

## 2008 Shoals Area Calendar of Events

**Year Round - Children's Museum of the Shoals** - Special workshops and programs. Visit our website or call for current events. 256-765-0500 or [www.shoalschildrensmuseum.org](http://www.shoalschildrensmuseum.org)

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**Year Round – Outdoor Excursions** – A full schedule of events, classes and other excursions, including bird watching, fly fishing, canoeing, caving, hiking, kayaking, etc. is offered. Call Alabama Outdoors at 256-764-1809 or visit [www.aloutdoors.com](http://www.aloutdoors.com).

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**First Friday of every month (March-December) – “First Fridays”** – This exciting monthly event is a gathering of artists of all kinds: musicians, painters, sculptors, photographers, hand-crafted jewelry creators, and more. Local and regional artists will be selling their works along the sidewalks, live music can be heard throughout the streets, and downtown merchants will stay open late.

- Location: Court Street, Downtown Florence
  - Hours: 5-8 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Carolyn Waterman – 256-765-0365; [www.firstfridaysflorence.com](http://www.firstfridaysflorence.com)
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**January 4-6, 2008 – Sam Phillips Commemoration Week** – Enjoy a week long music fest in memory of Sam Phillips, a native of Florence and the discoverer of Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis and countless other famous musicians.

- Location: varies, Florence & Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: vary
  - Admission: some free, some charge admission
  - Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 256-740-4141; **Concerts:** WQLT 256-764-8121
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**January 5, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**January 14-29, 2008 – Carolyn Watson Paintings Exhibit** – The artist paints in transparent watercolor in a realistic style. She “enjoys interpreting the effects of strong light and shadow, and the play of reflected light.” She is a Signature member of the Mississippi Watercolor Society.

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Florence
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: 256-760-6379



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**January 15-February 29, 2008 – Tennessee Valley Art Center presents *Transports Art Exhibition* by artist Jere Allen** – Allen’s figurative works serve as representation of political and social realities. His work has been shown in 35 states including exhibits in the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

- Location: Tennessee Valley Art Center – 411 N. Water St., Tuscumbia
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 1-3 p.m.
- Admission: Adults \$5; Students \$3
- Contact: Tennessee Valley Art Association – 256-383-0533; [www.tvaa.net](http://www.tvaa.net)

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**January 15-February 29, 2008 – Tennessee Valley Art Center presents *Audubon Exhibition* by James Audubon** – This survey of ornithological prints includes a variety of works by celebrated nature artist John James Audubon and a selection of early American bird art.

- Location: Tennessee Valley Art Center – 411 N. Water St., Tuscumbia
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 1-3 p.m.
- Admission: Adults \$5; Students \$3
- Contact: Tennessee Valley Art Association – 256-383-0533; [www.tvaa.net](http://www.tvaa.net)

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**January 17, 2008 – “Clinton 12” Screening at UNA** – Twelve black students walked into history on Aug. 27, 1956, when Clinton High School in Clinton, Tnn., became the first desegregated public school in the South. Their story is told in Keith McDaniel’s documentary “The Clinton 12,” which will be shown at UNA as part of the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival. McDaniel, the film’s writer and director, will speak following the screening.

- Location: UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 6:30 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658; Cynthia Burkhead – 256-765-4790

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**January 18, 2008 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial March** – Members of the public are welcome to participate

- Location: University Performance Center Atrium on the campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: Noon
- Admission: free
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**January 20, 2008 – Screening of “It’s a Thick Book”** – Lewis Lehe’s documentary proves to be an entertaining and informative film about the Alabama Constitution. The film screening will be presented by Mark Berte, education coordinator for Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform.

- Location: Florence/Lauderdale Public Library – 350 N. Wood Ave., Florence
- Hours: 2 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Public Library – 256-764-6564

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**January 25-February 29, 2008 – UNA Department of Art presents Senior Photography Exhibit by Sonja Rieger**

- Location: Visual Art Gallery (First Floor) on the Campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**January 28, 2008 – UNA Distinguished Events Series presents Virtuoso Showcase featuring Jimmy Simpson, clarinet; Soojeong Lee, soprano; and Scott Holshouse, piano.**

- Location: Norton Auditorium, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**January 29, 2008 – State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico presented by Shoals On Stage** – under the direction of Enrique Batiz and now in its third decade, the State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico will perform Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* Overture, Rachmanioff's *Piano Concerto No. 3*, and Sibelius's *Symphony No. 2*.

- Location: University Performance Center Atrium on the campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: \$20-\$30
- Contact: Tickets may be purchased in advance at the following locations: Kennedy-Douglass center for the Arts – 256-760-6379; The Tennessee Valley Art Center – 256-383-0533; A. Tomlinson/Sims Advertising, Inc. – 256-766-4222

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**January 31, 2008 – W.C. Handy hosts discussion: “Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955: The Literariness of a Political Movement”** – This discussion by Dr. Ramona L. Hyman will explore the Montgomery Bus Boycott as a literary text. She will examine the boycott's literary features, i.e., theme, protagonist, characters, setting, plot and voice. Dr. Hyman is an associate professor of English and Oakwood University and the author of *In the Sanctuary of a South*, a collection of poetry.

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Florence
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: 256-760-6379

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**February 2, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
- Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)

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**February 2, 2008 – Miss UNA Scholarship Pageant**

- Location: Norton Auditorium, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7 p.m.
- Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$5
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**February 6-10, 2008 – Zodiac Players present “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change”**

- Location: Zodiac Theatre – 416 N. Court St., Florence
- Hours: 8:00 p.m. Wed-Sat; 2:00 p.m. Sunday
- Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$9
- Contact: 256-764-1700; [www.zodiactheatre.com](http://www.zodiactheatre.com)

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**February 7-8, 2008 – University Program Council Presents Step Sing – This musical “show choir” style event serves as a competition between various university organizations and benefits the United Way.**

- Location: Norton Auditorium, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7 p.m.
- Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$5
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**February 10, 2008 – Chronological Review of American Bird Art Gallery Talk –** Talk will be given by Mr. Billy Isom, whose personal collection of early American bird art will be featured in the *Audubon* Exhibit at the Tennessee Valley Art Center.

- Location: Tennessee Valley Art Center – 411 N. Water St., Tuscumbia
- Hours: 1:30 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: Tennessee Valley Art Association – 256-383-0533; [www.tvaa.net](http://www.tvaa.net)

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**February 11, 2008 – Aquila Theatre production of *Julius Ceasar***

- Location: Norton Auditorium, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: Adults \$15; Students \$5
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**February 16, 2008 – Fiddlin’ Around at Southgate Mall (Annually 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. in Feb.)**

- Location: Southgate Mall, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: 1-8 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Gail Irons 256-383-6903

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**February 24, 2008 – Shoals Symphony at UNA Presents *A Family Valentine* –** Program to feature Prokofiev’s *Peter and the Wolfe*, Tchaikovsky’s *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*, Rachmaninof’s *Symphony No. 2 mvnt. III.*

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School – Avalon Ave., Muscle Shoals
- Hours: 2 p.m.
- Admission: TBA
- Contact: Shoals Symphony – 256-381-6574; [www.shoalssymphony.org](http://www.shoalssymphony.org)

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**February 25, 2008 – UNA Distinguished Events Series presents A.J. Levine**

- Location: University Performance Center, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
- Hours: 7 p.m.
- Admission: Call for Details
- Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658

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**March 1, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
- Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)

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**March 4 – April 9, 2008 – Artistic Renderings of Youth** – Outstanding exhibit of works by 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade artists from Colbert, Franklin, and Lauderdale Counties

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Florence
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Admission: FREE
- Contact: 256-760-6379

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**March 4, 2008 – Shoals Celtic Concerts presents Celtic Spring** – Referred to as the “Von Trapp family of Celtic music” and recently voted one of the top acts in the finals of NBC’s America’s Got Talent, Celtic Spring is a fiddle and dance band composed of the six Wood family siblings and parents.

- Location: Shoals Theatre – Downtown Florence
- Hours: 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: \$12 Advance; \$14 at door
- Contact: For ticket information, Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts – 256-760-3679; [www.shoalscelticconcerts.com](http://www.shoalscelticconcerts.com); [www.celticspringband.com](http://www.celticspringband.com)

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**March 6-9, 2008 – George Lindsey/UNA Film Festival –**

- Location: University of North Alabama, Florence
- Hours: vary
- Admission: free
- Contact: [www.lindseyfilmfest.com](http://www.lindseyfilmfest.com)

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**March 8, 2008 – Huff & Puff on the Bluff 15K Race & Relay**

- Location: Sheffield Recreation Center – 2901 E.19<sup>th</sup> Ave., Sheffield
- Hours: 9 a.m.
- Admission: TBA
- Contact: 256-366-0040; [www.huffnpuff15k.com](http://www.huffnpuff15k.com); [www.shoalstrac.com](http://www.shoalstrac.com)

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**March 10 2008 – Harlem Globetrotters Game & Performance**

- Location: Flowers Hall Gymnasium, UNA Campus – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: 7 p.m.
  - Admission: \$25 General Admission; \$68.50 Magic Circle
  - Contact: University Relations – 256-765-4658; Tickets also available at the UNA Bookstore & UNA Ticket Office – 256-765-5466
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**March 13-16, 2008 – University of North Alabama Department of Communications and Theatre presents *Don't Drink the Water*** by Woody Allen, directed by Professor Charlton James - Somewhere behind the iron curtain an international scandal is started with a tourist from New Jersey is accused of being a spy. This comic classic brings humor to life as only Woody Allen can do it.

- Location: Norton Auditorium on the campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: Thurs.-Sat. 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m.
  - Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$5
  - Contact: UNA Theatre Department – 256-765-4247; [www2.una.edu/theatre](http://www2.una.edu/theatre)
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**March 14-April 9, 2008 – Artistic Renderings of Youth – Works by 7th - 12th grade artists from Colbert, Franklin, and Lauderdale counties are included in this outstanding exhibit. Come celebrate Youth Art Month and see the talent our young artists possess. Deadline for entry is February 25, 2008.**

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Florence
  - Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: 256-760-6379
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**March 14-April 25, 2008 – UNA Department of Art presents Senior Art Exhibit**

- Location: Visual Art Gallery (First Floor) on the Campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: University Events – 256-765-4658
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**March 26-30, 2008 – Zodiac Players present “If the Shoe Fits”**

- Location: Zodiac Theatre – 416 N. Court St., Florence
  - Hours: 8:00 p.m. Wed-Sat; 2:00 p.m. Sunday
  - Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$9
  - Contact: 256-764-1700; [www.zodiactheatre.com](http://www.zodiactheatre.com)
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**March TBA, 2008 – Easter Bunny Arrival & Egg Hunt**

- Location: Regency Square Mall – 300 Cox Creek Pkwy., Florence
  - Hours: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
  - Admission: FREE
  - Contact: 256-766-2197; [www.shopregency.com](http://www.shopregency.com)
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**April 5, 2008 – The Country Shindig – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.**

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**April 9-12, 2008– University of North Alabama Department of Communications and Theatre presents *Directing Class One Acts*** – Join the UNA Theatre Department for the final directing projects of UNA's Directing II class. Titles and assigned performance day to be announced

- Location: Norton Auditorium on the campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: Thurs.-Sat. 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m.
  - Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$5
  - Contact: UNA Theatre Department – 256-765-4247; [www2.una.edu/theatre](http://www2.una.edu/theatre)
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**April 17, 2008 – Mr. Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band** presented by **On Stage**– This is not a band concert – it's a production about a band, a town, and the townsfolk we remember from the past.

- Location: University Performance Center Atrium on the campus of UNA – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: \$20-\$30
  - Contact: Tickets may be purchased in advance at the following locations: Kennedy-Douglass center for the Arts – 256-760-6379; The Tennessee Valley Art Center – 256-383-0533; A. Tomlinson/Sims Advertising, Inc. – 256-766-4222
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**April TBA, 2008 – Global Culture Night at UNA**

- Location: University of North Alabama GUC Building
  - Hours: TBA
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: 800-TALK-UNA
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**April 28, 2008 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Swampers 5k & 1 Mile Fun Run**

- Location: Muscle Shoals Middle School
  - Hours: 8 a.m.
  - Admission: call
  - Contact: Josh Aycock 256-314-4631
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**April TBA, 2008– Cemetery Stroll** – Walk through the past of local residents with actors portraying their lives here in Florence. The actors tell the history of their characters close to the burial plot in Florence Cemetery. Groups of 12-15 patrons in each group stop and listen at different characters' stations

- Location: Florence City Cemetery
  - Hours: 2 p.m.
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 888-FLO-TOUR
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**April 30-May4, 2008 – Zodiac Players present “Opal's Million Dollar Duck”**

- Location: Zodiac Theatre – 416 N. Court St., Florence
- Hours: 8:00 p.m. Wed-Sat; 2:00 p.m. Sunday
- Admission: Adults \$10; Students \$9
- Contact: 256-764-1700

**Each Wednesday in May, 2008 – Music in the Park** – Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy excellent music in the fresh air and sunshine. Pack a picnic lunch or grab a hotdog from area vendors, as you sit back and let the music soothe your soul

- Location: Wilson Park, Downtown Florence
  - Hours: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 256-740-4141
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**May 3, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**May 4, 2008 – Shoals Symphony at UNA Presents Choral Extravaganza** – Featuring the Ovation Arts and UNA Choirs performing Brahms *German Requiem*.

- Location: Norton Auditorium – University of North Alabama campus – Pine St., Florence
  - Hours: 2 p.m.
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: Shoals Symphony – 256-381-6574; [www.shoalssymphony.org](http://www.shoalssymphony.org)
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**May TBA, 2008 – Waterloo Heritage Days** – A celebration of the history and heritage of one of Alabama's oldest incorporated towns that survived fires, flooding and a visit by General Sherman during the Civil War. The event includes special exhibits at the Edith Newman Culver Memorial Museum, entertainment, arts and crafts.

- Location: Waterloo
  - Hours: vary
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: Edith Newman Culver Memorial Museum 256-767-6081 or 256-740-4141 or 888-356-8687
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**May 16-17, 2008 – Florence Wagon Festival** – *This event celebrates the Florence Wagon Works Company, which was the seconded largest producer of wagons in North America from 1889 to 1941. Features musical entertainment, Civil War Re-enactors, arts, crafts, wagons, antique tractors and antique cars on display. There will also be local authors with books for sale, a wagon parade and the Wheeler Rifle Drill Team will perform.*

- Location: McFarland Park, Florence
  - Hours: call
  - Admission: call
  - Contact: Sid and Jane Hamm 256-764-8370
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**May 17-18, 2008 – Arts Alive** – *Artists and crafters from across the country take part in this juried fine arts and crafts festival and exhibition. Food, music and special activities for children make this a fun family event.*

- Location: Wilson Park, Downtown Florence
  - Hours: Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: Kennedy Douglass Center for the Arts 256-760-6379  
[www.artsalivealabama.com](http://www.artsalivealabama.com)
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**May TBA, 2008 – Rabbit Festival** – Event will feature a rabbit cook-off, arts & crafts, story telling and live music all day.

- Location: The Park on Oak Street, Leighton
  - Hours: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
  - Admission: FREE
  - Contact: 256-446-9330 or 256-446-8477
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**May 15 – July 15, 2008 – Day Lily Season at the Rabbit Patch** – This farm hosts over two acres of day lilies with over 900 registered breeds and 3,000 local breeds. The Rabbit Patch is a member of the American Day Lily Society and has been in operation since 1994. The plants vary in price from \$3 to \$70. **\*Best time to purchase day lilies is the second week of June**

- Location: From Cox Creek, Turn North onto Chisholm Rd (Hwy 17). Stay North on Chisholm Rd. for 3.5 miles, and turn right onto Co. Rd. 28. The Rabbit Patch Farm is exactly 1 mile on right.
  - Hours: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., 7 days a week when the lilies are in season
  - Admission: FREE; plant prices vary
  - Contact: 256-764-1489 or 888-FLO-TOUR
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**June TBA, 2008 – Lexington Tractor Pull**

- Location: Downtown Lexington
  - Hours: All Day – Call for Details
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: Lexington Fire Hall – 256-229-9997
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**Saturdays in June, 2008 – Walking Tours of Historic Florence** – Each week a different historic location in Florence is featured. Past tours have included: Florence City Cemetery, Forks of Cypress plantation, Wood Avenue Historic District, University of North Alabama, Walnut Street Historic District, Wilson Park Quadrant, and more.

- Location: varies
  - Hours: 10 a.m.
  - Admission: free
  - Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 256-740-4141 or 888-FLO-TOUR
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**June 7-8, 2008 – Frontier Day Celebration** – *Step back in time and watch artisans in costume spinning wool, carving wood, working a forge, making brooms, creating corn shuck dolls, and playing dulcimers..*

- Location: Pope's Tavern Museum, Downtown Florence
- Hours: Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 1-4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Pope's Tavern 256-760-6439

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**June 7, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
- Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)

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**June – July, 2008: Friday & Saturday nights ONLY– Miracle Worker Play** – This outdoor production recounts the efforts of teacher Anne Sullivan to open the world of communication to a blind deaf child named Helen Keller.

- Location: Helen Keller's Birthplace, Tuscumbia
- Hours: Gates 7 p.m.; Curtain 8 p.m.
- Admission: Reserved \$10, General \$7
- Contact: Helen Keller Birthplace 256-383-4066, [hkeller@hiwaay.net](mailto:hkeller@hiwaay.net); or [www.helenkellerbirthplace.org](http://www.helenkellerbirthplace.org)

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**Tuesdays in June, 2008 – Tuesday Evening Trolley Tours** – Ride the Tuscumbia Trolley to enjoy an interesting commentary by a guide presenting the history of Tuscumbia and its significant historic structures. You will be welcomed into one historic home each week.

- Location: Tours begin on corner of 6<sup>th</sup> & Main Streets, Tuscumbia
- Hours: Tours depart at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Admission: \$5 per seat
- Contact: Colbert County Tourism 256-383-0783

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**June 21-22, 2008 – Antiques at the River** – Shop for antiques along the river's edge.

- Location: McFarland Park, Florence
- Hours: Fri./Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 11a.m.-4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 256-740-4141

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**June 24-29, 2008 – Helen Keller Festival** – Annually 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of June

- Location: varies – most events in Spring Park, Downtown Tuscumbia
- Hours: varies
- Admission: free
- Contact: Colbert County Tourism 256-383-0783; [www.helenkellerfestival.com](http://www.helenkellerfestival.com);

**Arts and Crafts Show** – Tennessee Valley Art Center 386-0533, [tvac@hiwaay.net](mailto:tvac@hiwaay.net) or [www.tvaa.net](http://www.tvaa.net)

**Food Vendors** - Claudia Askew 256-381-9275

**Entertainment** – Bryan Thornton 256-383-0678

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**July 4, 2008 - Spirit of Freedom Celebration** – Celebrate Independence Day in the Shoals! Enjoy music entertainment, food and fabulous **FIRWORKS (9p.m.)** during this all day celebration.

- Location: McFarland Park, Florence
- Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Vendor/Entertainment contact: 256-383-2525

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**July 4, 2008 – Old Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July Walking Parade** – This parade will include a stop at the Veterans Memorial for singing the National Anthem and a few words from a guest speaker. Prizes will be awarded for best decorated bicycles, tricycles, wagons and scooters. An orchestra will be present to play patriotic music at the end of parade and lemonade will be served. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

- Location: North Montgomery Avenue (beginning at 4<sup>th</sup> Street), Sheffield
- Hours: 10:00 a.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: 256-383-0250

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**July 1-28, 2008 – Mostly Blues Exhibit** – *Get in the mood for the W.C. Handy Music Festival with this exhibit of paintings, drawings, photographs, and sculptures by area artists. The works have to have some relation to music - either portraits of famous musicians, scenes from previous Festivals, or wherever the artist's imagination leads!*

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Downtown Florence
- Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Kennedy Douglass Center for the Arts 256-760-6379

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**July TBA, 2008 – 5k Run for St. Jude** – All proceeds to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The McFarland Park course is a tree-lined flat course offering a beautiful view of the Tennessee River and Florence Harbor. Grand prize for event is a two-night stay at Nugent Hollow Cabin. Many other great prizes will be awarded.

- Location: McFarland Park (Shelter One), Florence
- Hours: Registration 6 p.m.; Run 7 p.m.
- Admission: 5k Run - \$15 Adults; \$10 children under 15  
1 Mile Fun Run - \$15 Adults, \$10 Children Under 15;  
5k and 1 mile fun run - \$20 Adults; \$15 children
- Contact: 256-740-4141 or 888-FLO-TOUR

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**July 5, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**July TBA, 2008 – Classic Antique Boat Show** – Various models of classic vessels will be on display for viewing throughout the day

- Location: Joe Wheeler State Park - Rogersville
  - Hours: Call for Details
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Joe Wheeler State Park – 256-247-5461
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**July 18-19, 2008 – Rogersville Blue Grass Festival** – This weekend of fun will include music and activities to entertain the entire family.

- Location: Rogersville
  - Hours: TBA
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Rogersville Area Chamber of Commerce 256-247-9449 or 888-FLO-TOUR
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**July 20-26, 2008 - W.C. Handy Music Festival** - *A weeklong tribute to the “Father of the Blues”, W.C. Handy. Great Jazz and Blues music can be heard throughout the Shoals at restaurants, theatres, malls, parks and other locations. The week will include over 100 events perfect for the jazz and blues enthusiast as well as great family entertainment.*

- Location: Varies
  - Hours: Varies
  - Admission: Varies
  - Contact: 256-766-9719, General 256-740-4141, [www.wchandymfest.com](http://www.wchandymfest.com)
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**July 30, 2008 – Tennessee River 600** – This week-long journey of Personal Water Crafts begins in Knoxville, TN and follows the Tennessee River for 600 miles, all participants riding to raise money for charity. Riders will ride into Lauderdale County and stay at Joe Wheeler for the night on this date. The following morning they will depart from the Joe Wheeler State Park boat ramp to continue their 600-mile journey.

- Location: Joe Wheeler State Park
  - Hours: Varies
  - Admission: Free to view
  - Contact: Joe Wheeler State Park 256-247-5461; [www.tennesseeriver600.com](http://www.tennesseeriver600.com)
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**August 2, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**August 16, 2008 – Annual Sweetwater Reunion** – Anyone associated with the Sweetwater community is invited to attend this day of fun, fellowship and food. ·

- Location: Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum 702 E. Veterans Drive
- Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Admission: Free, everyone is asked to bring a dessert.
- Contact: 256-764-0945 General Info 256-740-4141, 1-888-FLO-TOUR **No Vendors**

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**August TBA, 2008 – Sound & Taste of the Shoals**– This feast for the senses features live musical entertainment and scrumptious dishes from the best Shoals area restaurants.

- Location: Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa Conference Center
- Hours: TBA
- Admission: TBA
- Contact: 888-FLO-TOUR

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**August 22-23, 2008 – Killen Founders Day** – The town of Killen is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary—and you're invited! The parade will begin at 6 p.m. Friday evening, followed by opening ceremonies in Killen Park. Artisans and food vendors will be set up in the park Friday night and all day Saturday. There will be musical entertainment, activities for kids, and classic vehicles on display. Fireworks at 9 p.m. on Saturday will conclude the town festivities.

- Location: Killen Park – off Hwy. 72, Killen
- Hours: Friday 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: Danny Cook 256-757-3094

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**September 1, 2008 – Coon Dog Graveyard Labor Day Celebration -**

- Location: Coon Dog Cemetery, 7 miles west of Tuscumbia off Hwy 72, follow signs.
- Hours: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Admission: Free To Attend, \$5.00 for barbecue dinner.
- Contact: 256-383-0783 or 1-800-344-0783

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**September 1, 2008 – Shoals Area Labor Council Labor Day Festivities** – Events include 9 a.m. parade, followed by family activities and guest speakers throughout the day.

- Location: Spring Park, Tuscumbia
- Hours: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: 256-383-0783

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**September TBA, 2008 – Lexington Founder's Day** – Come celebrate the founding of the town of Lexington with live music, arts & crafts, and a car and truck show

- Location: Downtown Lexington
- Hours: Celebration to take place all day – call for details
- Admission: free
- Contact: Lexington Town Hall – 256-229-5221

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**September 20, 2008 – That Dam Swim** – This 12-mile swim along the Tennessee River begins below Wheeler Dam to above Wilson Dam and is sponsored by the Shoals Sharks Masters Swimming Club.

- Location: Begin just below Wheeler Dam
  - Hours: 7:30 a.m. start
  - Admission: \$75 entry fee; free to watch
  - Contact: 256-764-3272; [www.shoalssharks.com](http://www.shoalssharks.com)
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### **September TBA, 2008 – North Alabama State Fair**

- Location: North Alabama State Fairgrounds – S. Woodward Ave. & U.S. Hwy 43, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Tues.-Fri. 6 p.m. to midnight; Sat.-Sun. – Noon to Midnight
- Admission: Varies
- Contact: 256-383-3247; [www.northalabamastatefair.org](http://www.northalabamastatefair.org)

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### **October-May, 2008 (Thursdays) – Jack-O-Lantern Farm Greenhouses Indoor Farmers' Market** – Fresh hydroponically-grown fruits and vegetables, local honey & homemade breads for sale.

- Location: Garage Road – TVA Reservation, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Every Thursday 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- Admission: FREE
- Contact: 256-764-0044; [www.jackolanternfarms.com](http://www.jackolanternfarms.com)

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### **October 1-30, 2008 – Shoals Artists Guild Exhibition**– Members work in a variety of styles and media including watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, pencil and mixed media.

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Florence
- Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Admission: free
- Contact: 256-760-6379

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### **October 4, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and variety of talented guests featuring comedy, buck dancing and clogging.

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
- Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
- Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
- Contact: Keith Davis 256-383-7853 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)

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### **October 4-5, 2008 - Oktoberfest** - Various activities for the whole family. There will be games, entertainment, food, etc.

- Location: Town of St. Florian
- Hours: Sat. 9 a.m. - until; Sun. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: 256-767-3690 or Entertainment 256-767-0096

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### **October 4-5, 2008 – Killen Antique Tractor & Engine Show** –

- Location: St. Florian Oktoberfest– Killen on Hwy 72
  - Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Jerry Briley 256-757-2446 or Malcomb Wilkes 766-7698
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**October 25, 2008 – Rogersville Fall Festival**

- Location: Downtown Rogersville
  - Hours: TBA
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism 888-FLO-TOUR or Rogersville Area Chamber of Commerce 256-247-9449
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**October 26, 2008 – Shoals Symphony at UNA Fall Concert**

- Location: TBA
  - Hours: 2 p.m.
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: Shoals Symphony – 256-381-6574; [www.shoalssymphony.org](http://www.shoalssymphony.org)
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**October 18, 2008 – Annual Renaissance Feast** – Wenches and Queens alike will enjoy this authentic Renaissance Feast prepared by world-renowned chef. In true Renaissance style, entertainment will be provided throughout the meal.

- Location: Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum
  - Hours: 7 p.m.
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: 888-FLO-TOUR
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**October 25-26, 2008 – Alabama Renaissance Faire –**

- Location: Wilson Park, Downtown Florence
  - Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sun. Noon – 6 p.m.
  - Admission: FREE
  - Contact: 888-FLO-TOUR; VENDORS contact Billy Warren 256-768-3031
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**The Week of Halloween – Haunted History Ghost Tours of Florence** – Local historian and author of local ghost publications will lead you on an enchanting walking tour of Historical Florence, sharing the area's many supernatural occurrences.

- Location: Downtown Florence
  - Hours: By Appointment
  - Admission: call for details
  - Contact: Deborah – 256-757-7506; [www.shoalsghostwalk.com](http://www.shoalsghostwalk.com)
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**November 7-9, 2008 - Lion's Antique Show** – Features dealers from around the country displaying and selling fine antiques, jewelry, glassware, furniture and fun collectibles.

- Location: Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum
  - Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Sun. 12 Noon - 5:00 p.m.
  - Admission: \$5.00 – Good for all three days
  - Contact: 256-740-4141 or toll free 1-888-FLO-TOUR, Vendors- Terry Ackley 256-765-2431 [www.lionsclubantiqueshow.com/](http://www.lionsclubantiqueshow.com/)
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**November 1, 2008 – The Country Shindig** – A family oriented Country Music Show featuring Showdown and a variety of talented guests

- Location: Muscle Shoals High School, Muscle Shoals
  - Hours: Doors 6:45 p.m., Show 7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: adults \$7, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free
  - Contact: Keith Davis 256-765-8466 or [kdavis777@juno.com](mailto:kdavis777@juno.com)
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**November 11, 2008 – Veteran’s Day Parade** – Parade pays tribute to the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces

- Location: N. Main Street to Spring Park, Downtown Tuscumbia
  - Hours: 11 a.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: 256-383-2298
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**November 11, 2008 – Veteran’s Day Parade** – Parade pays tribute to the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces

- Location: N. Main Street to Spring Park, Downtown Tuscumbia
  - Hours: 11 a.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: 256-383-2298
- 

**November 12 - December 18, 2008 - Quilt Challenge '08** - *Shoals Piecemakers Quilt Guild challenges their members to create innovative quilts using a new set of rules and requirements each year.*

- Location: Kennedy-Douglass Art Center – 217 East Tuscaloosa St., Florence
  - Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: 256-760-6379, 256-740-4141, 1-888-FLO-TOUR
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**November 16, 2008 – W.C. Handy Birthday Celebration** – This annual celebration celebrates the birth of the “Father of the Blues” with free entertainment, refreshments, and birthday cake.

- Location: W.C. Handy Home & Museum – College St., Downtown Florence
  - Hours: 3 p.m.-5 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: 256-760-6434 or 1-888-FLO-TOUR
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**December 1-24, 2008– The Trees of Christmas** – The holiday season is captured through a unique and meaningful exhibition the provides insight about the people of the Shoals area: who they are, what they do and the things they think are important. Community groups and individuals create an alluring exhibition using nine 12-foot tall live spruce and fir trees to tell their stories.

- Location: Tennessee Valley Art Center
  - Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 1-3 p.m.
  - Admission: call for prices
  - Contact: Tennessee Valley Art Center 256-383-0533; [www.tvaa.net](http://www.tvaa.net)
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**December 6, 2008** (tentative) – “**An Old Fashioned Winter on the Shoals**”-The second annual Killen Christmas Parade. The parade will feature antique vehicles, wagons and trailers. Santa, Mrs. Clause and the elves will be present. Immediately following the parade, residents and visitors are invited to gather for singing of Christmas carols at Killen Methodist Church.

- Location: Parade begins at Brooks Elementary and ends at Killen Methodist Church
  - Hours: 4 p.m.
  - Admission: Free to watch
  - Contact: Barbara Austin – 256-757-1158
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**December 1-10, 2008 – Creative Christmas at Coby Hall (Festival of Trees 2006)**–

- Location: Coby Hall, UNA Campus-North Court St.
  - Hours: Call for Information
  - Admission: varies
  - Contact: (256) 765-4201
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**December 7, 2008 – Shoals Symphony at UNA Fall Concert**

- Location: TBA
  - Hours: 2 p.m.
  - Admission: TBA
  - Contact: Shoals Symphony – 256-381-6574; [www.shoalssymphony.org](http://www.shoalssymphony.org)
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**December TBA, 2008 – “A Plantation Christmas” at Belle Mont Mansion** – This annual holiday tradition includes live musical entertainment, ballroom dancers in vintage antebellum era attire, tours and refreshments.

- Location: Belle Mont Mansion, Tuscumbia, ¼ mile west of US 43S on Cook Lane
  - Hours: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Admission: \$6-adults; \$3-children (6-12 yrs old)
  - Contact: (256) 383-0783 or (800) 344-0783
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**December TBA, 2008 - Downtown Florence Festival of Lights Open House & First Fridays** – Enjoy entertainment provided by choirs caroling along the sidewalks, hand-bell choirs playing in the crisp night air, community groups and local musicians performing on this special evening. Stores will be open late, artists will be displaying their works on sidewalks, and many businesses will be holding open houses.

- Location: Held in historic downtown Florence
  - Hours: 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: 256-740-4141 or toll free 1-888-FLO-TOUR
    - Vendor Contact: Carolyn Waterman, Limestone House B&B – 256-765-0365
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**December 6, 2008 – Sheffield Christmas Parade**

- Location: N. Montgomery Ave. beginning at 10<sup>th</sup> St. and proceeding to 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
  - Hours: 6:30 p.m.
  - Admission: FREE
  - Contact: Carol Driskell 256-383-0250; [cpdriskell@cs.com](mailto:cpdriskell@cs.com)
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**December TBA, 2008 - Wheeler Lake Boat Parade of Lights -**

- Location: Wheeler Lake – Joe Wheeler State Park
  - Hours: TBA
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact: Wheeler Lake 256-247-5466; [www.joewheelerstatepark.com](http://www.joewheelerstatepark.com)
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**December TBA, 2008 – Rogersville Christmas Parade**

- Location: Downtown Rogersville
  - Hours: TBA
  - Admission: FREE
  - Contact: Rogersville Area Chamber of Commerce 256-247-9449; 888-FLO-TOUR
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**December TBA, 2008 - Pope's Tavern Christmas Open House & Every Light A Prayer For Peace – Pope's Tavern will be decorated for Christmas. There will be a special lighting ceremony and caroling.**

- Location: Pope's Tavern 203 Hermitage Drive, Downtown Florence
  - Hours: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
  - Admission: Free
  - Contact 256-760-6439
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**December 13, 2008 - NCAA Division II National Championship Football Game**

- Location: Braly Municipal Stadium – Florence
  - Hours: Kickoff 11:00 a.m.
  - Admission: \$15.00
  - Contact: Shoals Chamber of Commerce 256-764-4661 or 1-888-FLO-TOUR.
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**December TBA, 2008 – Christmas Open House at Ivy Green –**

- Location: Ivy Green, 300 West North Commons – Tuscumbia
- Hours: 1 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Admission: Free
- Contact: 256-383-4066, (256) 383-0783 or (800) 344-0783

**All Dates are Subject to Change!**

**Plases Verify Dates and Times Before Attending  
An Event.**