

January 29, 2010

Dear Educator:

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite your **3rd through 5th Grade classes** to attend the **41st Annual Appalachian Festival** on **Friday, May 7, 2010** at **Coney Island**. Our three-day Festival is the largest Appalachian cultural event held outside of the Appalachian Mountain Region, bringing together mountain music, dance, arts, crafts, storytelling, food and family fun!

The Appalachian Festival is sponsored by The Appalachian Community Development Association (The A.C.D.A.), a volunteer non-profit organization devoted to the nurturing and development of Appalachian Culture in the Greater Cincinnati Area. Proceeds from the Festival are used by The A.C.D.A. to fund Grants to individual artists and organizations within our community.

As always, Friday, May 8th has been designated "Education Day" and we are planning many exciting events for the children. We'll have interactive performance workshops, free crafts for the students to make, appropriate crafts for the children to purchase (\$1 and up), Native American Dance Reinactors, Living History Village area and a petting zoo.

As the month of May has been designated **Appalachian Month** by the City of Cincinnati, you may encourage your class to prepare for the Festival and learn about Appalachian Culture by listening to readings of Appalachian Folk Tales, studying geography and history of the region, etc.

Please consider creating a project to display of your class' Appalachian Culture studies, artwork, stories, etc. at the Appalachian Festival!

Admission for the students is \$2.00 per student (no charge for teachers, chaperones or drivers). We do NOT offer bus services. Do not send your money or P.O.'s now, as it will be collected at the gate upon your arrival. Bus arrivals at Coney Island should be scheduled between **9:00 – 9:30 a.m.** All groups should ENTER THE WEST PARKING LOT AND THEN PROCEED TO THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE (the entrance closest to the Ohio River). Departure times are up to the discretion of the school but should be no later than 2:00 p.m. Please keep in mind that there should be at least 1 chaperone for every 5 students attending. **EACH CHILD MUST WEAR A NAME BADGE INDICATING THEIR NAME AND THEIR SCHOOLS' NAME.**

**Fax reservations to 513-251-3377
by Friday, March 19, 2010
Reservations are confirmed by email.**

Additional Appalachian Festival information available on website at www.appalachianfestival.org

Sincerely,

Allison M. Raisor
Appalachian Festival Coordinator

Rules/Suggestions
41st Annual Appalachian Festival
Education Day
May 7, 2010

1. **Student Admission is only \$2.00!**
NEW! 3rd through 5th Grade Students are Invited! There's no charge for teachers, chaperones or drivers who enter the SCHOOL ENTRANCE. **Place student's admission fees in a sealed envelope with:**
 - a. SCHOOL NAME
 - b. TEACHER'S NAME & PHONE # and
 - c. the # of students attending written legibly on the outside of the envelope.The envelope should be given to the Appalachian Festival volunteer greeting the buses.
2. There must be at least 1 chaperone for every 5 children. Please advise your chaperones to stay with their group – AT ALL TIMES.
3. **We recommend that students pack a brown-bag lunch with a drink in an unbreakable container.** Coolers are permitted and picnic tables are available in the picnic areas. Food and drinks will also be available for purchase on the Festival grounds. Groups are responsible for keeping the picnic area clean.
4. Please observe the **arrival/departure time (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)**.
5. There's an instructed craft area where the students may construct Appalachian crafts at no charge. There's a limit of 2 crafts per student.
6. There are many items appropriate for children to purchase for \$1 and up, throughout the Festival. You may want to focus your group on attending demonstrations, performances, the Living History Areas and the other workshops before arriving.
7. **EACH CHILD MUST WEAR A NAME BADGE INDICATING THEIR NAME AND THEIR SCHOOLS' NAME.** We recommend that each class design and color a badge with an Appalachian Mountain theme to help chaperones and volunteers with identification.
8. We encourage your class to prepare for the Festival by reading Appalachian Folk Tales and Stories, studying the geography and history of the region, and formulating questions for the musicians, storytellers and crafters. We will send a packet of material in mid-April to assist you in getting ready for the Festival. **Please visit our Website www.appalachianfestival.org for additional Appalachian Festival information, as it will be updated as information becomes available.**
9. This is an outdoor Festival along the Ohio River at Coney Island. Please be prepared for inclement weather conditions. **There's no rain date!**

Enjoy the day!



Display your Class Project At the 41st Annual Appalachian Festival!

In preparation for the Appalachian Festival's Education Day, we hope your students will be studying Appalachian Culture in your classroom. We'd like to promote your special efforts by displaying class projects at the Festival. **Your class is invited to design a project about any aspect of Appalachian Culture and to create a display illustrating your project.**

Some examples are:

- ❖ Read several Appalachian Folk Tales and then have students write their own stories. Share the student's tales at the Festival, or develop a play based on one of the folk tales and perform it for other classes. Display photographs of your production.
- ❖ Study the historical importance of coal mining in the Appalachian Mountain Region and how modern day changes have affected people there. Display your research in written reports, photographs, graphs and/or maps.
- ❖ Learn about the art of making quilts and how this tradition was important in the mountains. Have your class design and create a quilt together.

There will be a special area reserved for project displays. **Displays can be setup on Friday morning when you arrive.** We invite you to leave the display the rest of the weekend so that all of the other guests attending the Festival can view these unique projects. **Each class will be responsible for picking up own their projects on Sunday, May 9th by 5:00 p.m.** All participating classes receive a certificate of excellence as special recognition for their projects.

Name of School-Organization: _____

Title of Project: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Teacher/Contact: _____

School Phone (____) _____-_____ School Fax (____) _____-_____

Cell Phone (____) _____-_____ Email: _____(Please Print)

Type of Display/Approximate Size:

Brief Project Description:

Is your class interested in being featured for a media/press story about the Appalachian Festival?

Yes / No

If so, what dates/times do you anticipate your class will be working on the project and available for a photo?

Fax by March 19th to 513-251-3377

