

Big Cypress

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Cypress National Preserve
Florida



3rd Annual Swamp Heritage Festival Schedule of Presentations

Saturday, December 7, 2013

The Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center
33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141



Discover the stories of the inhabitants of South Florida, whose rugged strength and pioneering spirit contributed to the shaping of today's unique and diverse cultures in the Big Cypress Swamp. Explore over 25 exhibitor booths, see Artist Deborah Mitchell's Backcountry Exhibit in the preserve's visitor centers, check-out over 10 different buggy displays and enjoy local food from Camilla Street Grill!

Entertainment – Music Tent		Facinating Campfire Talks		
9:45 - 10:00	Festival Welcome by the Superintendent	10:00	Lynwood Scott and Victor Frank share family stories of growing up and spending time in the Big Cypress Swamp.	
10:00 - 3:45	A variety of music and original songs provided by J. Roberts, Raiford Starke, Cindy Hackney and Gator Nate	10:30	Bobby C. Billie , Clan Leader and Spiritual Leader, Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples and Leroy Osceola , Council Everglades Miccosukee Tribe of Seminole Indians share their knowledge of the Big Cypress.	
3:45 - 4:00	Festival Closing. Remember to join us again on December 6th, 2014 for the 4 th annual festival and to celebrate Big Cypress National Preserve's 40th anniversary.	11:00	Author Mayra Repko discusses how Marjory Stoneman Douglas helped rescue the Big Cypress from ruin by the proposed jetport that would have been built here, and about the life of this amazing woman who was so influential in saving the greater Glades. * book signing to follow	
Thought Provoking Presentations – Welcome Center Auditorium		11:30	Break	
10:00	Carol Mahler , author of the book <u><i>Barefoot Artist of the Florida Seminoles</i></u> , will discuss how artist Guy Labree has portrayed the Big Cypress through his award winning paintings. * book signing to follow	11:45	Franklin Adams shares early memories of his time spent in the swamp and talks about the fight to preserve the Big Cypress.	
11:00	Nancy Russell and Bonnie Ciolino , National Park Service's South Florida Collections Management Center, will provide an overview of the role oral histories play in preserving local culture.	12:15	Jillian Sanchez , Naples Swamp Buggy Queen, and her court Taylor Gunnglunson, Kaylee Leborgne and Mae Enlow describe the history of the swamp buggy races and their experiences as queen and court for the races.	
12:00	Commissioner Ron Bergeron , an 8th generation Floridian and a member of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will speak about his passion for protecting South Florida wildlife, preserving Big Cypress and sharing his love of the outdoors with the next generation of young Floridians.	12:45	Author Carol Mahler will share stories from her book <u><i>Barefoot Artist of the Florida Seminoles</i></u> . * book signing to follow	
1:00	Actress Janina Birtolo performs a one-woman play about environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas in <u><i>"A voice of the Everglades"</i></u> .	1:15	Break	
2:00	Frank Berna shares his 25 years of photography experience and discusses the challenge of capturing wildlife photos and his passion for the Big Cypress.	1:30	Former Artists in Residence Deborah Mitchell, Linda Apriletti, Hannah Ineson and Jacqueline Roch will share their experiences of fostering inspiration for art from the Big Cypress.	
 <p>Look for the Alligator throughout the day for information on safe wildlife viewing. Alligator costume courtesy of Kenny Hill.</p>		2:30	Author Maureen Sullivan-Hartung will provide book readings and story-telling from her book <i>Hidden History of Everglades City and Points Nearby</i> . *book signing to follow	
			3:00	Break
			3:15	Jack Sheally II will talk about growing up in the swamp and how it has influenced his life and career.
		7:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Join the National Park Service and local astronomy clubs for an evening under the stars on Seagrape Drive as they link the night sky to our shared heritage.		

Support for this event is provided by



All Program times are subject to change.

Seating and shade may be limited at the festival, bring your own chair or blanket to sit on and plenty of sunscreen and a hat to wear for protection from the sun.

The Swamp Heritage Festival provides a venue for individuals and groups with a deep connection to the Big Cypress Swamp an opportunity to share stories of the past and hopes for the future related to this special place. The views and opinions of participants are not necessarily those of the National Park Service or Big Cypress National Preserve.