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CELEBRATE DAYTON'S RICH HERITAGE AT THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

DAYTON – The Dayton African-American Cultural Festival will showcase live entertainment, cultural demonstrations, delicious food and an authentic African village with authentic arts and crafts. Activities will take place from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, August 27, at RiverScape MetroPark, 111 E. Monument Ave.

Highlights of this year's admission-free event include the Avenue to Health, offering free health screenings and personal wellness information; an arts pavilion with traditional and contemporary African artwork on display at Fifth Third Field; featured African-American writers at the authors' pavilion; a youth pavilion offering activities for tots through teens; and much more. Take a stroll through the African Village and take home something handcrafted that has a distinctive and important story to tell. Vendors will be on hand serving a variety of foods.

Take in the sounds of an authentic African drum ensemble and even learn their art during a drum clinic. Musical groups for the event include performances from local artists playing Gospel, R&B, step dance and more.

Learn all about African and African-American culture with dance groups, a fashion show, henna tattoos, beading, art installations, face painting, history programs, jewelry, storytelling and more.

Celebrate the Miami Valley's rich cultural African-American heritage and discover Dayton's unique "local flavor." This program is presented by the Dayton African-American Cultural Festival Inc., City of Dayton Patented, the African-American Visual Artists Guild, and Five Rivers MetroParks. For further information, call (937) 477-2427 or go to the website www.metroparks.org/RiverScape or www.daacf.org.

ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Five Rivers MetroParks focuses on three areas – conservation, recreation and education – as part of its role as steward of greater Dayton's public lands. Established in 1963 through the efforts of forward-thinking citizens concerned about preserving green space and natural areas, Five Rivers MetroParks has grown to a nationally renowned park system composed of natural area parks, gardens, sensitive river corridors, urban parks and a network of recreation trails. Educational programs and recreational opportunities are offered year-round for all ages. And, diverse natural habitats are being protected and cared for today to assure their future existence. To learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks, log onto www.metroparks.org or call (937) 275-PARK.

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