



presents

Howard County Crafts Spectacular

at

Howard County Fairgrounds
West Friendship, MD

November 3-4-5, 2023

Friday - 9am-5pm Saturday – 9am-5pm Sunday – 9am-4pm

We invite you to be a part of this year's Howard County Crafts Spectacular. A craft show has been in existence at this locality for nearly 40 years and A to Z Crafts became the promoter of this craft show in 2007. Since that time, we have been working diligently to improve this event. Below are a few things that we have done over the past 16 years.

- ▶ Eliminated buy-sell vendors and do not accept direct sales or commercial vendors
- ▶ Increased customer attendance
- ▶ Increased number of exhibitors (over 270 spaces in '17 & '18, 290 in 2019, 300 in 2021, and 360 in 2022)
- ▶ Expanded to use Barn #4 in 2010, expanded to Barn #5 beginning in 2013, expanded to Barn #6 in 2016
- ▶ No price increases in the first 12 years
- ▶ Increased space size in Barns by 20% with no change in price
- ▶ Added 8 'corner' spaces in the Main Building
- ▶ Increased advertising each year (full list of advertising provided to every crafter)
- ▶ Offered Free Admission or Discounted Friday coupon in local newspaper each year since 2009
- ▶ Increased reminder postcards to previous customers to 3,000 in each of the past eleven years
- ▶ Began offering admission discount on the 3,000 postcards in 2011
- ▶ Added new signs on local roadways during the show weekend and new flags at fairgrounds entrance
- ▶ Added new holiday decorations each year
- ▶ Offered set-up on Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and beginning Friday morning at 7:00 a.m.
- ▶ Continued to have 2 Magic Shows on both Saturday and Sunday
- ▶ Continued to offer courtesy rides taking customers and their packages back to the parking lot
- ▶ Listed confirmed exhibitors and their craft on our website – www.atozcrafts.net
- ▶ Distributed over 6,000 brochures at other craft shows throughout the fall listing confirmed exhibitors and their craft
- ▶ Added gift-wrapping and package check service in 2012
- ▶ Created Facebook page – Please Like us – www.facebook.com/howardcountycraftsspectacular

Along with these things, we are continually exploring other ideas to improve this show for both the crafter and the customer. We hope that you can participate with us this year.

Your cancelled check is your receipt. Checks are deposited as they are received (at least every two weeks). The only way to secure a space is through the mail at A to Z Crafts, PO Box 342, Thurmont, MD 21788. We do not accept any credit card payments or any type of crypto/virtual payments. All participants will receive all pertinent information one month prior to the show. Any rejected applications will be returned with a full refund. This show will be advertised extensively in all area news media. A brochure will also be produced listing confirmed exhibitors which will be distributed throughout the fall. So getting your application in early will guarantee that you are listed in this brochure and will help to attract more customers.

Returning crafters have until March 31 to submit their application and request their same space. Applications will continue to be accepted on a space-available basis through October. The Main Building usually sells out first.

The fairgrounds are conveniently located at 2210 Fairgrounds Road in West Friendship, MD, just off Interstate 70 at exit 80 (Route 32) and there are signs to the fairgrounds from Route 32. The grounds are very visible from Interstate 70, which is a main corridor to the Baltimore-Washington areas, so we draw a very good clientele to the show.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mark Zienda at 301-271-4432 or email: info@atozcrafts.net.

HOWARD COUNTY CRAFTS SPECTACULAR

NOVEMBER 3-4-5, 2023

Friday - 9am-5pm Saturday – 9am-5pm Sunday – 9am-4pm

*** PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ***

- ▶ COMPLETED APPLICATION SIGNED BY ALL APPLICANTS
- ▶ CHECK OR MONEY ORDER WITH **PAYMENT IN FULL**, MADE PAYABLE TO “**A TO Z CRAFTS**”
- ▶ ONE **6X9** SELF-ADRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH **THREE 1ST CLASS STAMPS**
- ▶ AT LEAST 3 PHOTOS OF YOUR CRAFTS, PLEASE BE SURE THAT THE PHOTOS INCLUDE EVERYTHING THAT YOU PLAN TO SELL

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE NOT SUBMITTED, YOU WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS SHOW.

EXHIBITOR(S) _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS/WEB-SITE _____ MD SALES TAX # _____

MARK # OF SPACES IN APPROPRIATE BOXES CHECK BOXES AS NEEDED & CALCULATE TOTAL	SPACE	ELECTRIC (PER BOOTH)	CORNER	WALL	CAMPING (PER DAY)	TOTAL DUE
MAIN BUILDING	12 X 12* <input type="checkbox"/> \$325	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Additional	<input type="checkbox"/> NO CHARGE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	
MAIN BUILDING – NEW ADDITION	12 X 12* <input type="checkbox"/> \$325	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Additional	<input type="checkbox"/> NO CHARGE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	
BUILDING 1	10 X 10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$300	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	N/A	ALL	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	
BARN / SHOW RING PAVILION	12 X 10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$225	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	
OUTSIDE – YOUR TENT/CANOPY	10 X 10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$215	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	

* PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE PERMANENT CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN BUILDING, WALL SPACES MAY BE SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN 12 X 12 DUE TO PROTRUDING SUPPORT BEAMS. IF YOU ABSOLUTELY NEED THE FULL 12 X 12 SPACE, PLEASE DO NOT SELECT A WALL SPACE AND YOU WILL BE PLACED IN THE CENTER AISLE.

* SPACE AND A HALF IS AVAILABLE IN ALL LOCATIONS FOR 1.5X SPACE PRICE

DO YOU HAVE A BACK DROP (to separate your booth from the booth behind you)? YES _____ NO _____

ARE YOU DOING ANY OTHER SHOWS BEFORE NOVEMBER? WOULD YOU DISTRIBUTE SOME FLYERS? _____

IF YOU USE AN EZ-UP CANOPY FOR INDOOR SHOWS, THE CANOPY TOP CANNOT BE USED IN THE MAIN BUILDING.

DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS FOR SALE – PLEASE LIST EVERYTHING YOU PLAN TO SELL! ONLY ITEMS HANDCRAFTED BY THE PARTICIPATING INDIVIDUAL WILL BE ACCEPTED

I (WE) CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE ITEMS TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE HAVE BEEN HANDCRAFTED BY ME (US), AND I(WE) UNDERSTAND THAT IF ANY OTHER ITEMS ARE ON MY DISPLAY, I(WE) MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE SHOW. I(WE), THE APPLICANT(S), HAVE READ THE ‘SHOW RULES’ ENCLOSED WITH THE APPLICATION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY SAID RULES. I(WE) THE APPLICANT(S) DO EXPRESSIVELY RELEASE THE PROMOTERS AND STAFF (A TO Z CRAFTS) AND THE OWNERS OF ALL OF THE EXHIBIT BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FROM ALL LIABILITY FOR INJURY, DAMAGE OR LOSS TO PERSONS OR PROPERTY OF THE EXHIBITOR, AND WILL NOT HOLD SAID PARTIES LIABLE FOR REFUNDS WHATSOEVER FOR FAILURE TO FULFILL THE CONTRACT, BEING DESTROYED BY FIRE OR OTHER CALAMITY, ACT OF GOD, STATUTES, ORDINANCES OR LEGAL AUTHORITY OR ANY CASE BEYOND ITS CONTROL WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENTS SPONSORED BY A TO Z CRAFTS, AND HEREBY AGREE TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF ALL REQUESTED RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SHOW SET FORTH IN THE APPLICATION AND ENTRY RULES.

SIGNATURE(S) _____

MAIL CHECK TO: A TO Z CRAFTS, P.O. BOX 342, THURMONT, MD 21788

www.atozcrafts.net

A to Z Crafts
P.O. Box 342
Thurmont, MD 21788
301-271-4432 www.atozcrafts.net info@atozcrafts.net

This show is ONE WEEKEND ONLY. Show hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fri. & Sat, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sun. Time for set-up will be provided from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday and beginning at 7 a.m. Friday morning.

Please be sure to read and understand all of the rules and regulations, as they will be enforced.

You must submit a completed application, accompanied by all necessary information and your full payment. If this is not done, your application will not be accepted.

CRAFT SHOW ELIGIBILITY

This is a quality show and is open to all artists and craftspeople. Every applicant is required to submit at least 3 photos representative of his/her work. Please be sure the photos are representative of all the crafts you plan to sell. You must include a 6x9 SASE for return of photos and all other pertinent information relating to your space at the show. **NO IMPORTED, BUY_SELL ITEMS, OR KIT CRAFTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Sponsors or commercial vendors distributing literature will not be accepted. The promoter has the right to exclude any exhibitor either before or after acceptance and may require any exhibitor remove any unacceptable items.

BOOTHS

Booth sizes and fees are listed on the application. Wall and corner spaces in the Main Building will be honored on a first come-first serve basis. If your request cannot be honored, we will do our best to accommodate you. One and half spaces are available in the Main Building and Barns for 1.5 x space fee. **BACK DROPS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.** A back drop is something at the back of your booth to separate you from an exhibitor who may be behind you (only critical in the back-to-back center aisle of the Main Building). You may use lattice, shutters, painted pegboard, curtains, etc. Please make your booth presentable from all sides. Sheets, curtains, etc. may be used on the back if necessary. Any canopy shall have a label affixed stating that it complies with NFPA 701 or other testing standard approved by the Office of the Fire Marshall. Booths **MUST** stay behind the **YELLOW** line in Main Building and within **RED** Fire lines.

ELECTRICITY

Available in all buildings and barns. Must be requested. For multiple booths, electric must be paid for each booth, unless electric in one booth is just for a cash register. Minimum 16 gauge, grounded cords should be used and multi-strip/multi-plug or extension cords should not be chained together to form a longer service.

REFUND POLICY

A completed application is your commitment to this show. Once your application is received, we begin advertising your participation. **NO REFUND WILL BE MADE AFTER YOUR APPLICATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED.**

ADVERTISING

We will advertise extensively in area newspapers, magazines, radio, flyers, Internet, direct mail, etc. Signs will be posted in the general area of the show where allowed by local ordinances.

SECURITY

Security will be provided overnight. The buildings are locked and secured, but the promoter is not responsible in any way for lost, damaged, or stolen items. You accept full responsibility for anything that you leave overnight.

LODGING

Area hotels – In Columbia, MD – Residence Inn 410-997-7200, Homewood Suites 410-872-9200. In Frederick, MD – Hampton Inn 301-696-1565, Sleep Inn 301-668-2003, Holiday Inn 301-694-7500, Motel 6 301-662-5141.

CAMPING

Campers/motorhomes may park on the fair grounds. Fee for this is \$30 per night. No facilities are guaranteed. Electricity/water is available on a first come basis. There are no sewage facilities available on the grounds.

Please see reverse side for Show Rules.

SHOW RULES

1. We do not offer exclusives. We also do not accept direct sales or commercial vendors or sponsors.
2. Buy-sell, imported, or kit crafts are unacceptable. Do not bring them to this show. Items must be re-worked with the expert talent of the craftsperson to alter the product so that it is not sold as purchased.
3. Participation all three days is required. All booths must be open and staffed during all hours of the show.
4. Discount, close-out, or sale signs are not permitted.
5. No booth may be dismantled before closing time. If that occurs, the exhibitor will not participate in any future shows with this promoter.
6. You must remain within your assigned space. This includes the placement of any signage anywhere else on the grounds. Designated aisles must remain clear at all times, due to local fire marshal regulations (no sandwich boards may be placed in aisles. You may not interfere with your neighbor in any way.
7. No exhibitor may sell his assigned space to anyone else and No changing of assigned spaces is permitted.
8. Nothing may be nailed, stapled, or otherwise attached to the walls, floors, or any other parts of the exhibition areas. **NO HEATERS ARE ALLOWED.**
9. Tables should be skirted or covered to the floor on all exposed sides with professional looking covers.
10. Set-Up – Exhibitors may drive up to buildings or barns, but NOT into them. You must unload your things and move your vehicle to the parking area before setting up your display. **THIS WILL BE ENFORCED.** You may not park your vehicle next to any building for the weekend. There are designated exhibitor parking areas. All vehicles must be in the designated areas ½ hour prior to show time. The show will not open until all vehicles are properly parked.
11. Break-Down – Booths must be fully dismantled and packed prior to your vehicle entering the loading area.
12. You are responsible for cleaning up your own booth. Please put all trash in the trash containers provided.
13. If you desire insurance, you must obtain it at your own cost.
14. All exhibitors must be present one hour prior to the show time on opening day, or the promoter has the right to re-assign your space. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.**
15. The promoter will be on the show site from set-up day until the end of the show.
16. If you fail to notify the promoter in advance of any cancellation, as well as failure to comply with all rules of the show, you will not participate in any future shows with this promoter.
17. Back drops are strongly recommended. This is most important in the center aisle of the main building to separate your booth from the booth behind you.
18. Tents/Canopies - shall have a label affixed stating that it complies with NFPA 701 or other testing standard approved by the Office of the Fire Marshall.
19. Booths **MUST** stay behind the **YELLOW** line in Main Building and within **RED** Fire lines.
20. Smoking is strictly prohibited in all buildings and barns.
21. Open flames are strictly prohibited in all buildings and barns. **THIS INCLUDES CANDLES.**
22. If you do not have a MD sales tax #, a temporary number will be mailed to you. The promoter will submit the names and addresses of anyone who does not indicate they have one to the State of MD. MD sales tax is 6% Collect 6% sales tax and you will receive a form in the mail from the State of MD to submit it.
23. There is a \$35 fee for all returned checks.