



★ ShowFest 2018 ★

Excellence Award Winners

The North Carolina Association of Festivals & Events is proud to announce the 2018 ShowFest Excellence Awards winners. The winners were announced at the ShowFest 2018 convention held at the Charlotte Hilton University Place Hotel on January 29, 2018. The convention was attended by more than 200 festival event planners and professionals. The awards program allows the association to honor and recognize the “best of the best” in the festival and events industry. The 2018 panel of judges included Jeff English of the Kentucky Derby Festival and Dr. Vern Biaett of High Point University. Congratulations to our 2018 winners!

Event of the Year

Wings Over Wayne Airshow
Goldsboro, NC

Director of the Year

Tom Harrison – NC Black Bear Festival
Plymouth, NC

Betsy Rosemann Volunteer of the Year Award

Tammy Kelly – BBQ Festival on the Neuse -
Kinston, NC

Sponsor of the Year

Wilson Medical Center
NC Whirligig Festival
Wilson, NC

Supporting Member of the Year brioLIVE Production & Entertainment
Concord, NC

Rising Star Award Beak Week Poultry Festival
Goldsboro, NC

Green Award North Carolina Seafood Festival
Morehead City, NC

Andy Smith Exhibitor Award - People's choice during conference
Dakota & Friends Dinosaur Road Show
Concord, NC

Best Press Kit Fayetteville Dogwood Spring Festival
Fayetteville, NC

Best Non-Print Media - TV, Radio, Newspaper, Internet or PSA
Barbecue Festival
Lexington, NC

Best Event Photo NC Whirligig Festival
Wilson, NC

Best Sponsorship Packet - includes printed and web based information
North Carolina Seafood Festival
Morehead City, NC

Best Merchandise -student choice
The Barbecue Festival - Stainless Steel Wine Glass
Lexington, NC

Best Event Website Fayetteville Dogwood Spring Festival
Fayetteville, NC

Best Supporting
Member Website brioLIVE Production & Entertainment
Concord, NC

Best Festival Social Media NC Whirligig Festival
Wilson, NC

Each of the following Awards had three winning events/festivals in the categories of (1) small – operating budget under \$50,000, (2) medium- operating budget of \$50,000-\$100,000 and (3) large-operating budget over \$100,000.

Best Merchandise –pins, ornaments, cups, give away items, clothing (excluding t-shirts), etc...

Small: Community Holiday Light Show – Tree Ornament - Danville, VA

Medium: NC Pickle Festival – Christmas Pickle – Mt. Olive, NC

Large: Barbecue Festival – Knit Hat & Scarf - Lexington, NC

Best Brochure – tri-fold, bi-fold, color or black & white

Small: Blue, Brew & Que Festival–Duplin Co. Tourism, Kenansville, NC

Medium: NC Muscadine Festival – Kenansville, NC

Large: Barbecue Festival – Lexington, NC

Best Print Media – printed includes newspaper ad, magazine, billboard, flyers, handouts and additional print items such as programs, invitations, calendars, etc... (excluding brochures)

Small: Community Holiday Light Show – Danville, VA

Medium: North Carolina Pickle Festival – Mt. Olive, NC

Large: BBQ Festival on the Neuse – Kinston, NC

Best Event Poster – promotional or fine arts image

Small: 1st Fridays on the Lawn – Wilson, NC

Medium: North Carolina Blackberry Festival – Lenoir, NC

Large: Barbecue Festival – Lexington, NC

Best T-shirt – includes one or multi-color printed shirts

Small: Blue, Brew & Que Festival–Duplin Co. Tourism, Kenansville, NC

Medium: North Carolina Blueberry Festival - Burgaw, NC

Large: BBQ Festival on the Neuse - Kinston, NC
