

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## The 33rd Annual Virginia Children's Festival Presented by Optima Health Will Return October 7th at Town Point Park

Release Date: Friday, September 29, 2023

Website URL: [bit.ly/VCF23](https://bit.ly/VCF23)

Tickets URL: [bit.ly/FesteventsTix](https://bit.ly/FesteventsTix)

**Norfolk, VA** – The 33rd Annual Virginia Children's Festival, Hampton Roads' most exciting family festival, will be held Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 10am to 3pm at Town Point Park along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront.

The Virginia Children's Festival features a wide variety of interactive experiences for children of all ages, including a plethora of new activations for 2023, such as a Rainbow Puppet Show, Interactive Wildlife Presentations, Music, Dancing, and live performances from WHRO Public Media's Greenbeats!



A complete listing of festival entertainment can be found below or online at [bit.ly/VCF23](https://bit.ly/VCF23). Tickets are \$5 (infants age one & under are free) and can be purchased online at [bit.ly/FesteventsTix](https://bit.ly/FesteventsTix).

### **WHRO LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! MAIN STAGE**

10:15am – The Hurrah Players present The Magic and Wonder of the Princess Kingdom  
11:00am – WHRO Public Media Ms. Martha Reads  
11:40am – **NEW!** Rainbow Puppet Show  
12:30pm – The Hurrah Players present The Magic and Wonder of the Princess Kingdom  
1:20pm – WHRO Public Media presents Greenbeats  
2:15pm – The Hurrah Players present The Magic and Wonder of the Princess Kingdom

### **READY, SET, GO! MAIN STAGE**

10:30am – Zumba Kids with Tanecia & Tamerah  
11:00am – Evelyn Ott School of Dance Performance  
11:30am – Libre Dance USA Performance  
12:15pm – Bella Dance Performance  
1:00pm – ODU Cheer Squad Performance  
1:15pm – Zumba Kids with Tanecia & Tamerah  
1:30pm – **NEW!** Norfolk Dance Collective

### **KING BMX STAGE**

10:30am, 11:45am & 2:00pm – Live BMX Stunt Performances by King BMX

## **STORYTELLING AND MORE**

11:00am, 12:00pm, 1:00pm & 2:00pm – Pirate School with the Defiant Crew

10:45am, 11:45am, 12:45pm & 2:00pm – Back Bay Mermaid Book Nook

11:00am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm & 2:00pm – **NEW!** Jack's Jungle Interactive Presentations

## **ACTIVITIES**

- Explore the outdoors with **Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast**
- Get moving with **Kids Zumba with Tanecia & Tamerah**
- Learn about our community with **Team UP**
- Learn about a pirate's life with **The Defiant Crew**
- Explore the world of plants with **Norfolk Botanical Garden**
- Learn some new moves at **Ocean Martial Arts**
- Enjoy dance performances by **Bella Dance!**
- Enjoy performances by **Evelyn Ott School of Dance**
- Meet a Ballerina and enjoy performances by **Norfolk Dance Collective**
- Catch a performance by **Maureen's School of Dance**
- Enjoy story time with **REACH!**
- Learn about the U.S. Navy with **Naval Station Norfolk**
- Craft a handmade piece of art at **Art & Crafts with Chrystal**
- **NEW!** Express your love for music with **Symphonicity**
- Get interactive with the **Children's Museum of Virginia**
- Enjoy performances by **Libre Dance USA**
- Face paintings by **Changing Faces & Spaces**
- **NEW!** See live animals at the mini zoo with **Jack's Jungle**
- Meet a real mermaid with the **Back Bay Mermaid**
- Craft away with **LemonDrop Makery**
- Visit with the **HURRAH Players Fairy Tale Princesses**
- Meet the **Ghost Busters of Virginia**
- Learn about physical fitness with **Little Gym**
- **NEW!** Get active with live games & limbo with **DJ Melody**
- Meet characters at the **East Coast Alliance of Cosplay**
- **NEW!** See nature at **The Butterfly Experience**
- Learn about the history **USS Wisconsin with Nauticus**
- Watch science with **Mad Science of Hampton Roads**
- Learn literacy with the **Norfolk Public Library**
- Play your favorite video games on the **GamerBus**
- Learn some new moves at **Ocean Martial Arts**
- **NEW!** Meet & interact with the **Red Power Ranger**
- Get balloon art from Balloon Artists of **Vertical Kids Ent.**
- Stop by **WHRO Public Media's PBS Kid's Village**
- See what fun is coming to Norfolk with **Seven Venues**
- Take a peek inside the car world with **Southern Auto Group**

- Learn about **Optima Health's** healthy lifestyle options
- **NEW!** See the most bubbles you have ever seen in once place at **The BIG Bubblefest Event**
- **NEW!** Get your hair looking magical with **Fairy Hair Extraordinaire**
- **NEW!** Score health items and resources at from **Virginia Department of Health**
- **NEW!** Observe the secret life of bees from a real live hive with the **Tidewater Beekeepers Association**. No protective gear necessary!
- **NEW!** Meet Salty the Dog and check out hockey equipment from the **Norfolk Admirals**
- **NEW!** Collect and enjoy colorful stickers in soothing textures from **Calm Strips**
- **NEW!** Create stunning arts and crafts with **Chrysler Museum of Art**
- Dance and cheer with **Old Dominion University's (ODU) Cheerleaders**
- Meet Big Blue from **ODU!**
- **NEW!** Dunk members of **ODU Women's Basketball Team** at the **Dunk Tank**
- **NEW!** Fly drones and meet a documented original pilot from the **Tuskegee Airmen**
- **NEW!** Play musical chairs with the **Booker T. High School JROTC**
- **NEW!** Get a hands-on experience in robotics with the **NSU Robotics Team**
- **NEW!** Learn about robotics with the **Norview High School Robotics Club**
- **NEW!** Build with the **Maury High School CTSO Club**
- **NEW!** Challenge and learn to play chess with the **Hampton Roads Chess Association**
- **NEW!** Watch and learn about local pollinators from the **NSU Spartan Beekeeper Educators**
- **NEW!** Mix a slime concoction with **Norfolk State Chemistry**
- Toys & tikes galore at **Toddler Town** presented by **Anthem**
- Learn about opportunities available at **Newport News Shipbuilding**
- Explore the **Play Doh Island Imagination Station**
- Construct buildings & characters at **Lego Land**
- Channel your inner archaeologist with the **Dino Dig**
- March your way into the **Little Soldier Camp**
- Escape & unwind at the **Kulture City Sensory Zone**
- View unique vehicles at the **Touch-A-Truck Experience**
- Play a round of **Mini Putt**
- Have some backyard fun with **Lawn Games**
- Create your own sidewalk art at the **Chalk the Walk**
- Enjoy the Lemonade Stand for **Community Betterment**
- Learn about car seat safety with **CHKD's Trauma Services**

### **TODDLER TOWN presented by ANTHEM**

- Toys & tikes galore in a gated area for our younger festival guests! Toddlers must be 3ft tall or shorter to enter.

### **TOWNEBANK FOUNTAIN PARK**

- View a variety of cool trucks, vehicles & other machinery at the **Touch a Truck Experience!**
- Challenge your friends at the **Nerf Battle Zone** (Ages 5 & up.)

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## **ROAMING COSTUME CHARACTERS**

- Super Why
- Captain America & Team
- The Ghostbusters
- **NEW!** The Red Power Ranger
- Back Bay Mermaid
- Real Life Ballerina
- Ariel
- Tiana
- Moana
- Belle
- Anna
- Miracle
- Rapunzel
- The Defiant Crew Pirates

All activities and performances listed are subject to change. Visit [festevents.org](http://festevents.org) or follow @Festevents on Facebook and Instagram for all weather related updates to the Virginia Children's Festival.

The 33rd Annual Virginia Children's Festival presented by Optima Health is produced by Norfolk Festevents in partnership with the City of Norfolk and is sponsored by WHRO Public Media, Sentara, Southern Auto Group, Wavy TV 10, CHKD, and Waterside District.

For more information on Norfolk Festevents' 2023 Season of Events, visit [Festevents.org](http://Festevents.org).

**Norfolk Festevents, Ltd.**, based in Norfolk, Virginia, is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating the most dynamic urban waterfront community in America through innovative programming and imaginative uses of its historic waterfront spaces. Norfolk Festevents has garnered international acclaim for its advocacy for public access to waterfronts, outstanding quality programming, and development of public spaces, transforming the City of Norfolk into one of the most progressive, diverse, and livable waterfront communities in the nation. Residents, workers, and visitors to Norfolk and Hampton Roads are invited to experience all the excitement of the 2023 season!

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