

## **Children's Activities at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Franklin Area Folk Festival, "A Celebration of Appalachian Heritage" – August 18, 2018**

Where might you want to take your children for a full day of FREE activities on Saturday, August 18th? The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Franklin Area Folk Festival promises to actively engage kids young and old alike. All ages are invited to come join in the fun at this "Celebration of Appalachian Heritage!" being held at Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center from 10 am until 4 pm.

The Festival partners with many organizations to provide kid-friendly events and heritage games. When you arrive, make sure you get a program that includes a list of children's activities. And, be sure to stop by the Blacksmith's tent (Calerin Forge) to pick up a scavenger hunt form. Not only will kids be encouraged to visit several stations to learn about heritage skills, they will also receive a prize when completing the hunt and returning their paper to the blacksmith.

At the end of the day, your children may be able to tell you if they won in a game of tug-of-war, played with a yo-yo, witnessed the Civil War Encampment or learned to identify paw prints of animals that people depended on long ago. They may have made a quilt item at the Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild "Make It/Take It" station. Or they may have learned about our NC State Dog – the Plott Hound by reading the display on loan from the Mountain Heritage Center.

Make sure your children visit the Cowee Pottery School and 'Play with Clay', try their hand at weaving on a loom, pet a live sheep while learning about the farm to fiber process, milk the FFA wooden milk cow or witness honey bees in action! The Border Collies' demonstration is always a special treat and Grandpa's Woodshop will offer opportunities to use primitive tools to make a project.

The Toy Museum will bring out the 'kid' in all of us. Stop in and visit while exploring the many other heritage activities inside the old school. Before the day is over, meander around to the back porch (behind the school) where kids can experiment playing on the dulcimer or banjo and enjoy a perfect photo spot complete with props.

The Franklin Area Folk Festival strives to provide a glimpse into the past by re-creating the everyday skills, crafts and music of our ancestors. Finish off the day listening to sounds of music wafting from every direction while you enjoy yummy food and desserts!

Come learn about the culture and folkways of our Southern Appalachian Mountains by engaging in one of the many living history experiences, a trademark of the Franklin Area Folk

Festival, *“A Celebration of Appalachian Heritage.”* This FREE event is co-sponsored annually by the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County and the Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center with support from Cowee Community Development Organization, Rickman Store, Macon County Historical Museum, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, Blue Ridge Heritage Music Trail/SEBA, the Arts Council of Macon County and others. The festival is made possible by a grant from the Franklin/Nantahala Tourism Development Committee and the Tourism Development Authority of the Town of Franklin along with funding from local businesses and individuals. For more information visit: [FranklinFolkFestival.com](http://FranklinFolkFestival.com) or call (828) 524-6564.



