



The North Carolina Seafood Festival

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The North Carolina Seafood Festival Unveils 37th Annual Commemorative Poster

MOREHEAD CITY, NC (April 3, 2023) – The North Carolina Seafood Festival unveiled the 37th Annual Commemorative Poster on April 1st at Southern Salt Seafood Company and Waterfront Restaurant. The 37th Annual Commemorative Poster is titled "Heritage" by local artist Brooke Lupton of Salty Girl Designs.

Brooke describes that, "there is a certain calling that is felt when you are a child of the sea. It tugs at your heart and beckons you back to the shores of those who came before. It's a gravitational pull that connects you from your heart to the tide. This painting is a portrait of that connection, the "heritage" that binds those from the past to those in the future.

Pictured before the Cape Lookout Lighthouse, these two channel net boats hold power that is years in the making. Both of these vessels were built by Manly Gaskill, a beloved fisherman from Harkers Island. Manly was a cherished community member, hardworking commercial fisherman, husband, and father who passed away after a tragedy at sea in the winter of 1996. His legacy was celebrated during the first Blessing of the Fleet in October of 1997."

Kirby Sloan, 2023 Chairperson of the North Carolina Seafood Festival, expressed that he is delighted that Ms. Lupton is this year's artist and knowing the personal story behind her painting makes it even more meaningful.

The 37th Annual North Carolina Seafood Festival Commemorative Poster can be purchased online at NCSeafoodFestival.org or at The NC Seafood Festival Office located at 412-D Evans Street, Morehead City, 28557.

About The North Carolina Seafood Festival

In its 37th 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.

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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 \$1.8 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 2023 festival, scheduled for October 6-8 on the Morehead City Waterfront, visit NCSeafoodFestival.org.

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