

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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Fayetteville Captivates all Generations with Art, Music, Quilt Auction, and Diversified Events for 2016



In the Spirit of a New Year, Fayetteville, Texas proudly presents its' array of activities for 2016 that is guaranteed to spark everyone's imagination thanks to the art, music, and creativity of this great Czech/German hometown National Registry community. Arts for Rural Texas (ARTS), a "genius" of local volunteers continues to shine as the "Beyond the Usual with MQ & Friends" exhibition runs through February 20th.

Additionally, Art After School has become a big hit for the little ones as 18 classes are conducted across seven school districts three semesters a year. It includes the communities of Fayetteville, La Grange (Sacred Heart Catholic School), Round Top, Boys & Girls Clubs in Weimar and Schulenburg, Schulenburg Elementary, Flatonia, and St. Michaels Catholic School of Weimar. Some of these students learn the importance of art in their world for the first time thanks to these classes. They experience the positive values and confidence that comes from trying new, creative, and exciting activities. There is NO CHARGE to the students or the schools--a true win-win!

Yet another treat for the kiddos (and the big kiddos as well) is in the line of music. Thursday, February 11th Darden Smith, will be performing a benefit concert for ARTS at the Country Place Hotel on the square at 7:00 p.m. It is open to the general public and funds will be raised on a free will donation. February 4th, Darden (a nationally known singer/songwriter) will be bringing his "Be an Artist" program to area schools as a sponsored Fine Art assembly. This is a gratis fund raiser in support of the many children's programs. For more information, go to www.artsforruraltexas.org, e-mail info@artsforruraltexas.org or call 979-378-2113.

Hometown cooking (always a big hit in rural Texas) will shine as the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fayetteville presents its Annual Pancake & Sausage Supper on Tuesday, February 9 in the Fellowship Hall on 201 North Rusk Street. Serving begins at 5:30 pm and free will donations are appreciated.

The square is always a great place to visit and February 13 from 7 am - 10 am is no exception as the Fayetteville Brethren Christian Sisters' Fundraiser will be held at the Old Fire Station. Breakfast tacos, a bake sale, country store, and raffle will be conducted. Grand prize is a large queen size (94 x 110) "diamond patch" quilt. Tickets are available at this time by calling Liz Ripple at 979-378-2239 or by going to www.fayettevillebrethrenchurch.org. This work of art is on display at the Fayetteville Bank in Fayetteville and tickets may be purchased there as well. Proceeds benefit missions and local charities.

Yet another great ARTS event, offered only every two years, is the ACT International Invitational 2016 "A Salute to the Masters:-The Great American Illustrators". Expect an auction of 100 pieces of artwork by today's masters from four nations showcased February 27 at St. John's Hall on 209 East Bell Street beginning at 6:00 pm. This extraordinary art may be viewed at www.act4art.com AND funds raised by ACT2016 supports art education and arts community outreach provided by Arts for Rural Texas. Specifically, this funding program has contributed to ballet and musical performances and provided for the financial support necessary to offer free art-after-school programs to youth across the region. Call 979-378-2113 for more information.

January clearly kicks off a standard to Fayetteville--providing unique tourism venues for all ages while respecting cultures and heritage. The annual calendar traditions are inspired by the respect this community has to its' traditions.

A "brief" view for the year includes: Antiques on the Square from 3/19 - 3/28 (9 am - 9 pm), BP MS 150 on the 3rd weekend in April, Texas Pickin' Park on the 2nd Saturday from April-November, the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser on the 1st Saturday in May, ARTWALK on the first full weekend in May, Fayetteville Chamber Music Festival on the 2nd and 3rd Fridays and Saturdays in May, the Good Old Summertime Bicycle Classic on the 1st Sunday in June, Fayetteville's City Wide Garage Sale the 2nd Saturday in July, Fall Antiques on the Square, Barbeque Cook-off on the 3rd weekend in October, Licksillet Celebration on the 3rd weekend in October, Harvestfest on the 1st Saturday in

November, Country Christmas on the Square and Historic Homes Tour on the Second Saturday in December. This list is never complete as more events are created throughout the year in this historic community.

Not to be missed are visits throughout the year to the paintings at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, the wonderful old entertaining Fayetteville Precinct Courthouse, the incredible Fayetteville Area Heritage Museum, and historic shops around the National Registry square. Art never takes a back seat as Arts for Rural Texas and the Red and White Gallery provide a variety of events throughout the year. Fayetteville is located on Highway 159 a short distance from La Grange and zip code 78940 for GPS users—“Great weekend getaway with dining, shopping, and lodging available for all.”

Cathy Chaloupka

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