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives holds audio, video, photo, and paper collections from our programs as a public resource.
- Cultural Vitality programs help communities around the world maintain and develop cultural expressions.
- Research and Education projects create scholarly resources for folklorists, anthropologists, ethnomusicologists, teachers, students, and more.

Thank you for joining us, and we invite you to continue exploring.

A GREEN FESTIVAL

We are committed to making the Folklife Festival a green event by providing free filtered water stations for your reusable water bottles, fueling generators with biodiesel, serving food in compostable containers, and collecting and sorting waste at resource recovery stations.

Each year, we divert over 88% of Festival waste from landfills with the help of our volunteers and visitors. Let’s keep it up!

CONNECT AND SHARE YOUR FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL MEMORIES WITH US:

Smithsonian Folklife  @smithsonianfolklife
@SmithsonianFolk  #2022FOLKLIFE

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The Festival is a mask-friendly environment.
After a two-year hiatus, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival returns to the National Mall presenting a diversity of living cultural traditions that illustrate the knowledge, wisdom, skill, and artistry that people and communities use to navigate their lives.

This return comes in still uncertain times, amid spreading COVID-19 variants, accelerating climate change, war in Ukraine, and our fragile democracy gripped by seemingly intractable polarization. Yet we persevere because the Smithsonian’s mission, “the increase and diffusion of knowledge,” rather than the spread of ignorance, seems the best way to face our challenges.

The Festival has long served an important, hopeful, optimistic role. When the Festival started in 1967, the nation was divided over the Vietnam War and the battle for civil rights. War raged in the Middle East, and a major oil spill signaled environmental disaster. The Festival did not resolve those issues, but it helped create a moment in a special place and time when people from different backgrounds and beliefs could gather and respectfully embrace their common if diverse humanity. That’s a worthy purpose now, again, and always.

Both featured programs, Earth Optimism × Folklife and United Arab Emirates: Living Landscape | Living Memory, offer clues to the world we want to create. By foregrounding stories of culture, creativity, and community, we face hard truths, seek equitable solutions, and embrace divergent histories.

Our return to the National Mall was delayed longer than anticipated and certainly not without its frustrations. As we struggled to translate our work’s face-to-face approach to the digital space, we gained appreciation for the web’s capacity to foster social intimacy. Most importantly, the time “away” reinforced the bonds of collegiality and care that have sustained the Festival since its inception. Yes, “we are each other’s magnitude and bond.”

My appreciation to the ancestors who opened pathways for us to walk. To colleagues and participants, partners and sponsors who make this work possible. And to you, our visitors and guests, who continue to give the Festival meaning. May your time with us ignite your sense of curiosity, understanding, wonder, and so much more.

—Gwendolyn Brooks

Culture of, by, and for the people

After a two-year hiatus, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival returns to the National Mall presenting a diversity of living cultural traditions that illustrate the knowledge, wisdom, skill, and artistry that people and communities use to navigate their lives.

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“Earth Optimism shows us how to find hope in the face of odds that might seem overwhelming. It reminds us that change happens when we focus on what works—when we collaborate to find solutions and celebrate our successes.”

— Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie Bunch

What makes you optimistic about the future? To counter the doom and despair around climate news, the Smithsonian launched Earth Optimism to highlight what’s working in conservation. Earth Optimism celebrates actions that are making a difference, like reducing waste, restoring habitats, and saving species for a more just and sustainable planet.

*Earth Optimism × Folklife: Inspiring Conservation Communities* invites you to explore positive change presented by community leaders, innovators, scientists, storytellers, designers, and artists. Learn how you can make an impact through workshops, performances, interactive art installations, film screenings, hands-on educational activities, cooking and gardening demonstrations, sustainable food concessions, and more.

As you visit the various areas of our program, we hope you will be inspired to gather ideas you can put into action. Knowledge is power, and through a better understanding of our place in the environment and how we impact it, we can make informed decisions for our shared future.

Share your #EarthOptimism stories to inspire others!
Explore our main themes that highlight inspiring projects from around the world and right here in the Washington, D.C., area:

**Community Solutions**

Is there a community garden in your neighborhood? Around the world, communities are banding together to address pollution levels, food and water security, and clean energy, fighting against environmental injustice and other threats to healthy lifestyles. Find out how youth are leading the way with creative ideas, learn about urban food hubs, and discover how restoring traditions of seed saving and sharing can preserve biodiversity and heritage of our crops.

**Fields and Forests**

Do you know where your coffee beans come from? Forests and grasslands provide us with valuable resources: food, medicine, and materials, as well as critical habitat for plants and animals. Sustainable practices like regenerative agriculture and agroforestry demonstrate that productive landscapes can work for people and nature. Discover the ways shade-grown coffee creates mutual benefits for birds and farmers; how American ginseng has affected the history, economy, and culture of the Appalachian region; and new uses of fungi in food, medicine, building, and fashion. Meet researchers from Panama to learn how smart reforestation optimizes carbon storage, water absorption, and timber quality.

**Animals, Plants, and Us**

How do you relate to the animals and plants around you? Discover how members of the Nakoda and Aaniiih communities of Montana are restoring bison herds and bringing the prairie back to life. Marvel at the beadwork by artists in the Kenyan Maasai Mara region and learn how it relates to wildlife management and conservation. Join artisans from the United States, Mongolia, and Uganda to discover how you can go “Around the World in 80 Fabrics” using natural fibers.

**Coastal Connections**

Who doesn’t love a trip to the beach? Coastal ecosystems are home to forty percent of the world’s population. Communities are taking action to better manage reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves that sustain their food and livelihoods. Learn how restoration in the Chesapeake Bay is bringing back delicious and nutritious oysters while helping protect the watershed. Explore how artists in Fiji are using traditional harvesting and weaving skills in response to habitat loss. Talk with Belizian artisans and entrepreneurs transforming the invasive lionfish into tasty dishes and jewelry, as well as businesswomen turning seaweed into hair products.

Photo by Thorsten Harnewald Photography
Take Action and Get Involved

Meet artists in the Wavelengths installation, where you can create origami whales, soapstone sharks, and other aquatic animals and learn how to help protect their fragile ocean ecosystem.

What can you learn from your T-shirt? Walk the walk along the Sustainable Pathway to learn the impact your everyday habits have on the environment.

Explore and experience real-life examples of materials and products that can reduce your footprint in the Sustainable Living area. Deepen the role you can play in reusing, repairing, repurposing, and recycling in your home.

Find family activities for all ages in People-Powered Science. Learn more about this area on page 33 of this guide.

Learn how to cook sustainable and delicious dishes in Foodways, and get inspired by discussions at the Earth Optimism Stories stage.

Join the conversations at the EO × Folklife Studio, the hub for the latest stories on sustainability, conservation, and communities. The studio draws experts from afar and livestreams the conversations on YouTube. Topics include zero-waste lifestyles, sustainable fashion, and faith and conservation, featuring speakers including Honest Tea founder Seth Goldman, World Central Kitchen’s Alexandra Garcia, CBS “Sunday Morning” correspondent Rita Braver, MacArthur Fellow Kate Orff, and CNN climate reporter Bill Weir.

Restoring oysters improves the health of vital waterways. Photo by Will Parson, Chesapeake Bay Program

ANIMALS, PLANTS, AND US

COASTAL CONNECTIONS
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Blue Ventures**, Chesapeake Bay Program, Chesapeake Oyster Alliance, Chesapeake Research Consortium, Healthy Reefs for Healthy People**, IKOOMA**, Netless Catch**, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Rise Beyond the Reef*, Wabufu Fishermen’s Association**

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
Anacostia Watershed Society**, Earth Conservation Corps*, Global Co Lab Network**, Lowell Environmental Youth Task Force*, SeedBroadcast, Steam Onward, Smithsonian Affiliations, Ujamma, University of the District of Columbia College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences*

FIELDS AND FORESTS

PEOPLE-POWERED SCIENCE
Amtrak, Come Out and Play, Local Motion, NASA, National Park Service Junior Ranger Program, Peppermint Narwhal, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Smithsonian Gardens

SUSTAINABILITY PATHWAY
Laura Tufariello, Producer, WATCH THE FEET

SUSTAINABLE LIVING
Amicus Green Building Center, Fullfillery, Mason & Greens, The Rounds, Zero Waste DC

WAVELENGTHS ART INSTALLATION
Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, Soul & Ink, Peggy Oki, L. Frank Manriquez, Jane Chang Mi

festival.si.edu/schedule

The schedule is subject to change. For printed daily schedules, visit the Information Booths.

* Week 1 only  ** Week 2 only
How do we want to live together on this earth?

The United Arab Emirates is a young nation, shaped by its deep local histories and rapid transformations since its founding in 1971. This prosperous, urbanized nation welcomes residents from other parts of the world, who now make up nearly ninety percent of the population. Women play a prominent role in private as well as every aspect of public life.

Yet the era before oil is still in living memory; the impact of the harsh desert environment persists as a determinate of the way of life. Traditional knowledge can be a source of solutions to the world’s pressing problems, and it underlies many creative and groundbreaking projects in the UAE, from poetry to architecture, music to green technologies.

*United Arab Emirates: Living Landscape | Living Memory* explores the cultural traditions that emerge from Emirati experiences of migration and survival in close connection with challenging natural environments. At the same time, the people of the UAE are forward-looking, and the program highlights their visions for a more diverse, sustainable future.

The Majlis

*Ahlān wa sāhlan! Welcome!* As you enter the UAE program area, we invite you into a *majlis*—an Emirati tradition of gathering and conversation inscribed on the UNESCO list of intangible cultural heritage. The majlis is the social practice of sitting down together to discuss issues and exchange views, whether in a home, a meeting hall, or a simple enclosure under the stars.

In that spirit of exchange and hospitality, all the demonstrations, workshops, talks, and performances in the program make up an open-ended conversation. How can sitting down together help us to shape our shared future?

Photos courtesy of the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C.
**Place**

As you journey through the environments of the UAE, from sea to desert to oasis to city, learn about human-animal relationships in **Falconry**. Try **Maritime Crafts** like tying knots, and join in the songs of sea life. Learn how people around the world work together on **Conservation**.

Dive into the deep history and contemporary relevance of the UAE’s cultural knowledge of the environment, embodied in **Pearl**, **Mangroves**, **Navigation**, and **Falaj**. Consider your own journey in **Maps**.

Experience distinctive places in the UAE through the **Soundscape**, an immersive recording of environments and stories, and the **Architecture** installations. A vibrant **Mural** inspired by urban neighborhoods will grow over the course of the Festival. Pick up a brush and join in!

**Creativity**

In the center of the program area, meet artisans as they transform natural materials into creative works and useful objects in the **Weaving** tent. See how artists draw inspiration from both local traditions and their contemporary communities in the **Ceramics**, **Palm Studio**, and **Next Chapter Studio** tents.

Meet **Calligraphy** and **Letterpress** artists who revitalize traditional art forms through new approaches. Smell handmade **Fragrance** for body and home, and learn about traditional **Adornment** and cutting-edge designs. Come to the **Workshop** to try your hand at palm crafts, clay, calligraphy, perfume blending, and more.

**Belonging**

As you enter the program area, try a small cup of **gahwa**, or Arabic coffee, and experience traditional hospitality in the **Coffee** tent.

Engage with **Family Photographs** and record your own memories, and enjoy a guided listening tour of **Vintage Music**. Explore the **Evolution of the Majlis** through an interactive digital installation. Enjoy the subtle **Spices** and tastes of home in Emirati cooking, and smell the smoke of cross-cultural barbecue in **Festival Foodways**.

At the **Crossroads Stage**, take in a show of contemporary global jazz, a lively session of poetry in English or Arabic, or a conversation about drawing on traditions to inspire and innovate.
BELONGING
Alanood Al Abyadh, Bashair Al Baloooshi, Mariam Al Dhaheri, Jood Al Jneibi, Jawaher Al Katheeri, Dana Al Kharoossi, Ahmed Al Shimmari, Bait Al Gahwa
Ali Al Abdan, Mohammed Anis, Danabelle Gutierrez, Dorian Paul Rogers (Rooftop Rhythms), Maitla Al Suwaidi, Jaysus Zain, poetry
Adina Hempel, Zlatan Filipovic, Felix Beck, Luis Kirchlechner, majlis installation
Emily Broad, Maryam Al Huraiz, Kacper Madejek, family photographs
Ahmed Al Marar, Hattem Mattar (The Mattar Farm), Mommin Al Rawahi, foodways
Diana Chester, Safeya Al Blooshi, soundscape
Mohamed Al Jneibi, music
Ratish Chadha, Mohammed Hosny, Cody Wright, NOON

CREATIVITY
Mohammed Mandi, calligraphy
Ayesha Alyassi, Farshied Jabarkhyl, Maywand Jabarkhyl, Sadaf Sadi, Fatima
Bint Mohamed Initiative
Sarah Al Hosani, Lest We Forget, ceramics
Azza Al Qubaisi, Mohamed Abo Ghada, sculpture
Ayesha Al Marar, Mary-Claire Bakker, adornment
Abdulla Lutfi, Asma Baker, Victor Sitali, Next Chapter Studio
Mariam Al Hameli, palm weaving and henna
Abdulla Al Qubaisi, Mouza Al Marar, palm weaving
Shamma Al Qubaisi, weaving
Mona Haddad, Hiba Haddad, perfume
Latifa Al Messabi, Maryam Al Mamari, Reem Ali Al Ibrahim, Wadeema Al Hammadi, typography
Ahmed Al Khooori, Mahmoud Al Khooori, Joanna Vidal, material culture

PLACE
Lina Ahmad, Marco Sosa, Renad Abduljabbar, Zainab Al Blooki, Bashayer Al Misfer, architecture
Kirk Duthler, Maya Korayem, Azhar Mubarak, Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund
Ayah Al Heera, Esraa Al Kamali, Safiya Al Maskari, Lest We Forget
Ayesha Al Mansoori, Osha Al Mansoori, Iman Al Hammadi, Mariam Al Hammadi, falconry
Zahida Zeytoun Millie, Mangroves from the Water
Fahad Al Ali, Hassan Al Mazmi, Mohammed Al Hammadi, maritime crafts
Afra Al Mheiri, Hassana Arif, Mira Mohammad, mural
Mustafa Al Fardan, pearl heritage
Ali Al Hammadi, Juma Al Jneibi, Naji Al Alawi, pearl music

PRESENTERS
Mansour Al Heera, Stefan Messam, David Howarth, Gulshan Kavarana, Zahra Khumri, Esraa Al Kamali, Shamma Al Kamali, Woodman Taylor, Lisa Ball-Lechgar, Mohammed Al Saqqa, Ranya Nasser, Nehad Hendawi, Mariam Al Tamimi, Noor Al Suwaidi

DESIGNERS
Pierluigi Barile, Francesca Borgia, Giampiero Sanguigni, Milk Train

festival.si.edu/schedule
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Photo courtesy of the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C.
Follow the scent of spices and fresh herbs, and you’ll find your way to our Festival Foodways demonstration area. Featuring chefs and cooks from the United Arab Emirates, Belize, and here in D.C., we explore culinary traditions through the themes of preservation and migration.

These chefs preserve not just food—from drying mushrooms to burying dates in the sand—but the family traditions and natural environments associated with them. For example, Chef Mommin Al Rawahi shows us how to make *shuwa*, Omani-style pit-roasted meat, using his great-grandmother’s spice rub recipe, lovingly passed down through the generations. Others share dishes that showcase their call to stewardship of the land, like the Riverence trout farm in Idaho and Native ethnobotanist Cheryl Morales, who is committed to learning and teaching ways of her ancestors.

Through flavor and practice, these chefs also tell stories of trade and migration. Chef Ahmed Al Marar explains how movement has shaped Bedouin cooking techniques, as spices from the Gulf made their way through the desert to his homeland. Not all movement is positive, however. Invasive species like the lionfish in Belize and catfish in the Chesapeake Bay are detrimental to native species. Blue Ventures is working alongside Belizean fisherfolk to find solutions that benefit both the waters and the people, while Chef Robert Wood is finding delicious ways to introduce catfish to D.C. diners, such as the smoked catfish roll found on the Folklife Kitchen menu.

We are excited to share these stories and more with you.

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**Date Barbecue Sauce**

By Hattem Mattar

**Ingredients**

- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 cups red onions, sliced
- 1 cup white onions, sliced
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- Juice of 1 orange
- 5 whole tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 4 cups dates, pitted and roughly chopped
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup grated ginger
- 1 head garlic, cloves peeled and smashed
- 2 tbsp garlic powder
- Salt and pepper to taste

**Preparation**

In a cast iron pan over low heat, melt the butter and caramelize the onions until deep brown. Deglaze the pan with apple cider vinegar and orange juice as needed to get any stuck pieces during caramelization.

Add tomatoes and dates, cooking until the tomatoes release their juices.

Add soy sauce, ketchup, ginger, garlic, and garlic powder. Simmer together on low heat for 20 to 30 minutes. Your sauce should now be a thick paste.

Using an immersion blender or food processor, blend the sauce to a uniform consistency. Strain if desired; not straining gives a more pronounced flavor. Add water to create a thinner pouring sauce, or leave as is for a basting or simmer sauce.

*Siha w hanal* (Literally “health and happiness,” the Arabic way to say “enjoy your meal!”)
DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

11AM  Festival Foodways — Three Sisters Salad, cooking with corn, beans, and squash
1PM  Folklife Studio — Reduce, reuse, recycle with *Living the Zero Waste Lifestyle* author Stephanie J. Miller
3PM  Folklife Studio — Corridors and Connectivity: Animals and Humans in Harmony with Irene Amoke of Kenya Wildlife Trust
4PM  Folklife Studio — Planes, Trains, and Bikes: How We Get Around, with representatives from Amtrak, Ciclovia, and United Airlines

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Hourly  Coffee — Demonstration and tasting with traditional hospitality
1PM  Crossroads Stage — Celebrating Arabic Language
2PM  Folklife Studio — The Meaning of the Majlis: how can sitting down together help us to envision our shared future?

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

1PM  Festival Foodways — Foods of Fiji and effects of climate change on cuisine
2PM  People-Powered Science — Become a Citizen Scientist!
3PM  Folklife Studio — Changing the narrative from doom and gloom with HHMI Tangled Bank Studios head Sean B. Carroll and the Smithsonian’s Ellen Stofan

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Daily  The Workshop — Hands-on palm crafts, poetry, ceramics, hand-blended incense, music and other creative sessions
2PM  Folklife Studio — Tradition and Innovation in UAE Architecture
4PM  Falconry — Demonstration of training, techniques, and flight

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

12PM  Earth Optimism Stories — Magnificent Mushrooms
1PM  People-Powered Science — Dance workshop with Local Motion
3PM  Folklife Studio — Fiber and Fashion: Green Is the New Black with Matilda McQuaid from Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Daily  House of Belonging — Interactive augmented-reality installation
3PM  Crossroads Stage — Global jazz with Dubai-based trio NOON
4PM  Crossroads Stage — Dynamic spoken-word performance

**CROSS PROGRAM**

4PM  Folklife Studio — What We Carry: Migration Stories, with representatives of both programs and the new exhibition *World on the Move*, currently at the MLK branch of the DC Public Library

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

11AM  Folklife Studio — Ways of Knowing, Ways of Living: Exploring Faith and Conservation with Lavinia Currier
1PM  Festival Foodways — Moving Meals with World Central Kitchen
3PM  Folklife Studio — Livelihoods and Landscapes with Julie Robinson from The Nature Conservancy

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

11AM  Festival Foodways — Omani-Style Pit Cooking
2PM  Folklife Studio — Verses: Poetry and Song

3PM  Story Majlis — Family-friendly storytelling that highlights relationships with nature

**SPECIAL EVENT**

4–6PM  Folklife Studio — Ode to the Ozarks: Looking Ahead to the 2023 Smithsonian Folklife Festival with bluegrass performance and jam session

MONDAY, JUNE 27

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

11AM  Earth Optimism Stories — Sustainability Across the Smithsonian
3PM  People-Powered Science — Junior Ranger Badge Workshop

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

11AM  Festival Foodways — Bedouin Cooking
2PM  Folklife Studio — People of Determination: Disability Inclusion in the UAE
4PM  Story Majlis — Songs and stories of pearl divers

**CROSS PROGRAM**

4PM  Folklife Studio — Coffee: Aroma and Custom with Bait Al Gahwa and Chesapeake Roasting Co.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

11AM  Earth Optimism Stories — Saving species in America’s grassland
1PM  Folklife Studio — Restoring oysters and coastlines with CNN climate correspondent Bill Weir and MacArthur prizewinner Kate Orff
3PM  Earth Optimism Stories — Ginseng Conservation

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Daily  House of Place — Presentations and hands-on demonstrations of maritime crafts, pearl heritage, vernacular architecture, oasis farming, and more
2PM  Folklife Studio — Historians reflect on the UAE’s fifty years and the preservation of cultural memory

**CROSS PROGRAM**

4PM  Folklife Studio — Wearing Nature

FRIDAY, JULY 1

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

11AM  People-Powered Science — Amtrak Junior Conductor
1PM  Folklife Studio — Food for All: Equity, Access, and Justice with Alexandra Garcia from World Central Kitchen
3PM  Festival Foodways — Herbal Medicines: Teas and Tinctures
4PM  People-Powered Science — Around the World in 80 Fabrics

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Daily  Conservation — Family-friendly games and educational activities
2PM  The Workshop — Hand-Blended Bukhoor Incense

SATURDAY, JULY 2

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

All day  NASA Day — Conversations, cooking demonstrations, short films, and hands-on activities relating to NASA’s work on environmental conservation
1PM  Folklife Studio — Creativity for the Planet with a presentation by Robin Moore of Re:wild
3PM  Folklife Studio — What is Sustainable Food Production? with Dr. Karen St. Germain, NASA
### DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

**SATURDAY, JULY 2 (cont.)**

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

**Daily**
- House of Creativity—Presentations and hands-on demonstrations of ceramics, calligraphy, weaving, perfume, jewelry, and more

**2PM**
- Folklife Studio—Making Homes: Diverse Communities in the UAE

**4PM**
- Folklife Studio—Mother Tongue: Speaking of the Land, discussing language as a powerful symbol of culture

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

**12PM**
- People-Powered Science—Wonderful Worms

**2PM**
- Story Majlis—Migration Stories, with representatives of both programs and the new exhibition World on the Move, currently at the MLK branch of the DC Public Library

**5–6:30PM**
- Folklife Studio—Sounds from Multifaith America: Looking Ahead to the 2023 Smithsonian Folklife Festival with Houston-based Riyaaz Qawwali

**MONDAY, JULY 4**

**EARTH OPTIMISM x FOLKLIFE**

**2PM**
- Festival Foodways—Eating the Invaders: Lionfish in Belize

**4PM**
- Earth Optimism Stories—Earth Optimism: What’s Next?

**5–6:30PM**
- Folklife Studio—Making the Future, with young people from both programs sharing insights and efforts toward building sustainable futures

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

**FOLKLIFE ON FILM**

**6PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**7PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**

**FOLKLIFE CONCERTS**

Presented on the Ralph Rinzler Main Stage and streaming live at [youtube.com/smithsonianfolklife](https://youtube.com/smithsonianfolklife)

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22**

**6:30PM**
- FolkLIVE CONCERTS
  - The Gifts We Carry: Sounds of Migration and Memory
  
  Yo-Yo Ma hosts an evening of music and poetry from Afghanistan and beyond, including Homayoun Sakhi, Salar Nader, Ahmad Fanoos, Elham Fanoos, Mehran Fanoos, Hamid Habibzada, Nazira Wali, Alex and Sophie Sherzai, and others TBA. Special guest appearance by Stanley Clarke and Chelsey Green.
  
  Supported by the Timashev Family Foundation and presented in partnership with Asia Society—NY, American Anthropological Association, and Events DC

**THURSDAY, JUNE 23**

**6:30PM**
- FolkLIVE CONCERTS
  - NOON and Experience Unlimited

  From international jazz to homegrown go-go, enjoy a diversity of sounds and rhythms.
  
  Supported in part by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the UAE Ministry of Culture and Youth, and the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

**FOLKLIVE ON FILM**

**6PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**7PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**

**FOLKLIVE ON FILM**

**6:30PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30**

**7PM**
- Los Texmaniacs featuring La Marisoul

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

**FOLKLIVE ON FILM**

**6:30PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**

**FOLKLIVE ON FILM**

**6:30PM**
- My Garden of a Thousand Bees

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**festival.si.edu/schedule**

The inaugural season of Folkways@Folklife is dedicated to our dear colleague, audio engineer, and sound production supervisor Pete Reiniger (1949–2022).
FOLKLIFE STUDIO

Folklife Studio is a new type of hybrid, multimedia Folklife Festival venue, featuring short film screenings, livestreamed conversations and kitchen demonstrations, and special performances.

Over the past two years, we learned that online encounters can be just as powerful as those face to face. We gathered in digital Story Circles and remote craft workshops, and now, in the Folklife Studio, we invite visitors and guest speakers to tune in and participate from around the world. Through this experiment, we strive to connect our virtual and in-person communities.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m., the studio transforms into the Pocket Cinema, screening short documentary films from the Earth Optimism x Folklife and United Arab Emirates programs. The first hour is designed to share family-friendly films, so bring the kids and enjoy before the rest of the Festival grounds open. At 5:30, watch multilingual selections from the Smithsonian’s Mother Tongue Film Festival.

Film stills (clockwise): Junior (AJ Wilhelm), The Heartbeat: The Salmon & People Project (Smithsonian), Bubbles of Happiness (Latifa Khoory)

FOLKLIFE STUDIO

NEXT UP: 2023

Creative Encounters: Living Religions in the U.S.
What do Americans create from their religious and spiritual traditions, beliefs, and practices? How does religion nurture relationships with our histories and heritage? How are religious ideas expressed in and through social action?

In 2023, we will carefully examine the intertwining of American religious communities and traditions. Together we will confront those religious acts which have caused harm in the name of conquest and celebrate ones used to create profound cultural change. In examining the role of religion in American life, we will uncover a wellspring of creative expressions in the United States and, in some cases, their ties to others around the world.

This program is made possible by Lilly Endowment’s Religion and Cultural Institutions Initiative. The program also received federal support from the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center.

The Ozarks: Faces and Facets of a Region
Located culturally and geographically between the South, Midwest, and Great Plains, the Ozarks is shaped by the complex connections and interactions that link a demanding yet fragile terrain with the cultural practices of the peoples who inhabit it and the wider world.

The contributions of First Nations peoples; French, Scots-Irish, and German settlers; enslaved Africans and their descendants; and refugees migrants create a place that is far more and heterogeneous than it is often given credit for in the popular imagination—a place with plentiful examples and models of persistence, innovation, and transformation.

In collaboration with our partners at Missouri State University, we will spend 2023 exploring this unique North American region and sharing its stories.

Sylamore Special performs on June 26, 2022, as a preview of the 2023 Ozarks program. Photo courtesy of the artists
FESTIVAL KITCHEN
Open 11 AM until closing

Be sure to visit the Folklife Kitchen for a taste of the United Arab Emirates and local dishes that tell a story of sustainability and creativity. You’ll find flavorful small bites and entrees, tasty desserts, and summery beverages, including vegetarian- and kid-friendly options.

Treat yourself to Arabic coffee, tea, and pastries in the Folklife Café or frozen sweets at Guillermo’s Artisanal Gelato stand. For those over 21, stop by the Folklife Garden Tavern.

Looking to take ingredients home? Shop honey, dried fruit, nuts, spices, chocolate, coffee, and wine from the UAE and beyond in the Festival Marketplace.

UAE Menu
• Fattoush SaladVG
• Manakeesh (Arab Flatbread)
• Charcoal Grilled Chicken
• Beef Kofta Kebab
• Charcoal Grilled EggplantVG
• Al Machboos (Rice and Chickpeas)VG
• Luqaimat (Fried Pastry)V
• Walnut BaklavaV
• Rosewater Soft ServeV
• Sour Cherry SorbetVG

Earth Optimism × Folklife Menu
• Watermelon & Summer Veggie GazpachoVG
• Basil Chicken Sausage
• SuperFd Burger
• Smoked Wild Blue Catfish Roll
• Mushroom Patty MeltV
• Three Sisters Salad & Heritage GrainsVG
• Cake-Crumb Almond Biscotti with Bird Friendly® Coffee Panna CottaV

Guillermo’s Artisanal Gelato
• Arabic CoffeeV
• PistachioV
• Dark ChocolateV
• Mango SorbetVG
• Strawberry SorbetVG
• Spirit Popsicles (must be 21+)
• SangriaVG
• MojitoVG
• Strawberry ChardonnayVG
• Apricot BrandyVG

V Vegetarian, VG vegan or vegan option available

Food allergen and dietary information is available at the Accessibility tent and concession stands.
ACCESSIBILITY & OTHER SERVICES

We strive to be an accessible and inclusive environment for all visitors.

Accessible seating is available at all performance venues. A limited number of wheelchairs and folding cane-chairs are available for loan each day at the Accessibility tent. Service animals are welcome at the Festival, and water stations are available.

American Sign Language interpretation and live, real-time captioning (CART) is available for select performances and presentations. Additional ASL interpreting services may be requested and are provided as available. Service schedules are available in the Accessibility tent.

All narrative stages, performance venues, and workshop spaces are equipped with Assistive Listening Systems. Receivers are available for check out at the Accessibility tent.

Live Audio Description is available for select events. Sighted guide services may be requested and are provided as available. Please visit the Accessibility tent for more information and service schedules.

The Festival is a location for the Aira Access mobile information and verbal description service. Visitors can download the free Aira app on their smartphone and use the app to speak to an Aira agent using minutes provided courtesy of the Smithsonian (messaging and data rates may apply).

Large-print and Braille brochures are available at the Accessibility tent. Large-print and Braille menus are available at the concession stands.

Sensory maps/guides are available at the Accessibility tent. On Sunday, June 26, and Saturday, July 2, we will host “Morning on the Mall” for individuals with autism, sensory sensitivities, or other cognitive disabilities who may benefit from a more quiet, relaxed, and supported environment. For more information, please call 202.633.2921 or email access@si.edu.

Information and service schedules are updated on our website throughout the Festival. Please visit festival.si.edu/accessibility.

For questions about other accessibility services not mentioned above, please call 202.633.7488 or email folklife@si.edu.

If you become separated from your group, go to “Lost and Found” in the Volunteer Tent for assistance.

A First-Aid Station is located next to the Smithsonian Metro station.

Information Booths are located at the east and west ends of the Festival.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

The Folklife Festival offers fun for all ages! Both the Earth Optimism × Folklife and United Arab Emirates programs have designed activities to tease your senses, challenge your crafts skills, and get you moving.

In the People-Powered Science area, get up close and personal with bees and butterflies in our pollinator garden, witness worms turn waste into rich compost, take a turn at watering a living roof, and try your hand at eco-friendly crafts. Pick up a copy of the new Junior Ranger activity guide and become an urban nature explorer. Create your own “orchid-gami” flower here or at home! Follow this link to our Festival Blog to make the Showy Lady’s Slipper, a native North American orchid.

s.si.edu/OrchidGami

In the UAE area, get inspired by nature! Sing the songs of the sea, try weaving with palm leaves, and paint on a piece of palm tree at the Palm Studio. Learn about species conservation and how you can help through games like the turtle survival challenge at the Conservation tent. Meet falconers from the UAE and United States and observe the live birds of prey. Visit the interactive oasis farm at the Falaj, where you can try managing the water flow. Join us in The Workshop throughout the day for hands-on craft and cultural activities.

Photo courtesy of the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C.
RELATED EXHIBITIONS

Visit free exhibitions at other Smithsonian museums and partner organizations in Washington, D.C.

FUTURES
Arts and Industries Building—On view through July 6, 2022
Enjoy immersive site-specific art installations, interactives, working experiments, inventions, speculative designs and “artifacts of the future.”

Falcons: The Art of the Hun
National Museum of Asian Art—On view through July 17, 2022
Take a glimpse into the fascinating world of falcons through a selection of paintings and objects from ancient Egypt to China, in an exhibition inspired by this year's United Arab Emirates program.

Arctic Highways: Unbounded Indigenous People
House of Sweden, 2900 K St. NW—On view through July 17, 2022
Experience culture and art of the Arctic as twelve Indigenous artists tell their own story, through their own experiences, using their own forms of expression.

World on the Move: 250,000 Years of Human Migration
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G St. NW—On view through August 28, 2022
Explore stories from across human history and the breadth of world cultures in this traveling exhibition organized by the American Anthropological Association and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

HABITAT
Various Smithsonian museums on the National Mall—On view through September 5, 2022
Discover stories about habitats and the plants, animals, and humans that call them home through fourteen outdoor installations, constructed with assistance from students in our Tech-Teach Design and Fabrication Skills Program.

Food for the People: Eating and Activism in Greater Washington
Anacostia Community Museum—On view through September 17, 2022
Examine the D.C. area’s food system, the inequalities that shape it, and the people working to transform it, presented through artifacts, art installations, videos, and hands-on interactives.

Music HerStory: Women and Music of Social Change
Smithsonian Libraries Gallery, National Museum of American History—On view through 2024
Explore how women changemakers, groundbreakers, and tradition-bearers influence our musical encounters and social identities, through nursery rhymes and jazz, protest music and punk rock.

¡Presente! A Latino History of the United States
Molina Family Latino Gallery, National Museum of American History
Dive into the historical and cultural legacy of U.S. Latinos in this inaugural exhibition of the future National Museum of the American Latino’s first gallery space.

Photos, top to bottom:
From eighteenth-century India, painting of a man hunting birds with a falcon. Gift of Charles Lang Freer
Fandango Fronterizo at the U.S.-Mexico border. Photo by Charlie Weber, Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives
Actress and singer Karen Vigo in the South Bronx, 2014. Photo by Ashley Marinaccio
Sister Rosetta Tharpe at the 1967 Newport Folk Festival. Photo by Diana J. Davies, Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives

festival.si.edu/schedule
The schedule is subject to change due to weather and other factors.
For printed daily schedules, visit the Information Booths.
The Smithsonian Folklife Festival is produced by the Smithsonian Center for Folklore and Cultural Heritage and in partnership with the National Park Service. The Festival is supported by federally appropriated funds; Smithsonian trust funds; contributions from governments, businesses, foundations, and individuals; in-kind assistance; and food, recording, and craft sales. Additional support provided by the Timashev Family Foundation.

Promotional support is provided by Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Destination DC, and Events DC.

In-kind program and technical support comes from Costco (Sterling, VA), Ernest Maier Block Company (Bladensburg, MD), Fabric Place Basement (Alexandria, VA), Home Depot (Oxon Hill, MD), IKEA (College Park, MD & Woodbridge, VA), Meadow Farms, and MOM’s Organic Market.

Earth Optimism × Folklife: Inspiring Conservation Communities
Sponsoring partners include the Smithsonian’s Center for Folklore and Cultural Heritage, Amtrak, Ford Motor Company, HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, Roger W. Sant and the Honorable Doris Matsui, and United Airlines. Additional support is provided by the Smithsonian Women’s History Initiative, Anela Koloko Foundation, Anne Keiner and Doug Lapp, Re:Wild, Sacharuna Foundation, and the Shared Earth Foundation.

United Arab Emirates: Living Landscape | Living Memory
Sponsoring partners include the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the UAE Ministry of Culture and Youth, and the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C. Additional support is provided by Etihad Airways.

Special Events
Evening concerts are presented in partnership with Asia Society – New York, the Smithsonian American Women’s History Initiative, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, and Smithsonian Libraries and Archives.

WE EXTEND OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Smithsonian Support for the Festival
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General Festival Support
Organizations: U.S. Department of the Interior: Deb Haaland, Secretary; National Park Service: Charles F. Sams III, Director; National Mall and Memorial Parks: Jeff Reinbold, Superintendent; Robin Nixon, Chief of Partnerships; Leonard Lee, Park Ranger, Permit Specialist; James Snell, Surf Specialist; Matthew Morrison, Landscape Architect; Adam Kramer, Public Health Officer; Jamie Cint, Fire, Safety and Emergency Manager; U.S. Park Police: Pamela Smith, Chief, Employees of the National Park Service and U.S. Park Police; U.S. Department of State: Carolyn Glassman, Senior Advisor to the Smithsonian


Earth Optimism × Folklife: Inspiring Conservation Communities
Organizations: Earth Sangha, Ecovative, Ernst Conservation Seeds, Marine Resources Council, Queen of Raw, Ujamma, Smithsonian Gardens, Smithsonian Material Culture Forum, Steam Onward

Individuals: Stephanie Benedetto, Cynthia Brown, Jennifer Brundage, Genevieve Cochran, Brian Coyle, Debra Everett-Lane, Nicholas Fortugno, Leslie Fratteroli, Anson (Tuck) Hines, Monty Holmes, Nicole Holtzman, Carolina Jones, Adriel Luis, Marilina Perkins, CV Peterson, Will Pitt, Jennifer Rudnick, Marisa Scaleria, Brandie Smith, Benjamin Stokes, Joke Tewksbury, Chloe Vareldi, Stephanie Weyozwicz

United Arab Emirates: Living Landscape | Living Memory
Organizations: US Embassy in the United Arab Emirates, Department of Culture and Tourism Abu Dhabi, Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, American University Sharjah, New York University Abu Dhabi, Zayed University


Special Events, Production & Concessions

Festival Marketplace
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Kevin Gover, Under Secretary for Museums and Culture
Julissa Marenco, Assistant Secretary and Chief Marketing Officer

CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
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SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL
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Sojin Kim, Grace Dabye Kwon, Diana N’Diaye, Mia Owens, Cross Program Team

IN MEMORIAM
Since we last met on the National Mall, the Folklife Festival family has lost volunteers, staff, collaborators, past participants, supporters, and our co-founder, Jim Morris. We thank them for strengthening our work and grace us with friendship.


EARTH OPTIMISM • FOLKLIFE
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Nada Ammagui, Lead Volunteer

IN MEMORIAM
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, PARTNERS & VOLUNTEERS!

SEE NONSTOP DESTINATIONS
FlyDulles.com/nonstop

Join our circle of support. Donate now to the Smithsonian Folklife Festival:
s.si.edu/SFFSupport
You can also scan the QR code. Thank you!