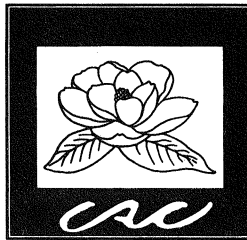


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MEDIA ALERT – WINNERS OF THE 13TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

Douglasville, Georgia – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is pleased to announce the winners of the 13th ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF at O’Neal Plaza, on Saturday, October 30th. Despite rescheduling and less than perfect weather, this annual fundraiser for the Cultural Arts Council was attended by almost 2,000 people this year, about half the participants of last year’s festivities, which had been held in conjunction with the annual City of Douglasville Moonlight Run. After being rained out for its Concert on the Plaza in September, the Pan People Steel Band performed throughout the Chili Cook Off, warming up the stalwart crowd who had braved the fog and drizzle. With support from the City of Douglasville, participants also enjoyed rides around the Downtown Historic District in the Trick or Treat Trolley where children received charming wooden banks donated by the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Lowe’s.

Our panel of celebrity judges – Downtown Development Authority Chair Jack Tysor, past competition winner Tony Godfrey, Jerry Frost of the Douglas County Film Commission, and State Representative Roger Bruce – deliberated long and carefully before awarding the honor of “**Best Tasting**” to **Lane Blair**’s delicious chili for the second year in a row; second place went to BB&T bank’s team; and third place was won by Douglas County Coroner Randy Daniel who has won the award many years in the past. CAC Board members Jerry Leath and Denise Overfield awarded the “**Best Presentation**” to the Downtown Development Authority for the most creatively decorated booth with second place in this category going to the County Coroner with third place decided as a three-way tie among Atlanta West Hair (another frequent past winner), Don Brown’s Blues Brothers, and a first-time competitor, the Douglas County United Way/U.S. Census Bureau. **Don Brown** with his “Blues Brothers Chili” also won the highly competitive award of “**Most Sold**” this year with Randy Daniel in second place and Atlanta West Hair taking third.

The Children’s Halloween Costume Contest proved more popular than ever, and our panel of judges – Superintendent of Schools Don Remillard, CAC Board member and Arts Education Committee Chair June Keen, and Rochelle Robinson, a Board member of both the Water and Sewer Authority and the Cultural Arts Council – faced tough decisions in awarding prizes for most creative costuming, but every child was a winner at the 2009 Chili Cookoff! **David Calhoun** and **Miyah Randolph**, both age 3, were awarded best costumes in the pre-Kindergarten category; **Madison Ballauf**, age 6, won in the kindergarten through fifth grade group; and **Aaron Roberts**, age 11, was the prize-winner in the sixth to eighth grade category.

The proceeds from this sold-out family fun event benefit the Cultural Arts Council and its educational outreach programming including arts in afterschool initiative, artists in our schools program, and spring and summer art camps; the monthly exhibition program at the Cultural Arts Center; and the CAC’s popular free spring and fall concerts series, also presented on O’Neal Plaza in Douglasville’s historic downtown.

THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY

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