

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Mary O'Neill

843-815-6278

maryaoneill6@aol.com

2008 Historic Bluffton Arts and Seafood Festival

A celebration of Bluffton's unique history, cuisine, art and culture, the 4th annual Historic Bluffton Arts & Seafood Festival takes place October 20-26.

Discover "Where Fine Art & the Bounty of The Sea Come Together," during a week long event showcasing locally harvested seafood, Low country cuisine, area and regional artists, live music and entertainment, fishing tournament, boat tours, children's activities, fireworks and more.

Kicking off the festivities, local environmentalists, Nancy Schilling, Friends of the Rivers, and Kim Jones, Natural Resource Manager for the Town of Bluffton, will present "Appreciating our Waterways" during a seafood lunch and learn at May River Grill on Monday, October 20 at noon. Tickets are \$25.00 a person and can be reserved by calling the Heyward House Historic Center at 843.757.6293.

Wednesday night at seven, award winning cookbook author and story teller, Joe Dabney, hosts a lively presentation at Ulmer Auditorium, Bluffton Town Hall, with hilarious accounts of his many interviews while researching his prize winning books. Joe's "Smokehouse Ham, Spoon Bread & Scuppernong Wine" won the prestigious James Beard "Cookbook of the Year" Award and is described by Pat Conroy "makes my mouth water for Southern food and my heart hunger for Southern stories".

Friday night, "Pop and Oyster With Champagne" and enjoy live music with Bill Averbach & Bam Jazz during VIP Night at the newly restored Old Town Museum at Seven Oaks from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are \$75 with proceeds benefiting "Friends of the Rivers" and "Kids in Kayaks". Tickets can be reserved by calling 843.815.6278.

On Saturday, October 25, the two-day open-air street festival of visual and performing arts begins at 10 a.m. More than 50 by-invitation-only artists from near and far will be showcasing their talents in all media. The Street Art Market continues until 5 p.m. and resumes again on Sunday, October 26 at 11 a.m. Musicians at several stages throughout the historic district will be performing both days along with strolling entertainers and mimes. Over twenty restaurants will also line the downtown streets offering a true taste of the Low Country.

Saturday night, Rockin' in the Dock, a Seafood Extravaganza with music by the B-Town Playaz is scheduled at the Bluffton Oyster Company from 5:30 -8:30 p.m. capped off with a fireworks finale at dusk.

Pack a picnic lunch for Sunday to enjoy the Blessing of the Fleet and Gospel Music at 2 p.m. on the lawn at the Church of the Cross.

For details and a complete schedule of events, call (843)-757-2583 or go online to **blufftonartsandseafoodfestival.com**.