



## For Immediate Release

With concern for the safety and health of the Oxford and Lafayette County community, as well as art vendors, musicians, fans and staff, the Double Decker Arts Festival will not occur on August 14 and 15, as previously announced. In what would have been the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival, organizers have made the difficult decision to celebrate in 2021.

This conclusion was made after careful deliberation, discussion and taking input from healthcare professionals, emergency management and city leadership with regards to the spread of COVID-19 and ways to safely conduct the festival within the CDC guidelines. It took something as historic and colossal as the novel coronavirus to interrupt the 25-year tradition of the Double Decker Arts Festival, but organizers felt the most obvious decision was to postpone the celebration when festival goers can safely gather and celebrate as in years past.

Knowing that this postponement will impact not only the musicians and vendors who have committed to the dates, but to the local small businesses who must prepare for the large crowd that Double Decker attracts, festival organizers wanted to let the community know of the decision as soon as possible.

The Oxford Tourism Council, Visit Oxford, the City of Oxford, the Oxford-Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council are all committed to creating smaller events and attractions throughout the fall and holiday season to encourage everyone to come enjoy Oxford, safely. Organizers thank everyone for their patience as they have considered and contemplated all of the matters necessary in making this very difficult decision.

The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Double Decker Arts Festival will resume in Spring 2021. Along with the art and music festival, the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Double Decker Spring Run will also be postponed until Spring 2021, which had previously been rescheduled to the August dates.

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