



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **First Fridays Gets Patriotic for July 2<sup>nd</sup> Event**

Florence – The July 2<sup>nd</sup> First Fridays event will be showing a little more red, white and blue in honor of Independence Day. The event is sponsoring “The Art of Patriotism”, a patriotic art and crafts contest held during the event. The contest will include more than 80 scheduled exhibitors who enter art and craft items with a particularly patriotic theme.

The contest will be juried by representatives of the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Department, the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts and UNA’s Chair of Art. The top three winners will be announced at the Bentley Chevrolet Music Stage at 7 p.m., where prize packages worth as much as \$120 will be awarded.



First Fridays Facebook Fans will also be included in a similar contest dubbed “Are You Our Most Patriotic Facebook Fan?” The question is posted on the First Fridays Facebook page and encourages fans to email their special personal or family stories of patriotism, special involvement in the community or other patriotic anecdotes. Submissions will be judged, and the winner will be awarded a prize package along with winning exhibitors.

Extended hours for the event are 5-9 p.m. with free admission and parking. The musical guests for the July 2<sup>nd</sup> event are Mojo Risin’ and Forever Driven. For more information on First Fridays Florence, visit [www.FirstFridaysFlorence.com](http://www.FirstFridaysFlorence.com), call toll-free 877-290-8880, or contact the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Office at (256) 740-4141.

*First Fridays Florence is a festive arts and entertainment event sponsored by Downtown Florence Unlimited (DFU), and is organized by volunteers representing the area’s professional retail and service industries, educational institutions and non-profit organizations. The event is held on the first Friday of each month from March through December and is free to the public.*