



Coin Show
A Fun filled, Family Event!
SATURDAY, APRIL 9th - SUNDAY, APRIL 10th
Elks Lodge



Nia Imani Franklin - Queen Azalea



Nia Imani Franklin is a composer, actress, and singer who has had her music performed by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Friction Quartet, and many others. Nia also became the Composer in Residence at Festival Napa Valley in 2021, where she premiered several works and was awarded the Darioush and Shahpar Khalehi Prize for Excellence and Innovation in Classical Music. After concluding her Lincoln Center fellowship in New York City, she earned the jobs of Miss New York 2018 and Miss America 2019. She recently released her EP, "Extended," which featured her RnB songs, and her viral orchestra piece, "Chrystals Extended."

Nia holds a bachelor's degree in Music Composition and Theory from East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, as well as a master's degree in Music Composition from The University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem. In 2019, she founded Composer Her - an initiative that seeks to empower women in music.



Brooke Eagle - Festival Artist

McKinley Lanier - Princess



McKinley Lanier, a junior from E.A. Laney High School, was crowned the 2022 North Carolina Azalea Festival Princess during the 74th Annual North Carolina Azalea Festival Scholarship Pageant on Saturday, March 5th. The event was held at Kenan Auditorium on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. McKinley is the daughter of Rodney and Glynis Lanier. She and her court were selected from among 12 contestants representing 5 area high schools. The court members include the following: 1st Runner-Up from E.A. Laney High School, Devon Jones, 2nd Runner-Up from Ashley High School, Ruby Moulton, 3rd Runner-Up from Wilmington Early College, Kaleigh Pedersen, and 4th Runner-Up from John T. Hoggard High School, Maia Cankarran.

At Laney, McKinley is involved in the Beta Club and the dance team. She is also in the dual-enrollment program at Cape Fear Community College. She is a competitive dancer, member of the Azalea Festival Youth Committee and a state volunteer for the Cue Center for Missing Person's Safe and Found program. After graduation, she plans to go to college to pursue a degree in Political Science and later attend law school.

This year, Junior and Senior girls from area high schools competed for the title based on a private interview with judges, evening gown competition and on-stage presentation. The Princess is the recipient of the Beverly Anne Jurgensen Scholarship Award, named after the beloved Past President of the NC Azalea Festival. She will also have the option of a professional teeth whitening service, compliments of Dr. Sarah Pless at Renaissance Dental Studio.



Claire Curzan - Olympic Silver Medalist

Carli Batson - Miss North Carolina 2021



Anne Hawthorne - 2020 Queen Azalea

The Queen's Court and Cadet Escorts



Hannah Harvey
Miss Emerald Ridge

Carolyn Martin
Miss Metrolina



Emily Muse
Miss Moore County

Julia DeSeno
Miss Sandhills



Ethan Hogan

Grady Beasley



John Delaney

Julian Ruffin



Taylor Stovall
Miss Goldsboro

Karie Grace Shields
Miss Queen City



Lauryn Mallard
Miss Randolph County

Sarah Beth Howard
Miss Zebulon



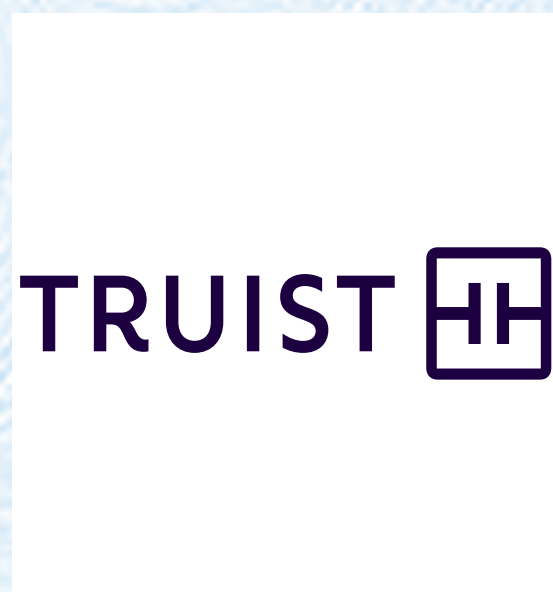
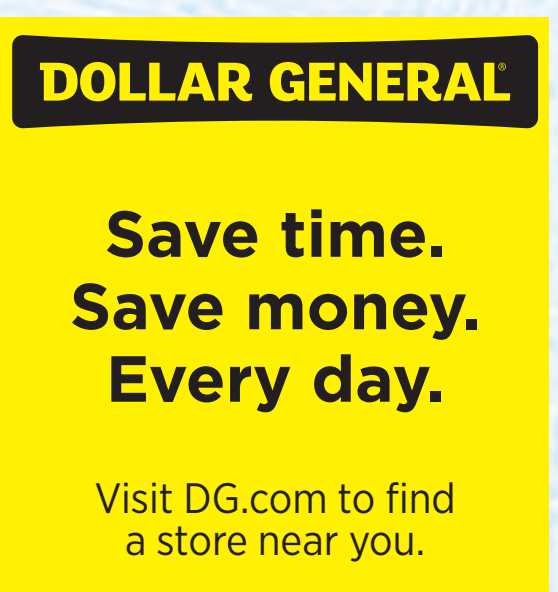
Rhett Rezendes

Sean Vonberhaar



Max Burke

Noah Kirk



Colorful Parades, bustling Street Fairs, charming Home and Garden Tours. Spectacular Fireworks, nationally-known entertainment, and the majestic coronation of a Festival Queen and Princess. These are the makings of the annual North Carolina Azalea Festival in Wilmington, North Carolina. But above all the pomp and pageantry, Mother Nature truly reigns. After all, her stunning beauty was the inspiration for it all.

The Azalea Festival's roots go back to 1934 with Dr. Houston Moore who had the vision of transforming un-kept, swampy Greenfield Lake into a beautiful landscaped park. He enlisted the support of a coalition of local clubs, headed by the Wilmington Rotary Club, to bring the vision to life. It took nearly ten years of financial ups and down before the park finally blossomed, but once it did, its splendor inspired Dr. Moore to conceive the idea of a Festival to be held annually 'when the flowers burst into bloom'. The first North Carolina Azalea Festival was held in 1948 and despite modest projections, drew over 60,000 spectators - including one at least as far away as Hollywood: movie queen Jacqueline White, who was named the first Queen Azalea. The following is a letter written by Mr. Hugh Morton, first Azalea Festival President in 1948, in response to a request for information about the Festival beginnings:

Dr. W. Houston Moore, M.D., a wonderful old gentleman who lived in the 1800 block of Market Street, had been active through the Rotary Club in beautifying Greenfield Park with azaleas, dogwoods, and other flowering plants. In 1947 he decided to invite all of the leading civic clubs in Wilmington to send a representative to a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce in its building behind City Hall to discuss the feasibility of holding an Azalea Festival that would celebrate the beauty of Greenfield, Orton, Airle and other gardens around town. I was sent by the Wilmington Jaycees as their representative to that first meeting.

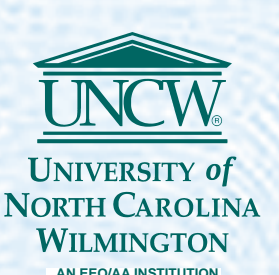
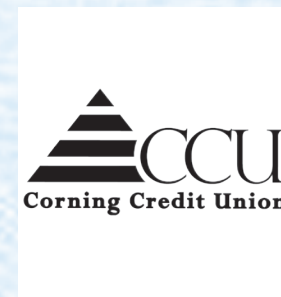
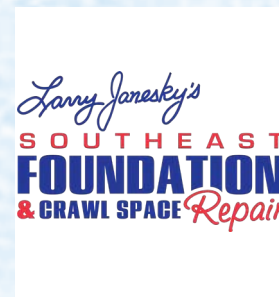
There are probably minutes somewhere that list all of those who attended that first gathering. I can recall Henry Rehder, Wallace Murchison, Kenneth Sprunt, Star-News Editor John Hope and Paul T. Marshburn as being among ones who were particularly supportive of Dr. Moore's idea. I had a business trip that caused me to miss the second meeting of the somewhat informal Committee, but upon returning to town I was advised that I had been elected selected President of the first Azalea Festival. I did my level best to talk my way out of that, but Dr. Moore was a persuasive and determined guy, and there were promises of support from all around the room from others on the Committee. When the first Azalea Festival took place in April 1948 the gardens were at peak beauty, the weather was perfect, and the Festival cleared \$5,000, a profit we knew we had to have or we would never see the second Festival. Our first, and absolutely ideal Queen was Jacqueline White of RKO Radio Pictures. The top other celebrities were Ted Malone, who originated his coast-to-coast ABC Radio Network program from a platform in front of the Community Center on Second Street, and N.C. Governor R. Gregg Cherry, who crowned the Queen at Lumina Ballroom on Wrightsville Beach. The community was saddened when Dr. Moore died during the summer following the 1948 Festival, but the whole town was pleased to believe he died happy that the first Azalea Festival was a rousing success.

Best regards,
Hugh Morton



DOLLAR GENERAL





DGX STREET FAIR
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday April 8-10, 2022
Cape Fear Community College Schwartz Center Parking Lot

Friday, April 8 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Saturday, April 9 10:00 am - 10:00 pm Sunday, April 10 10:00am - 6:00 pm

Featuring Carolina Hurricanes, Flow Automotive, Home Paramount Pest Control, Trillium & Matthews Motors Truck & Accessory Center

The 75th Street Fair will be April 8-10, 2022 and is presented by DGX.

The Street Fair provides an array of shopping and food opportunities with over 250 Vendors along the streets of historic downtown. The Waterfront Street Fair will also feature plenty of entertainment with special areas such as the Children's Area and the Piedmont Natural Gas Performing Arts Stage featuring multicultural and children's performances!

Matthews Motors Truck and Accessory Center
Located in the heart of the Street Fair is the Matthews Motors Truck and Accessory Center Lounge where you can find shade under the tent, seating, and see local talent. You can also find information and some Festival Merchandise.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
April 8-17, 2022
Fri & Sat at 7:30pm
Sun matinee at 2:00pm
MAIN STAGE THALIAN HALL

Tickets are \$32 with senior discounts available
Call the Box Office at 910-632-2285
or Buy Online at thalian.org

Don't miss the special preview of Little Shop of Horrors during the Azalea Festival Parade in front of the Parade Reviewing Stand at Thalian Hall!

PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS PERFORMING ARTS STAGE
SATURDAY, APRIL 9th - SUNDAY, APRIL 10th
Cape Fear Community College Schwartz Center Parking Lot

The Piedmont Natural Gas Performing Arts Stage is located at the DGX Street Fair next to the Children's Area and features multicultural performances as well as children's performances. This is a FREE, family-friendly showcase of different styles of performances. You will marvel at the authentic costumes, dance, and music from some of the regions best ethnic performing groups and bands. You will enjoy the styles of many children's performers, and more.

NORTH CAROLINA AZALEA FESTIVAL PARADE
SATURDAY, APRIL 9th 9:30 am (PRE-PARADE ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 9:15 am)
ALONG 3RD STREET FROM MARKET TO BLADEN ST. **B C D**

Bleacher tickets are available for purchase at the North Carolina Azalea Festival Ticket Office / Day of tickets located on 3rd and Chestnut
Supported by: UNCW, WILMINGTON EYE, FLOW AUTOMOTIVE, US CELLULAR, TIDAL WELLNESS, ACADEMY SPORTS, TINGA NURSERY, DO ME A FAVOR WEDDINGS, CHICKEN SALAD CHICK, & WILMINGTON AIRPORT
VIEW LIVE ON GTV8 (CHANNEL 8 ON SPECTRUM)

PARKING
Access and Street parking decks via Princess Street until 9:00 am. ADA parking on corner of Chestnut Street and 3rd Street, accessible via Chestnut St until 9:00am

SHUTTLE
Azalea Shuttle provided by Wave Transit will be running from Independence Mall (near Dillard's entrance) to the Parade every 15 minutes from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. Fares are \$2 per way (\$4 Round trip). Children under 5 are free. The last shuttle from downtown will leave at 1:45 pm. Cash Only.

RESTROOMS
Restrooms are located along 3rd Street. Handicap Restrooms can be found near the Handicap (ADA) parking.

Tunes & Blooms
Greenfield Lake
NORTH CAROLINA AZALEA FESTIVAL
Saturday, April 9 2022
DOORS OPEN AT 12PM

The Tunes & Blooms Music Festival is the place to catch great music all day. Entry is FREE. Beverages are available for purchase and outdoor games are on site. Listen to your favorite local and regional musicians playing a variety of rock, blues, and folk.

Wilmington Grill

NCAF CONCERT SERIES
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY APRIL 7-9, 2022
LIVE OAK BANK PAVILION 10 COWAN ST

BRANTLEY GILBERT
THURSDAY, APRIL 7 / 7:00 pm
\$48 Lawn / \$68 Reserved Seats
\$88 Orchestra Pit

REO SPEEDWAGON
FRIDAY, APRIL 8 / 7:00 pm
\$39 Lawn / \$59 Reserved Seats
\$79 Orchestra Pit

CYPRESS HILL
with BIG DADDY KANE
SATURDAY, APRIL 9 / 7:00 pm
\$42 Lawn / \$62 Reserved Seats
\$82 Orchestra Pit

PORT CITY DUCK DASH
Join the Race to Make Hope Float
Sunday, April 10th
10,000 rubber ducks racing down the Cape Fear River!
PortCityDuckDash.com
Proceeds benefit Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity

BOXING
FREE EVENT
Saturday, April 9- Sunday, April 10
WILMINGTON CONVENTION CENTER
10 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE

AZALEA SUITE
WITH COMPOSER STEVEN ERRANTE AND THE WILMINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Saturday, May 7 7:30 pm
WILSON CENTER AT CAPE FEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE
use code AzaleaFest for discount

QUEEN'S CORONATION CELEBRATION CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 / 7:00 pm / LIVE OAK BANK PAVILION TO COWAN ST
\$5 LAWN / \$10 RESERVED SEATING

We welcome you to join Festival Invited Guests, City and County Officials, and Board Members in this annual event. Be a part of the traditions as Queen Azalea is officially crowned the North Carolina Azalea Festival Queen! With musical performances by:

GIRL NAMED TOM BIGG B EAST COAST COMMUNITY CHOIR

FIREWORKS
Saturday April 9 9:00 pm

CAPE FEAR GARDEN CLUB AZALEA GARDEN TOUR
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY
APRIL 8-10, 2022
10:00am - 5:00pm
TICKETS \$35
"WHERE FLOWERS BLOOM, SO DOES HOPE"

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
APRIL 8, 2022 9:30am

HISTORIC WILMINGTON HOME TOUR
APRIL 9-10, 2022
10:00am - 5:00pm
TICKETS \$40

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
APRIL 9, 2022 12:30pm
1709 PRINCESS STREET

