

MEDIA IMAGES

Smithsonian Folklife Festival

National Mall, Washington, D.C.

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SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

In 2025, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival focuses on the multifaceted theme of *Youth and the Future of Culture*. Through eight program areas, listed in bold in photo captions below, the Festival explores the contributions and experiences of young people, how they influence and engage with culture, and how they create, innovate, and sustain cultural practices and traditions. The Festival takes place between Seventh and Twelfth streets on the National Mall, July 2 to 7.

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2023 Smithsonian Folklife Festival
Photo by Sonya Pencheva, Smithsonian Institution



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Next Generation Artisans in the Traditional Building Trades
| At the American College of the Building Arts, Tatum Connor studies with and master stone carver Joseph Kincannon.
Photo by Lindsey Cockburn



Native Language Reclamation in the U.S. | At the Festival, students from the Myaamia Heritage Program will demonstrate *peekitahaminki* (lacrosse).
Photo by Karen Baldwin



Music Apprenticeship | The Alliance of Black Orchestral Percussionists helps young musicians start their careers by developing relationships between protégés and mentors.
Photo by Tom Keene @LADigitalPhoto



Streetwise | In the Olathe Leadership Lowrider Bike Club in Kansas, high school students gain technical skills, serve their community, and receive academic support.
Photo by Christopher Erazo



Museum of Contemporary American Teenagers | MoCAT's teen organizers have hosted a "battle of the bands" series that will culminate at the Festival.
Photo courtesy of MoCAT



Emerging Media Makers | Ghetto Film School educates, develops, and celebrates the next generation of great storytellers in Los Angeles.
Photo courtesy of Ghetto Film School



Wordsmiths and Storytellers | As an "Affrilachian" storyteller, Malcolm Davis is dedicated to uplifting Black narratives in Appalachia through living history performance.
Photo courtesy of Malcolm Davis



Learning Together | The Delgado family, now based in Nashville, has been making musical instruments by hand for four generations.
Photo courtesy of Delgado family