



INFO SHEET for the upcoming 2021 **Columbia International Festival**

We're glad you are planning to join us!!

COVID-19 will make some things look a little different, so here are some basic questions/answers for those who plan to participate. Thanks for your flexibility.

Q1: How do **participants** register this year?

- You replied to our email and completed a 5-question questionnaire....
- *OR* You complete an application at cifonline.org¹

If you have received an email calling you a *participant*, then you are registered.

Q2: Do **FOOD VENDORS** need to complete a **new application online**?

A: **YES!** We need a new W-9 and a new menu, so please complete the full application again at cifonline.org

Q3: Where will **food vendors** sell their food? (*Cooking will be under a tent as usual*)

A: Food sales will be inside the **Nutt Arena** (next to the **Cantey Building**), along the walls, between the stage and the building's open front. Each seller will have access to electricity.

(*If you have a DHEC-approved concession trailer, call Michael at 803-567-0189 to discuss options.*)

\$1 Food Tickets will be sold (as usual) near the opening of the Nutt Arena. NO cash can be used to buy food; food sellers cannot sell drinks of any kind. (The Festival will sell drinks.)

The **Nutt Arena** is an "open air" building (no air conditioning), with powerful fans to keep the air fresh. There will be additional seating (100 chairs) under a tent outside the Nutt Arena. We also plan to have a dozen picnic tables in the sunshine.

The Nutt Arena has no restrooms or hand-washing facilities, but sanitizer machines will be available.

Q4: Where will **performers** perform?

A: On a stage in the **Nutt Arena**, in front of a live audience.

We moved the entertainment and food "outdoors" (no air conditioning) because of COVID; in the "outside air" guests can eat without a mask on, while enjoying the entertainment. Without AC, expect a warm stage area (though fans should help).

Q6: Where are the **national exhibits**? (and service organization booths and art contest)

A: Inside the Cantey Building. Masks are required indoors. Each booth will be 10x10 or 10x20 as usual, with 5' between them. All traffic will flow in one direction (Covid safety guideline).

¹ Although the registration deadline is past, some participants still need to register on-line at CiFonline.org.

Q7: Where are the **Bazaar vendors**?

A: You have a choice: (logistics still being worked out)

- outside under the Cantey building overhang (see below; people pass you on the way in)²
- in your own tent, between Cantey and Nutt
- in the Cantey building (with 10x10 booth as usual)

Call or email Michael to let us know your preference (803-567-0189; michael@ifmusa.org)

Q8: What **COVID precautions** will affect **FOOD vendors**?

A: You must wear a mask at all times; bring several so you can change your mask every 3-4 hours. We also encourage you to have your food behind a plastic screen if possible. (You've seen various types of "shields" in almost every store.) If possible, have one or more staff person dishing/handing out food-plates, and a DIFFERENT staff person handling the food tickets (this keeps you from passing illness on from customer to customer).

Q9: Will there be **fashion shows** and a **parade of nations**?

A: Yes! These popular features need your participation!

~MK May18 2021



² these outdoor booths are wider, but not as deep

Cantey Building: (layout may change; this is just here to show the space between booths and one-way traffic flow)

Vendors need not request a specific booth in 2021; we have to be flexible. Thanks for your cooperation.

