FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arts Council to Launch Holiday Season with Six Days in November Festival
“A Feast for the Senses” is theme for November 15-20 citywide arts and cultural event

Winston-Salem, NC (August 31, 2011) – The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County will present the Fourth Annual Six Days in November Festival the week before Thanksgiving -- November 15-20. “A Feast for the Senses” is the 2011 theme for the event that includes a host of arts, cultural and entertainment opportunities during a six-day period.

“We settled on this theme,” said Scott Sanders, Six Days coordinator, “because we have such diversity in our offerings. Visual art, symphony, dance, jazz, fine crafts, theatre, food and more. And we are spreading events across the day, from mid-morning to evening.” For the first time, Festival organizers are offering hotel and ticket packages.

The Festival initially was centered around the Piedmont Craftsmen’s Fair and a spectacular light show produced by faculty and students at the UNC-School of the Arts School of Design and Production. It has grown, and last year Winston-Salem arts and cultural organizations came together to present more than 160 arts and entertainment activities during the six-day period.

The Arts Council will launch the Festival Tuesday evening, November 15, with a reception in conjunction with Reynolda House Museum of American Art’s opening of the show, “Modern Masters from the Smithsonian.” Other opening day programming will include Fall Dance, a highlight of each school year at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts; a performance by the UNCSA Jazz Ensemble; and shows at SECCA, Associated Artists, MESDA and the Wake Forest University Museum of Anthropology. Salem College again opens its campus to a series of events free to the public.
The crown jewel of the festival - Piedmont Craftsmen’s Fair - begins with gala activities Friday night and then opens to the public Saturday and Sunday, presenting work by premier fine craft artists of the Southeast and numerous workshops and presentation. Norman Coates of UNC-School of the Arts School of Design and Production promises a “different turn” with the Winston-Salem Light Project this year, foreshadowing a presentation in downtown Winston-Salem that combines light and motion.

“In terms of quantity and quality of arts and cultural offerings, Winston-Salem is a pacesetter among cities in North Carolina and across the southeast,” said Sanders. “We invite art lovers from throughout the region to come to Winston-Salem, City of the Arts and Innovation, during Six Days to indulge their senses and discover this fact for themselves. The welcome mat will be out. We are excited about Twin City Stage’s production of the delightful musical Annie, the Winston-Salem symphony’s performance of Bach St. John’s Passion, a new production by the national No Rules Theatre and other offerings throughout the week, including some designed for children. We were serious about creating ‘A Feast for the Senses,’” Sanders said.

Jason Thiel, President of the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership, said the city’s restaurants will be doing their part to please the senses with special offerings and events. Southern culinary icon and author Nathalie Dupree, will be at Breakfast of Course (Mary’s Too!), Wednesday morning, November 16, to demonstrate the art and science of biscuit making and talk about her new book, Southern Biscuits. Willow’s Bistro will wrap up the Festival Sunday night, November 20, with a dinner featuring NASCAR legend Junior Johnson who is now in the food and spirits business.

“Arts, culture and good food go hand in hand,” said Thiel, “and Winston-Salem is becoming a dining destination for the region. This is a chance to showcase our restaurants and demonstrate why Downtown Winston-Salem is such a great place to live and experience. Invite family or friends from out of town to enjoy the true flavor of our community,” he said.
Leadership Winston-Salem has joined forces with well known historians for an anecdotal and visual presentation of the lesser known facts of Downtown Winston-Salem’s history as it pertains to the arts, architecture, development and leadership over the past 125 years.

New this year is an exciting line up through the Festival’s partnership with Ziggy’s - the 27-year-old premier music venue that recently opened its doors in the Arts District after a four-year hiatus. “Nationally acclaimed Moe’s Jam Band will set the standard for other acts throughout the week. Ziggy’s will also host to a three-person art exhibition and possibly a live, body-painting performance” said Sanders. “The Arts District itself plans to please the senses in a series of uncommon events. There are plans for a retro Miami Vice party with theme dress required.

The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County was established in 1949 and was the first locally established arts council in the United States. The Arts Council enriches the quality of life for people in Winston-Salem and neighboring communities by raising funds for the arts, advocating for the arts, sponsoring events in conjunction with other arts organizations, providing educational opportunities, strengthening cultural resources, developing social capital, and aiding economic development. In 2010, The Arts Council awarded more than $1.825 million in grants to 42 arts and cultural organizations and 19 individual artists.

For information about Six Days in November, please visit www.6DaysInNovember.com, www.Intothearts.org, or email 6DaysInNovember@gmail.com.

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UNCSA is a proud participant in *Six Days in November*, presenting the following arts events:

15-19 (Tuesday-Saturday)
**Winston-Salem Light Project**
Witness entire facades of downtown buildings covered with images that will delight, inspire and amaze.
After dark at various downtown locations.
FREE.

15 (Tuesday)
**UNCSA Jazz Ensemble**
The award-winning UNCSA Jazz Ensemble, directed by Ron Rudkin, will perform a program offering an extensive range of big band jazz styles, including traditional swing, Latin, fusion and contemporary. The performance will feature the group’s most talented jazz soloists and highlight different sections of the band.
7:30 p.m. at Thrust Theatre, Performance Place
$15 adults / $13 students and seniors

15-19 (Tuesday-Saturday)
**Fall Dance**
Fall Dance will feature new works by all UNCSA alumni choreographers Trish Casey, Helen Simoneau, Grady Bowman and Juel Lane.
Nov. 15-19 at 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.
de Mille Theatre
$15 adults / $13 students and seniors

17-20 (Thursday-Sunday)
**The Hot L Baltimore by Lanford Wilson**
Directed by Caroline Kava / Featuring members of Studio 3
Off-Broadway’s zany and poignant long-running hit set in the lobby of a decaying hotel as its colorful residents face the prospect of eviction when the building is condemned.
Nov. 17-19 at 8 p.m.
Nov. 19 & 20 at 2 p.m.
Catawba Theatre, Performance Place
$15 adults / $13 students and seniors
17-20 (Thursday-Sunday)

*The Blood Knot* by Athol Fugard

Directed by Robert Francesconi / Featuring members of Studio 4

This 1961 revolutionary breakthrough play established Athol Fugard as one of the world's great living playwrights. Set in apartheid-era South Africa in the 1950s, it is about the soul-searing effects of racism on two half-brothers – one light skinned, the other dark. **A classroom workshop presented by the School of Drama.**

Nov. 17-19 at 8 p.m.
Nov. 19 & 20 at 2 p.m.
Patrons Theatre, Performance Place ***NOTE VENUE CHANGE***

SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: $6

19 (Saturday)

*Cantata Singers Concert*

The Cantata Singers welcomes the Winston-Salem Youth Chorus for a joint concert of choral music.

2 p.m. at Crawford Hall
FREE.