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Folklife Center 30th Anniversary Festival

BY TODD DeGARMO, FOUNDING DIRECTOR

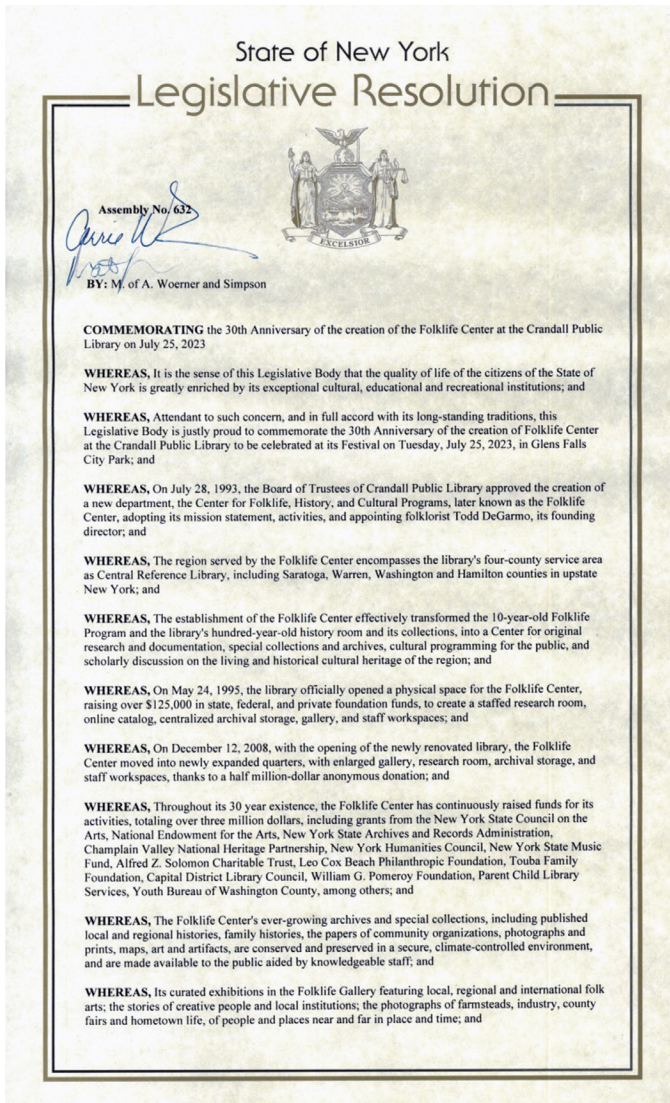
The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library celebrated its 30th anniversary with a free Festival in City Park, outside the Library, in downtown Glens Falls on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Over 60 folk artists filled the park, demonstrating their crafts and sharing their traditions. Up close and personal, festival-

goers were able to witness firsthand the artists' skills and to talk directly with the experts. Many of the artists offered a hands-on component to their exhibit.

The traditions were far-reaching: Black ash basketry by Carrie Hill; black ash and birch bark basketry by Bliss White McIntosh; barn quilts by Ruth McWilliam; blacksmithing by Kirke Perry, Dan Norm-

ington, and Mike Gracey of NYS Designer Blacksmiths; Bluegrass Jams and Ukulele Club, hosted by Alan Epstein and Alex Grandy; chainsaw carving by Peter Winter; Chair Caning by Christine Ferris-Hubbard; Congolese samusa making by Huguette Tshiamua; drumming with Amorak Youth; fiber arts by Mathilde Lind; fly fishing fly tying and fly casting by Paul Sinicki;



Legislative Resolution, State of New York, commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Folklife Center at the Crandall Public Library on July 23, 2023 (2 pages).



30th Anniversary FESTIVAL

Tuesday, July 25, 2023
Free • 10 am to 5 pm
Glens Falls City Park

hammer dulcimer by Dan Duggan; henna art by Anusha Sekhar; iconography by Altin Stojha; Irish stick fighting with John Borter, Tris Chiovani, and Chris Shaw of the Whiskey Stick Faction; nature garden sculpture by Randy Squires; painted floor cloths by Janet Flinchbaugh; paper art and

large-scale engineering with Paula Beardell Krieg; photography by Cliff Oliver; porcupine quilling, pine needle, and birch bark basketry by Thomas A. Mowatt; primitive peg loom weaving and cheese making by Joanne Peters Steele; rough edge bowl turning by John Kingsley; rustic furniture by Barry Gregson; sculptures of found objects by Jack Metzger; stonework and stone walls by Dan Chambers; stringed instruments by Martin Macica; timber framing by Sam Bruckman; tintype photography with Craig Murphy; Torah scribing on deerskin by Linda Motzkin; Wee Lassie Canoe by Adirondack Folk School; wood-carved birds by CJ Lyttle.

Live music was shared throughout the day at the Bandstand: Dan Berggren (also, the emcee); Dan Duggan; Josh Clevestine; Quickstep (with John Kirk, Trish Miller, Cedar Stanistreet, and Greg Anderson); The McKrells (Kevin McKrell, Arlin Greene, Peter Pashoukos, Brian Melick, Frank Orsini, and Scott Hopkins); The

Desi Trio (Aurelius Joh, Shaman Raphael, and Daniel Walayat); Alex Torres and His Latin Orchestra; Al and Kathy Bain; Smokey Greene; The Greene Brothers; and Marty Wendell.

Proclamations commemorating the 30th anniversary of the creation of the Folklife Center were presented to the Founding Director Todd DeGarmo and Folklife Center staff Kevin Rogan, Patricia Dolton, and Amanda Franzoni. These included a New York State Senate Proclamation from Daniel G. Stec of the 45th Senate District, and a New York State Assembly Resolution from Carrie Woerner of Assembly District 113 and Matt Simpson of Assembly District 114.

Thanks to our major partners, New York Folklore (Schenectady) and Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (Canton) for helping us to organize the event, and to our funders, New York State Council on the Arts, Crandall Public Library, and the Friends of Crandall Public Library.



(From left to right) The Folklife Center's Kevin Rogan and Todd DeGarmo, Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, Crandall Public Library's Director Kathy Naftaly, Assemblyman Matt Simpson, and State Senator Daniel G. Stec. Photo courtesy of Carrie Woerner. All photographs courtesy the Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library.



Chainsaw-carved bear bench by Peter Winter. Photo by Jay Petrequine, WTEN News.



Altin Stoja works in the Byzantine Macedonian style of iconography. Photo courtesy of Carrie Woerner.



Haudenosaunee basketmaker, Carrie Hill. Photo by Emma Rogan.



Trish Chiovari and John Borter demonstrate Doyle Irish stick fighting. Photo by Emma Rogan.



Alex Torres and His Latin Orchestra perform at the Bandstand. Photo by Emma Rogan.



Basketmaker Bliss White McIntosh removing black ash splints. Photo by Sue Clary.



Learning to drum with Amorak Youth. Photo by Sue Clary.



Jack Metzger with several of his found object sculptures. Photo by Sue Clary.



Dan Chambers and his dry-laid stone wall for the Library's pollinator garden. Photos by Sue Clary.



Dan Duggan, one of the finest hammered dulcimer players and composers in the country. Photo by Ruth McWilliams.



Rabbi Linda Motzkin and a handmade deerskin parchment for scribing a Torah scroll. Photo by Emma Rogan.



Folks enjoyed an entire day of music from the Bandstand in City Park. Photos by Sue Clary.



Randy Squires creating a floral arrangement. Photo by Emma Rogan.



Fiber artist Mathilde Lind spinning on the large wheel. Photo by Jay Petrequine, WTEN News.



Chris Ferris Hubbard, a master of the many patterns of chair caning. Photo by Sue Clary.



Anusha Sekhar applying temporary henna designs. Photo by Todd DeGarmo.

The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library 30th Anniversary Festival—A 3-minute video of the Festival:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovtp4NPj6WQ>

A Film by Hannah DeGarmo, 2024

Music: "Mountain Air" by Dan Berggren (1989), Sleeping Giant Records, <https://www.berggrenfolk.com>

Produced by the Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY 12801

Funding provided by the New York State Council on the Arts

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