



# The North Carolina Seafood Festival

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The North Carolina Seafood Festival Unveils 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemorative Poster**

**MOREHEAD CITY, NC (April 15, 2023)** – The North Carolina Seafood Festival is proud to reveal the 38th Annual Commemorative Poster titled "Done for the Day: A Walk on the Clam Beds" by local artist and teacher, Sarah Davenport. The unveiling took place during a special ceremony at Sanitary Fish Market and Restaurant on April 13th, prior to the annual Bites & Blues event. This unveiling marks another memorable chapter in the festival's history, now celebrating its 38th year.

Sarah Davenport, a seasoned arts educator specializing in acrylic painting, has captured a serene moment from the daily life of her husband, Ryan Davenport, a clam and oyster grower for their family-owned Hoop Hole Oyster Company. The family-operated farm is known for cultivating some of the saltiest oysters in Bogue Sound near Atlantic Beach, NC. The painting depicts a tranquil evening on the clam beds, embodying the hard work and dedication of the local shellfish farmers.

Sarah shares that her inspiration comes from the scenic beauty and the earnest toil of her husband and fellow NC fisherman: "This painting is a tribute to the grit and determination of those who work these waters."

Amber Hughes, 2024 Chairperson of the North Carolina Seafood Festival, commented, "Sarah's painting is not only beautiful, but it captures the spirit of the North Carolina Seafood Festival--celebrating seafood and the people who love it. We are thrilled to have "Done for the Day: A Walk on the Clam Beds" as our 38th Annual Commemorative Poster."

### **About The North Carolina Seafood Festival**

In its 38th year, The North Carolina Seafood Festival is a non-profit organization of Carteret County citizens and businesspeople, in conjunction with the town of Morehead City, N.C.

Recognizing the importance of seafood to eastern North Carolina, The North Carolina Seafood Festival is organized to develop and conduct a festival every year, the first weekend in October, to: promote the positive social and economic impact of the seafood industry on the citizens of North Carolina; educate the public about seafood and its importance to the state economy; publicize the wide variety of local seafood indigenous to North Carolina and provide the opportunity for people to enjoy it; boost tourism and recreation in eastern North Carolina in the non-summer months; establish a scholarship program for educational pursuits related to the seafood industry; and provide the opportunity for North Carolina non-profit, civic, church and educational organizations to raise funds through participation in the festival.

Festival proceeds are shared with community organizations who donate their efforts to the event. Since 1987, over \$2 million has been dispersed among participating Carteret County non-profit groups.

To learn more about The North Carolina Seafood Festival, Inc. and stay updated on the 2024 festival, scheduled for October 4-6 on the Morehead City Waterfront, visit [NCSeafoodFestival.org](http://NCSeafoodFestival.org).

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