



Volunteer with Us!

June 29–July 4 and July 6–9

National Mall

Washington, D.C.

Between 12th and 14th streets

10 AM-6:30 PM (multiple shift options)

6 PM-10 PM (evening shifts)

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival, established in 1967, honors contemporary living cultural traditions and celebrates those who practice and sustain them. Produced annually by the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, the Festival has featured participants from all 50 states and more than 100 countries. This year, the Festival celebrates diverse American cultures through two programs:

Creative Encounters: Living Religions in the U.S. presents a snapshot of the interplay between creativity and spirituality found across the United States through various activities including performances, demonstrations, and cultural dialogue exploring how spiritual and ethical traditions inspire creativity and shape our country.

The Ozarks: Faces and Facets of a Region explores identity and traditions of the Ozarks, which includes portions of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Illinois. The program celebrates regional cultural expressions through music, dance, food, crafts, plant knowledge, and other occupations.

GET INVOLVED: Volunteers play a crucial role in producing the Folklife Festival. They assist stage managers and participants, support audiovisual documentation and sustainability efforts, help facilitate kitchen demonstrations and family activities, and much more. Some volunteers come for a single shift, while others spend the full two weeks with us.

APPLY: <https://festival.si.edu/volunteer>

Volunteers under 18 years old must have parental permission. The Folklife Festival is an excellent opportunity for students who wish to complete community service and service-learning hours for school.

Questions? Contact:

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