

# Avant Garde Center for the Arts Presents the Annual Artisans Holiday Market in Lancaster, SC - Dec. 2, 2017

The Avant Garde Center for the Arts' annual Artisans Holiday Market will be held Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 2017, from 10am until 4pm. Located indoors at 101 N. Main Street inside the Historic Courthouse, the event offers free admission to a holiday shopper's paradise, with an impressive array of artisans and craftsmen showing and selling wares.

In its fifth year, the event has been named a Top Twenty Event in the Southeast in December by the Southeast Tourism Society. Visitors can expect to find a great selection fine art, folk art, and traditional art from throughout the Southeast. Paintings, sculpture, wearable art, basketry, jewelry, pottery, handcrafted soaps and candles, dolls and toys, woodcraft, and holiday themed gifts will be available for sale throughout the day.

The event is a partnership of Avant Garde Center for the Arts, a non-profit providing arts opportunities to diverse neighborhoods and Olde English District Visitor Center & Artists Market. Sponsors include County of Lancaster, City of Lancaster, and Bob Doster's Backstreet Studio. The artisan market is a featured event of See Lancaster, SC's Christmas in the City and Red Rose Holiday Tour. Visitors to the market will enjoy the history museum located in the same building.



Shoppers at Artisan Market. Photo by David Kellin

If your holiday list has you searching for unique gifts, the Artisans Holiday Market is your one-stop shopping destination. For the fifth year, Avant Garde Center for the Arts will bring together an impressive list of artisans from throughout the Carolinas - all under one roof!

In 2017, the Artisans Holiday Market welcomes back talented "crowd-favorite" artisans alongside new artisans to create a warm, inviting holiday market atmosphere indoors at one of Lancaster's most treasured landmarks - the Historical Courthouse. We are happy to offer this little preview of the myriad of handcrafted items that will delight holiday shoppers.



Soap from Sneedsboro Soap Company

Wearable art is always a popular gift item and the Artisans Holiday Market is always the place to find unique designs for gift-giving. Handcrafted jewelry made with genuine crystals, natural stones, seed beads, Czech glass, and more will delight anyone fortunate enough to unwrap it on Christmas day. Handcrafted hair and fashion accessories, bowties representative of your favorite sports teams, mini messenger bags, and other textile art gifts will be waiting for shoppers to find the perfect accompaniment to holiday



Work by Clay Impressions of Heath Springs fashions.

For those who enjoy being able to use art objects daily, the Artisans Holiday Market welcomes back carefully chosen potters and shoppers will find beautifully-crafted decorative and functional stoneware pottery in all sizes, shapes, and colors.

An artisans market would not be complete without a great selection of "country-living" inspired artworks. With up-cycled windows, doors, and canvasses, shoppers will find artisans whose works are highly sought for their range of color and designs. From friendly farm animals like cows and pigs to popular favorites like palmetto trees, each work of art is extraordinary and one-of-a-kind.

Visitors can expect booths filled to the brim with quilts, handmade pillows, rag dolls, stuffed animals, wearable art, and holiday ornaments.

Returning to the Artisans Holiday Market are talented woodcraftsmen with works that include boxes, trays, coasters, wine racks, end and side tables, chessboards, plant boxes and stands, and wall art. Handcarved walking sticks are always a crowd favorite and shoppers will not be disappointed in this year's selection.

For those on your holiday list who appreciate handcrafted soaps and candles, the Artisans Market will have just what you are looking for, including soy candles made in small batches, with scents inspired by the seasons of the year. Spring and Summer scents are full of florals and tropical fruits, while Fall and Winter scents are all about being snugly and cozy at home. Holiday shoppers will find a great selection of all-natural soy candles, soaps, bath and body products that are eco-friendly.

The location is in the heart of the Red Rose City's Cultural Arts District and free trolley service will be available to take shoppers to holiday open houses, Native American Artists Show & Sale, Winter Block Party, Gingerbread Contest, Santa photos and letters, Carousel and Game Truck, Café's and Food Truck Court, and many other holiday festivities.

For additional information on the Artisans Holiday Market, visit (<https://www.facebook.com/avantgardeartist>), e-mail to ([cmstevens@comporium.net](mailto:cmstevens@comporium.net)), call 803/287-7853, or write to Avant Garde Center for the Arts, P.O. Box 6, Van Wyck, SC 29744. Also check ([www.lancastercitysc.com](http://www.lancastercitysc.com)) for full details on all events taking place during the month of December.

## Editorial Commentary

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that there is another pottery sale going on in Seagrove that same weekend. I'm not sure, no one sent me a press release about it, but if you don't get your fill at Lucks Cannery - which I can't imagine - you might want to ask someone about it. Could there be two big pottery events in the same small town? Don't know, but if it was possible - Seagrove is the kind of small town that could handle that.

Seagrove is an incredibly small town to be the home to so many creative people - some several generations ongoing. And a lot of them are musicians too.

If you have never been there, you need to go sometime and if you like pottery, the Celebration is the time to go. But, you're going to have to book a room in Asheboro, NC, about 12 miles away. But wait till I get my room booked!

## Bob Doster's Backstreet Studio



Fifteenth Annual Holiday Open House  
Saturday, December 2, 2016 10am - 4pm



217 East Gay Street • Lancaster, SC  
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Don't forget about our website:

[www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)



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