



**APRIL
3
TO
19**

**2026 Festival
Guide + Map**



Presented by





Charlotte SHOUT! is a beloved, annual celebration of the city's art, culture, and community. Built on the pillars of art, music, food, and ideas, Charlotte **SHOUT!** is an inclusive and inspirational sensory feast for all ages, with more than 200 events and attractions taking place April 3–19 in Uptown, Charlotte.

The 2026 **Charlotte SHOUT!** theme is *Let Wonder Lead the Way*, which will be weaved into the local art installations and other aspects of the festival.

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CharlotteSHOUT.com • @cltshout • #cltshout



CLT EdgeFest

April 18 • First Ward Park

Welcome to the street art event like no other, CLT EdgeFest! We're back again to bring this one of its kind festival with large-scale live paints by your favorite street artists, interactive art experiences, music and dance performances, spoken word, fashion, and more! Come be a part of the bold and vibrant energy of CLT EdgeFest!





International Art

Weci | Koninut • Canada Daily • First Ward Park

Created by Indigenous artists Julie-Christina Picher and Dave Jenniss, Weci | Koninut invites passerbys to a sensory journey through the forest (Notcimik) guided by the six seasons of the Atikamekw culture. The interactive installation offers an evocative space that encourages visitors to explore their own dreams and inner reflections.

Los Trompos • Mexico Daily • Levine Avenue of the Arts

Los Trompos (Spinning Tops) by Mexican creators Esrawe + Cadena draws its inspiration from a toy that has been popular with children around the world since the dawn of time. This large-scale, interactive artistic installation engages visitors in a way that is both meaningful and playful.

Sip, Snack, SHOUT!

Visit one of the participating Uptown spots to purchase a limited-time, **SHOUT!**-themed drink or menu item! Be sure to ask for a free **Sip, Snack, SHOUT!** sticker at each location!

Scan to learn more.



Visit charlotteSHOUT.com/art for more information.

Local Art

Scan the QR code for more art information.



Easter Eggs on Parade The Green

Eggs on Parade, a dozen of beautifully and uniquely designed larger-than-life Easter eggs created by 12 different local artists, using the theme, *Let Wonder Lead the Way*.



!cons Legacy Union Plaza

These giant exclamation points, each designed by a local artist, showcase bold creativity and unique interpretations of the Charlotte **SHOUT!** theme, *Let Wonder Lead the Way*.

Fish by Doyle Bussey Disc Plaza

An interactive sculpture made of recycled plastic drums and steel wire from old political signs. *Fish* blows bubbles during the day and provides a light show at night. *Fish* is meant to be fun, but also speak to the need for humanity to be responsible stewards of the natural environment.

Tumbling Textures by Claire Kiester Bank of America Corporate Plaza

This is a large-scale soft sculpture installation that features three large orbs composed of recycled plastic containers filled with various materials. As viewers spin them by hand, they are surrounded by a symphony of sounds, similar to that of a rain stick. *Tumbling Textures* sparks curiosity in viewers and challenges their preconceived notions about crochet and recycling.

ShoutOke Frequency by Aguinaldo Santos Levine Avenue of the Arts

ShoutOke Frequency is a giant, interactive radio sculpture that turns voices into light and sound. Blending shapes, materials, and sizes, it invites everyone to explore, play, and experiment. Solar-powered and hands-on, the installation celebrates curiosity, creativity, and shared moments of joy and discovery.

Portal to Imagination by Jeff Cason District One Alleyway, 101 S. Tryon Street

Open a portal to a world of infinite possibility! Press the green button to activate the magic portal and peek into another dimension. Where will it take you? The ocean depths? Above the clouds? Or somewhere otherworldly? There's only one way to find out.

Welcome Voices by Tara Spil First Ward Park

Welcome Voices is an interactive installation celebrating Charlotte's newcomers. With 157 people moving here daily, it highlights their stories and experiences. If you moved to Charlotte in the last one to two years, visit welcome2clt.com to add your voice to this work.

Symbolic Peace by Liquid PXL Curiosity Courtyard

Symbolic Peace is a 10-foot-tall steel sculpture shaped as a peace sign. Each facade is laser-cut with a diverse collection of religious and non-religious symbols, reflecting the many paths toward unity and coexistence. By day, it stands as a bold, reflective form; by night, it transforms into a luminous beacon through an intricate internal LED lighting design.

Scan the QR code for
more art information.



WHAT IF...? by Pam Imhof

UNCC Dubois Center

*WHAT IF...*we lived with dinosaurs? Unicorns were real? The friendly monsters inside our imaginations came to life? What would life be like? What would your dinosaurs, unicorns, and monsters look like? While you imagine, press the circle, give a hug, and listen for the magic.

H!VE M!ND by Ian Wegener

Curiosity Courtyard

Welcome to *H!VE M!ND*! Communicate through tubes and play games with each other while exploring the colorful and cozy stations! Use your imagination and play games of communication. Can you get the whole hive to send the same message around or does chaos run the hive?

STARGATE by Jay Tettamanti

First Ward Park

STARGATE is an immersive projection sculpture designed to usher audiences on an awe-inspiring journey into the cosmos, with its hypnotic visuals and soundscape. Viewers are encouraged to climb into the central ring for a meditative experience and breathtaking photo.

Kaleid-Escape by Rebecca Lipps & Caleb Dickerson

First Ward Park

Kaleid-Escape transforms the existing surface of this building into a controllable kaleidoscope. Choose a spot to watch the show or press a button to become the conductor of the visuals. Immerse yourself in soundscapes by local musicians and return throughout the 17-day festival for evolving surprises and new experiences.

The Oracles Speak by Dorne Pentes

Curiosity Courtyard & ImaginOn

Speak with the Oracle! This wise creature looming over you is a sentient being designed to dispense knowledge and wisdom. Simply press the icon on the iPad kiosk and start talking. Have fun, be nice, and keep your conversation short if others are waiting. Thanks!

The Stamp Station by Dominique Prescott

Legacy Union Plaza, The Green, Curiosity Courtyard, Luminous Lane, District One Alleyway, Disc Plaza, Truist Plaza, Discovery Place, First Ward Park

This is an interactive quest across nine **SHOUT!** festival locations where participants are artistic adventurers. Collect stamps throughout Uptown to complete the illustrations in “Shayla Goes to **SHOUT!**” (see page 21), a story about a young girl exploring the festival with her family.

CMS Art Gallery

Daily • 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. • WonderDome

All that K-12 CMS Visual Arts has to offer including drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, photography, and digital media art! Artwork available for purchase Thursday–Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Kids Market

April 4 & 11 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

First Ward Park

Join us for a farmers market run entirely by kids! This exciting event lets kids showcase their creativity, learn valuable business skills, and gain real-world experience — deciding what to sell, creating booths, talking to customers, and handling money.



SHOUT! Headliners • First Ward Park



Rudy Currence | April 3 • Soul/R&B

Rudy is a Rock Hill native, Furman University music graduate, and celebrated artist, songwriter, and producer. He has toured widely across the U.S. and internationally and performed at the iconic Apollo Theater and House of Blues. His résumé includes credits alongside Quincy Jones, Jill Scott, Anthony Hamilton, and Kirk Franklin.

The Renaissance Orchestra April 4 • Jazz



The Renaissance Orchestra is an Atlanta-based ensemble redefining orchestral music through a bold fusion of classical technique and contemporary genres like Hip-Hop, R&B, country, pop, trap, and gospel. The group has collaborated with artists including Lil Boosie, Zaytoven, Sonny Digital, Fred Hammond, and R&B ONLY.

Mike Brown & F.O.C.U.S. April 5 • Gospel



Mike Brown took F.O.C.U.S. to the next level, setting trends and sharing stages with gospel music power players such as Karen Clark Sheard, Hezekiah Walker, and Tye Tribbett. F.O.C.U.S.'s 2012 album *Good Time* garnered the attention of radio programmers, bloggers and gospel music enthusiasts. After a hiatus, the group released, *Working Together*, featuring indie soul singer, STOUT.



music

Above Your Head Series

Above Your Head is Charlotte **SHOUT!**'s surprise-and-delight music series. Blink and you might miss it. Local and regional musicians will pop up for quick 5–10 minute sets, creating spontaneous moments of joy and connection right in the middle of your day.

Unheard Of

Unheard Of is Charlotte **SHOUT!**'s pop-up concert series that turns ordinary places into totally unexpected venues. Featuring local and regional musicians, each set runs 30–45 minutes and is announced only about an hour in advance with a slightly mysterious clue. You won't know exactly where it's happening until you're there.

Text **SHOUT** to
980-374-8808
to get alerts when
they're about to start.



Scan the QR code for the complete schedule.

See page 2 for Sip, Snack, SHOUT! dining options.

 Ticketed event



Flour & Ink

April 3–19 • The Market at 7th Street

Flour & Ink is a recipe-storytelling and portrait exhibition coming to The Market at 7th Street as part of **SHOUT!**, highlighting regional culinary heritage and transforming cherished handwritten recipes into living art that celebrates Charlotte's growing food scene and the people behind it. Expect a vendor market every weekend, as well as exclusive programming, such as spice blending, Tanzanian high tea, and indigo dyeing.

Charlotte StrEATS Uncorked

April 3 • 6 to 9 p.m.

The WonderDome at Wells Fargo Atrium

Presented by NC Wine, this is a 21+ walk-around tasting experience celebrating North Carolina's thriving wine scene, complete with live music and small bites inspired by the state's regional flavors.

Charlotte StrEATS Tasting Tour

April 11 • Noon to 3 p.m. • First Ward Park

Charlotte's best locally owned restaurants, craft cocktails from top mixologists, and chef cooking demos, all with skyline views as the backdrop. Come hungry, sip slowly, and sample your way through the city's most delicious bites in the festival's new home.

Hungry? Discover local brick-and-mortar shops and food trucks serving sweet and savory eats in one vibrant festival setting!

Food Trucks on Levine Avenue and at First Ward Park

April 4 & 5 • April 11* & 12 • April 15 • April 18 & 19

**Food trucks will only be on Levine Avenue.*



Charlotte StrEATS Festival

April 12 • Noon to 5 p.m. • First Ward Park

This is a free, can't-miss celebration of the city's food and drink scene. Come for top local vendors and food trucks, chef cooking demos, a curated artisan market, and the crowd-favorite Neighborhood Cook-off Battles where chefs go head-to-head for bragging rights.

Carolina BBQ Festival

April 17 • 6 to 10 p.m. & April 18 • Noon to 4 p.m.

Victoria Yards

Carolina BBQ Fest is two days of whole hog tradition and so much more. Featuring tastings from 30+ pitmasters and chefs from the Carolinas and beyond, your ticket includes tasting plates from every participating team. Come hungry and ready to support Operation BBQ Relief.

Braai + Bottles

April 19 • 4 to 7 p.m. • Victoria Yards

Assorted Table's Braai + Bottles brings the scents and sips of South Africa to Charlotte **SHOUT!** with an intimate outdoor braai (South Africa's take on a BBQ) featuring flame-driven bites by Chef Taylor Kastl of Teal Turnip and a standout lineup of wines from Taaibosch, Raats, Kanonkop, and De Toren. Enjoy a guided walk-around tasting, full pours (with a drink ticket), meet-and-greets with all four visiting winemakers, and exclusive by-the-glass and bottle deals curated by Assorted Table Wine Shop.



map

Visit the
CMS ART GALLERY
WonderDome at Wells Fargo
Daily • 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

More information on page 7.



Visit the

SHOUT!
WonderDome

301 S. Tryon Street
Daily 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
More information on page 17.

For all things
SHOUT!, follow
us @cltshout

Visit charlotteSHOUT.com
for an interactive map
and complete schedule.





Charlotte Ideas Festival

The Charlotte Ideas Festival returns this spring for six days of big ideas, bold conversation, and community connection through the lens of the humanities and civic imagination. It's a celebration of curiosity and imagination, and brings together thinkers, creators, and neighbors to explore timely topics like AI and creativity, culture, community, and the future.

The Abundance Agenda with Derek Thompson

April 9 • 7 to 8:30 p.m. • Carolina Theatre

The Abundance Agenda brings Derek Thompson for an evening of sharp, moderated conversation on how we unlock extraordinary growth and possibility in the U.S. A leading voice on tech, culture, and politics, and co-author with Ezra Klein of *The New York Times* bestseller *Abundance*, Thompson will cut through the noise to explore what's impeding progress and what it will take to move forward on the most pressing issues of our time.



Scan for more
information
and additional
Ideas events.



The Future of Charlotte

April 11 • 2 to 6 p.m.

WonderDome at Wells Fargo Atrium

Drop in for a series of panel discussions on key topics shaping Charlotte's future. Hear diverse perspectives from thought leaders, engage in meaningful dialogue, and gain insights. Join for one panel or stay for all! Scan the QR code below to find a full list of panel topics and panelists.

How the Cities We Build Shape How We Live

April 13 • 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. • The DuBois Center

In this keynote from Charles Montgomery, an award-winning urbanist, author of *Happy City*, and founder of Happy Cities, Montgomery will discuss the powerful connection between place and well-being. Drawing on research at the intersection of city design, psychology, and social health, Montgomery explores how urban environments quietly shape how we think, feel, and act, and what it takes to build places that support happiness, health, and belonging.

The Trout Who Found the River

April 14 • 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

WonderDome at Wells Fargo Atrium

This world-premiere musical production presented by 7th Street Concerts is built around original music by composer Jonathan Woody. Told through multiple perspectives — water, wildlife, and humans — it invites audiences of all ages to experience the river as a living, remembering presence. Part fable, part concert, and part play, it makes space for imagination, reflection, and a little wonder.



SHOUT! Ideas Events

An Evening with Dr. Vivek Murthy & Judy Woodruff

April 7 • 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. • The DuBois Center

Dr. Murthy will be joined by award-winning journalist Judy Woodruff for a moderated discussion exploring the national crisis of loneliness and how communities across the country — and here in Charlotte — are responding.

The Storytellers Shift: A Fireside Chat with Molly Grantham and Sarah Archer

April 14 • 6 to 9 p.m. • The DuBois Center

The Storytellers Shift is an engaging conversation featuring Molly Grantham and Sarah Archer that will explore the evolving craft of storytelling, journalism, and the path from reporting the news to writing deep personal narratives. This chat is sponsored by the Charlotte Writers Club.



WonderDome & Curiosity Courtyard

Come visit **SHOUT!**'s WonderDome and Curiosity Courtyard, a joyful gathering place where exploration, play, and connect bloom in every direction. With every visit, guests may discover music, new conversations, or a delightful surprise waiting for you. It is the kind of place where strangers become co-conspirators in delight and every corner holds a little spark of discovery.

Colorful Noise Masterclass

Join Nigel Malone, professional producer and engineer, for a free hands-on audio engineering and music production masterclass presented by Colorful Noise. Open to all levels, this workshop offers an inside look at professional sound while covering the fundamentals of engineering, mixing, sampling, arranging, and beat production in a collaborative environment.

Charlotte SHOUT! Sensory Play: A Fun, Gentle Experience for Kids on the Spectrum & Their Families

A joyful, low-pressure sensory adventure designed with neurodiverse kids in mind, where families can explore calming lights, soft textures, musical play stations, and hands-on art activities. With quiet corners, flexible participation, and a cozy, welcoming environment, it's a day of discovery and shared delight where every child leads the way.



Stop by the **SHOUT!** info desk in the WonderDome and grab a Curiosity Button (or two) featuring one of more than 25 conversation prompts designed to spark unexpected connection. Wear your button and stay curious!



Scan for the schedule and more details.

STEM MUSIC RESEARCH

A Hip-Hop storytelling event centered around the music samples that have shaped our experience with the sounds and culture of Hip Hop called STEM RESEARCH. This is a journey to discover how one moment in sound shapes the Hip-Hop world as we hear it now. Featuring the genius of DJ B-Man and The Mighty DJ DR and hosted by storyteller and poet Bluz as well as Hip-Hop genius, creative, and educator Ron Styles.

Haiku Huts

Step inside a Haiku Hut and experience a cozy, one-on-one creative encounter where a live poet listens, asks a question or two, and crafts a personalized haiku or short poem just for you in real time. Part conversation, part keepsake, and part magic, it's a quiet, memorable moment that turns your story, feeling, or curiosity into a small piece of art to take with you.

Graffiti Huts

Step into the Graffiti Hut and watch a live artist transform your name into a custom tag or design right before your eyes. Blending the energy of hip-hop culture with personal creativity, it's a fun, one-of-a-kind experience that turns your name into a keepsake work of art.

Comic Books and Bars

Emcee, poet, and author Mason Parker takes us on a journey into the world of comic books and the culture of Hip-Hop through a multimedia experience.



WonderDome & Curiosity Courtyard

Joyful Noise: A Celebration of All Voices

A vibrant a cappella experience that brings voices of different cultures, ages, and languages together in one powerful, shared soundscape. Hosted by Jessica Macks, this uplifting gathering celebrates the human voice through harmonies, rhythms, and songs from around the world.

Meant To Move: Joy In Motion by Kat Harmon

Joy in Motion is a large-scale guided movement experience that brings people together through simple prompts blending mindfulness, breath, and intuitive movement. Designed to be accessible and non-intimidating for all ages and abilities, it invites everyone to participate in ways that feel natural to them while creating a shared moment of joy, wellbeing, and connection.

Song on the Spot

Step into the Curiosity Courtyard for Song on the Spot, where festival-goers can work with Radio Rehab and Nigel Malone of Colorful Noise to create an original song in real time. Whether you bring a lyric, a melody, a mood, or just curiosity, this fun and collaborative experience helps turn your ideas into music — no experience required.

Free Board + Card Games

Looking to slow down and stay awhile? The **SHOUT!** info desk in the WonderDome is offering free board and card games for festival-goers to borrow and enjoy in the Curiosity Courtyard. Just leave any form of ID with our team while you play, and get it back when you return the game.



Fashion Wondrous Wardrobe

400 S. Tryon

Will White's **Wondrous Wardrobe** is a never-before-seen, immersive, fashion-led public installation for the third year of **SHOUT! Chic**, inspired by Alice in Wonderland and this year's theme, **Let Wonder Lead the Way**. Visitors move through a catwalk corridor with style-inspiration prompts, into the White Rabbit's "closet" for playful dress-up, onward to a Mad Hatter tea party scene, and finally into the Red Queen's Garden — making it one of the festival's most photo-worthy, interactive attractions that invites everyone to explore fashion, wardrobe, and wonder at their own pace.



SHAYLA goes to SHOUT!

Interactive Stamp
Booklet



Written &
Illustrated by
*Dominique
Prescott*

Follow Shayla
through 9 stamp
stations across
Charlotte SHOUT! to
complete her story.
Use the festival
map and let the
adventure begin!

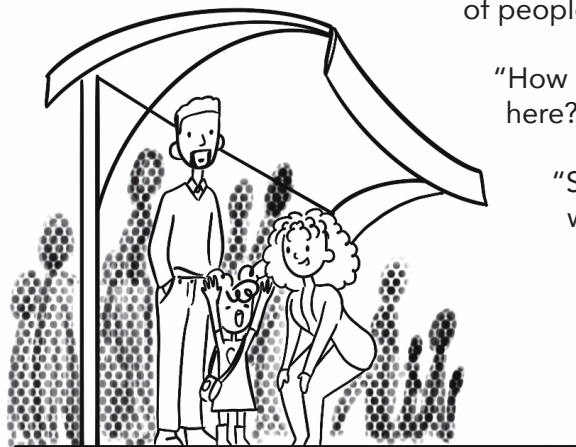


"Busy day ahead of us, sweetheart!" Shayla's mother said as she grabbed her keys. "Are you ready? We're going Uptown to Charlotte SHOUT!"

"Yes! Let me just grab my –"

Stamp 1

Align the arrow on the page with the arrow on the stamp base, then press down.



The family arrived at a platform full of people and began to wait.

"How long must we stand here?" Shayla questioned.

"Shh", her mother whispered, "If you listen closely, you might hear it."

"Look! There goes the –"

Stamp 2



The buildings whizzed by as Shayla pressed her face against the window. Before her view disappeared, she grabbed her camera and took a picture of

Stamp 3



"Wow! I can see so far!"



"That was fast!" exclaimed Shayla, as they walked onto the street. She could hardly hear herself speak.

Stamp 4

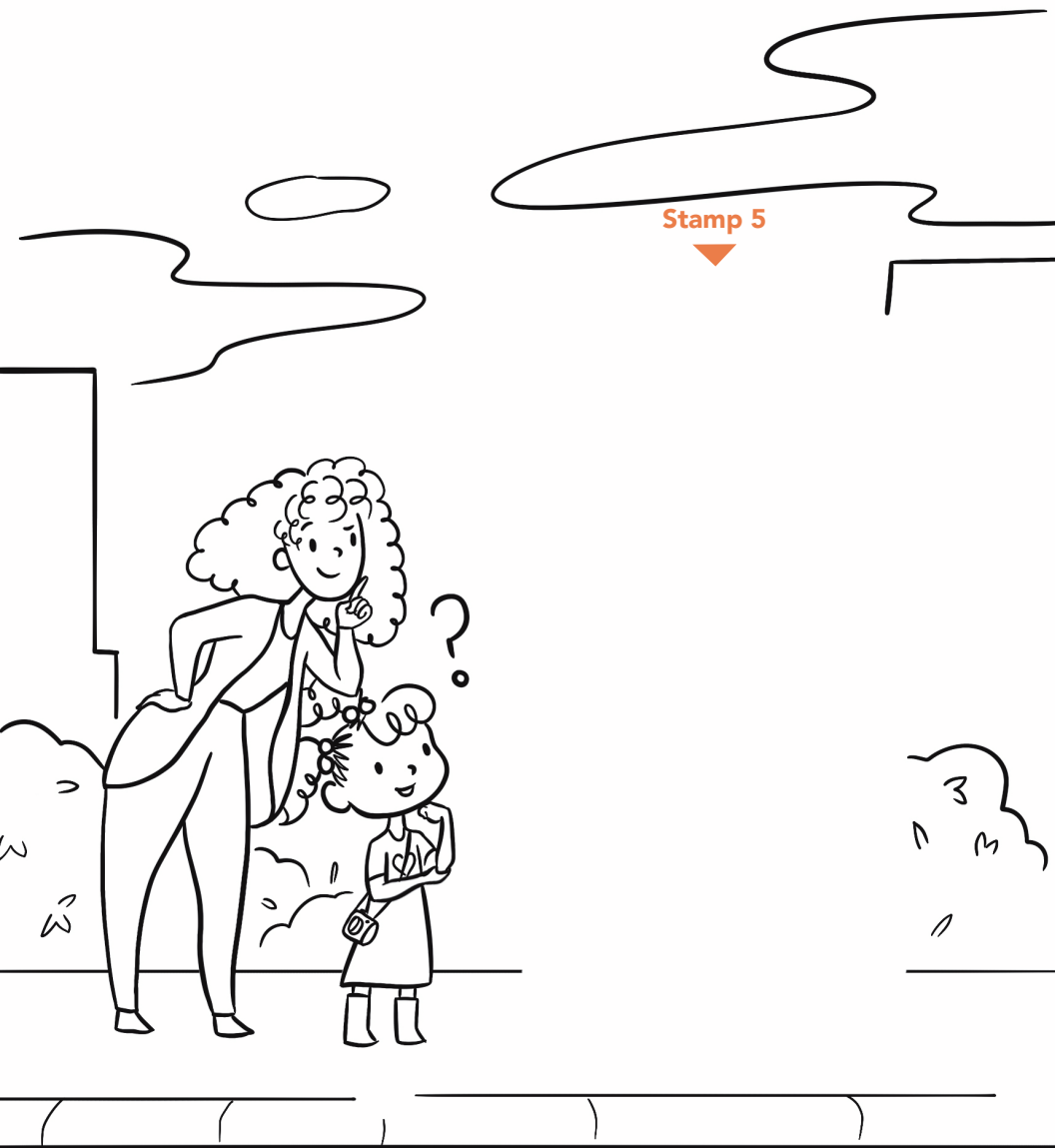


"What's that sound?" She asked her father. "It makes me want to dance."



The trio walked through the busy street and stumbled upon something strange. "What a sight," Shayla said, snapping a picture, "I have never seen such a thing."

"Why, me too", agreed her mother, equally perplexed. "It's a sculpture in the shape of an –"



"I'm having so much fun!" Shayla cheered.

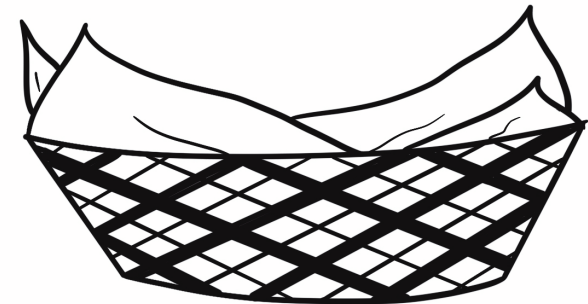
GRRRRRRRRRUMBLE

Shayla held her stomach. "Someone's hungry, and so am I," said her mom. "Honey, let's find something to eat."



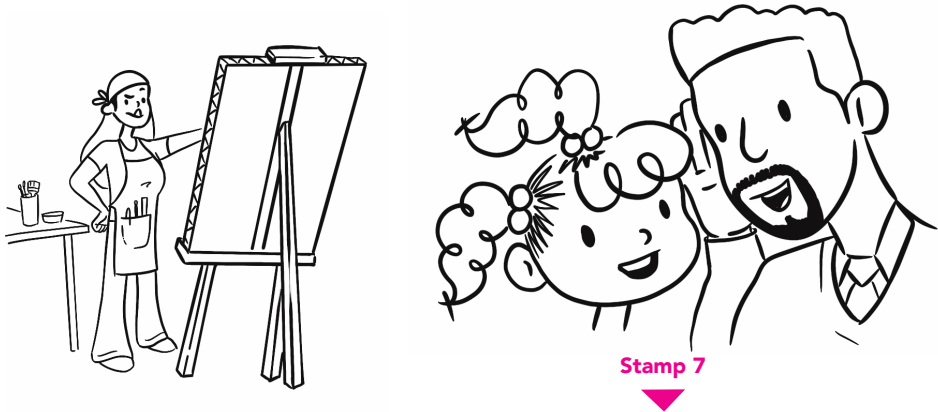
They walked up to a truck serving food. After a short wait, they sat down and ate.

Stamp 6



Once their bellies were full, the family of three walked further down the street to see what else the festival had to offer.

"Shayla," her father pointed, "I think that might be an artist! Why don't we go say hello?"



Stamp 7

"Hello, Shayla, my name is Maya."

"Nice to meet you, Maya. I love your painting. May I take your picture?"



Shayla has collected a ton of awesome pictures of her time at the festival.

Stamp 8

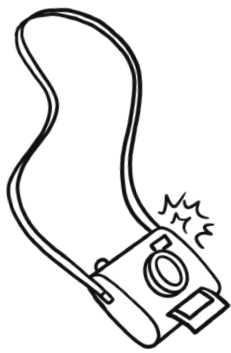
So many memories of her favorite moments. What are some of yours?



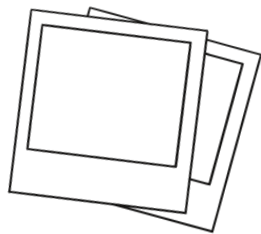
As they made their way home, Shayla fell asleep on her father's shoulder, dreaming of the day she'd be a SHOUT! artist too!



The End.



SHAYLA goes to SHOUT!



Dominique Prescott is a Charlotte-based brand strategist, graphic designer, and illustrator passionate about using art and design to uplift communities. As the founder of **Dap Designz**, she has spent over a decade crafting impactful brand identities for businesses while also engaging in public art projects that celebrate culture and storytelling.

Beyond design, she shares her expertise through teaching, speaking engagements, and collaborations that foster artistic growth and community engagement.

Did you collect all of the stamps?

Post your booklet and tag us!

@dapdesignz
@cltShout
@TheStampStation
@potionsandpixels



This experience was brought to you by:

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Special Thanks To: Anthony Nguyen, Danielle Thacker, Michael Zytrow

Looking to have the stamp stations at your event?
Email thestampstation@dapdesignz.com





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