

Performance Schedule

For more info visit:
www.wesleyan.edu/cfa/riverfrontencounter 860-685-3355

Main Stage

See #8 on festival map inside for stage location.

12pm-12:45pm: Peter Siegel

Hailing from Vermont, Mr. Siegel contributes a radical chord to American roots music. Influenced by the songwriting of Pete Seeger, rugged old time jams, traditional Northern tunes, and the blues, Mr. Siegel's music defies categorization.

1pm-1:45pm: Mattabesett String Collective

Mattabesett is a five-piece acoustic ensemble playing an eclectic mix of bluegrass, blues, folk, mountain, country, and rock, all in a string band style. The band features Barry Chernoff, Marc Eisner, Rebecca McCallum, Chad Reddick, and Gil Skillman.

2pm-2:45pm: Honey and the Sting

Formed at Wesleyan University in 2012, this band composed ten songs that honor the Connecticut River and the people and animals that inhabit its banks. The band aims to create art that activates its audiences and connects them to their environment. Featuring Gemma Smith '13, Melanie Hsu '13, Skip Robinson, Jessica Best '14, and Sam Long '12.

3pm-3:45pm: Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem

Harmony, rhythm, indelible songs—these are the hallmarks of Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem. Many of their songs plumb the human condition, with topics ranging from joy to death, loss, aging, blackbirds, and red-haired boys. Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem are Rani Arbo, Andrew Kinsey, Anand Nayak '96, and Scott Kessel '88, MALS '92.

4pm-4:45pm: The Royal Boys

The Royal Boys sing and play the music of mariners in the age of sail. Geoff Kaufman and Craig Edwards '83 are among the world's foremost performers and scholars of sailor music. They are joined by banjoist/singer Dan Spurr as they sing shipboard work songs, ballads, whaling songs, and dance music as it could have been heard on clipper ships, whaling ships, fishing schooners, and river craft, or in waterfront saloons and dance halls.

Kid's Stage

See #5 on festival map inside for stage location.

12:15pm-1:15pm: Circophony by ARTFARM & Oddfellows Playhouse

Circophony members will share selections from their 2014-2015 original show: *Circus On the High Seas!* Circophony is a select youth circus company committed to providing first class training to aspiring circus performers. Circophony is a collaboration between ARTFARM and Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater. The company is open by audition to young people ages 12 to 18.

1:30pm-2pm: Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem

Members of the Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem band will perform music that charms the entire family. They dig deeply into the American musical tradition by performing everything from funky Delta blues to Appalachian ballads and spirituals.

2:15pm-3pm: Anastasia and Christopher Jankowski

Interactive music, yoga, theater, and circus arts for children and families by husband and wife duo.

3:15pm-4pm: Margie Warner

With a unique understanding of what makes kids tick, Margie Warner teaches the joy and humor of life through her lively and entertaining family concerts.

4:15pm-5pm: Middletown High School Band

Members of the Middletown High School Band will play river-related songs under the direction of Kimberly Everson.

Organizations and Vendors

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION ZONE ORGANIZATIONS

See #6 on festival map inside for location.

City of Middletown
Clean Energy Task Force
City of Middletown
Recycling Commission
Connecticut Clean Energy Fund
Connecticut Fund for the Environment (Save the Sound)
Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District
Connecticut River Watershed Council
CT Rides
Jonah Center for Earth and Art

Middlesex Community College
Middlesex Land Trust
The Rockfall Foundation
Russell Library
TechniArt
Wesleyan University Archaeology and Anthropology Collections
Wesleyan Composting Committee
Wesleyan Connecticut Forest and Park Association
Wesleyan University's Long Lane Farm

CRAFT FAIR VENDORS

See #3 on festival map inside for location.

All In One Boutique
Andie's Cookies
Birdhouse Beauties
Coaster Mania!
Dame Champagne
It Works!
Mary Kay
Next Step Living
Omusono
Pink Zebra
Skippin' Stones
Tupperware



For more information and participant websites, please visit
www.wesleyan.edu/cfa/riverfrontencounter

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to festival staff and volunteers. Thanks also to festival partners: The Buttonwood Tree Performing Arts and Cultural Center, City of Middletown, Jonah Center for Earth and Art, Kidcity Children's Museum, Middlesex Community College, Mattabesett Canoe Club, Middletown Garden Club, Middlesex County Historical Society, Middletown Public Schools, Oddfellows Playhouse, and Wesleyan University's Center for the Arts, Center for Community Partnerships, College of the Environment, and Green Street Teaching and Learning Center. We would also like to thank Jerry Zinser for designing and creating the Riverfront Encounter Fish Sculptures, and Jennifer Kolosky for distributing, collecting, and finding artists to paint and decorate the sculptures.

Made possible by the State of Connecticut's Department of Economic and Community Development's Arts Catalyze Placemaking program, the City of Middletown and the Middletown Commission on the Arts, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Wesleyan University's Green Fund.

Planning Committee Members: Peter Albano, Stephan Allison, Barbara Ally, Rani Arbo, Scott Backer, Charlotte Bowden, Becca Brand, Anne-Marie Cannata, Barry Chernoff, Rick Culliton, Andy Curran, Genna DeGroot, Kim Diver, Eva Dykas, Courtney Fullilove, Marco Gaylord, Molly Grund, Dolly Haddad, John Hall, Erik Hesselberg, Joyce Jacobsen, John Killian, Jen Kleindienst, Katja Kolcio, Cathy Lechowicz, Manon Lefevre, Kadets Lili, Sharifa Lookman, Sara MacSorley, Valery Marinelli, Joe McCarthy, Rebecca McCullum, Ishita Mukerji, Bill Nelligan, Hanna Oravec, Kim O'Rourke, Evan Ortez, Kristen Palmer, Erinn Roos-Brown, Joseph Smolinsky, Pamela Tatge, Kate TenEyck, Pat Tully, Matthew Weber, Kate Weiner, Rachel Weisberg, Becca Wilton, Krishna Winston, and Christine Witkowski.



Feet to the Fire: Riverfront Encounter



RIVERFRONT ENCOUNTER

Celebrate the river as a source of cultural inspiration and creativity

Saturday, May 9, 2015 from Noon until 5pm

FREE! (Rain or Shine)

Harbor Park beside the Connecticut River
Harbor Drive, Middletown, CT 06457

Saturday, May 9, 2015 from Noon until 5pm

Festival Map



Feet to the Fire: Riverfront Encounter features live music, visual art installations, plein air painters, a kids' activity zone, environmental education exhibits, a craft fair, and a farmer's market—all designed to bring visitors closer to the rich culture, history, and science of the Connecticut River.

Festival Map Legend

- 1. Pedestrian Tunnel Sound Installation by Cecilia Lopez: Resonances of Vigilante Margarita in Middletown**
Listen to Wesleyan University graduate student Cecilia Lopez and her Buenos Aires-based pop-indie band Vigilante Margarita's recorded songs about the river in Buenos Aires, as well as water, nature, and animal life. These recordings will be played in the pedestrian tunnel connecting Harbor Park with downtown Middletown.
- 2. Wesleyan Class Project: Confluence**
Explore a living sculpture envisioned and built by Wesleyan students in Visiting Professor of Environmental Studies Joseph Smolinski's "Art in a Mediated Landscape: Contemporary Issues of Art and the Environment" course. The earth mound sculpture asks visitors to experience the park and river in a new way, to contemplate their relationship to the river, and to reconsider how we choose to interact with nature in everyday life. Visitors are invited to touch, climb, sit on, and explore.
- 3. Craft Fair**
Vendors will be on hand with their environmentally friendly wares. *See list of participants on reverse for details.*
- 4. Gone Fishin'**
Learn how to fish, and discover more about what swims in the Connecticut River, with local fisherman Shane Grant. May 9 is "Free Fishing Day" in Connecticut.
- 5. Kid's Stage**
Family-friendly performances will keep all ages entertained. *See performance schedule on reverse for details.*
- 6. Environmental Action Zone**
Meet members of local environmental groups and businesses to learn about what is going on in the community and how you can get involved. *See list of participants on reverse for details.*
- 7. Farmer's Market**
Enjoy locally grown and made produce, bread, and other delicious goods. Festival patrons can blend their own smoothies with electricity generated by bicycles.

- 8. Main Stage**
Encounter the Connecticut River while listening to the music of five exceptional bands. Short talks about the history, science, and culture of the river will be given between musical sets. *See performance schedule on reverse for details.*
- 9. Riverfront Encounter Fish Sculptures**
American shad swim up the Connecticut River between April and June, and have done so for centuries. Painted by regional artists and area youth, 40 sculptures featuring the shape of the American Shad have been designed and constructed by artist Jerry Zinser and line the walkway of Harbor Park.
- 10. Kids' Activity Zone**
Engage in fun activities designed for all ages to learn more about the Connecticut River and engage your creative side. Activities organized by Kidcity Children's Museum, Jonah Center for Earth and Art, and Wesleyan University's Rho Epsilon Pi.
- 11. Middletown High School Crew**
Learn how to row and test out a rowing machine with members of the Middletown High School crew team.
- 12. Wishing Well Water Stations**
In an effort to combat plastic waste, water stations will provide free, purified water to visitors. Wesleyan University students designed these stations as part of an environmental design competition in 2013.
- 13. River Run**
As a tribute to the Native Americans who lived along the Connecticut River, Dr. Deborah Simmons constructed a twelve-foot sail/row boat, incorporating images representing a navigational map of the Connecticut River using water-soluble inks, acrylics, and gold and silver leaf.
- 14. Central Connecticut Rowing Club**
With a mission to grow the rowing community within Middletown and throughout Connecticut, this club offers rowing programs for everyone ages twelve and up, from the novice to the experienced rower, from recreational to competitive.
- 15. Wesleyan Class Project: Research Methods in Environmental Studies: River Encounter**
Wesleyan students in this class have developed a variety of arts-based programs to help visitors learn more about the Connecticut River. Activities include a tea ceremony, a site-specific dance, and more. The course was co-taught by Environmental Studies Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow Helen Poulos and choreographer Jill Sigman.
- 16. Middletown Garden Club**
Butterflies fluttering and bees buzzing add a lovely dimension to the beauty of gardens. The Middletown Garden Club will be selling containers of plants that will bloom throughout the growing season. These plants are host and nectar plants for pollinators that are in a perilous state in backyard gardens.

- 17. Food Trucks**
Taste delicious treats from local food trucks, including Firedog, Jammed 4 Thyme, Mamoun's Falafel Cart, NoRA Cupcake Company, Pizza to the People, and Spud's Your Way.
- 18. Sandbox Arts Boat Tours**
The Sandbox Arts Collective invites you to explore the Connecticut River through the means of creation. The local arts collective created a river vessel (cata-canoe) that will hold up to six passengers as it travels along the river equipped with personal work spaces for artistic creation. Tours will depart approximately every 30 minutes. (subject to river conditions)
- 19. Mattabesett Canoe Club**
Enjoy food and beverages at this picturesque riverside restaurant. Visit the back patio for a great view of the river with a relaxed atmosphere.
- 20. Drum Circle**
Enjoy a percussive jam session or bring your own drums and join in! From 2pm to 4pm. Organized by The Buttonwood Tree Performing Arts & Cultural Center.

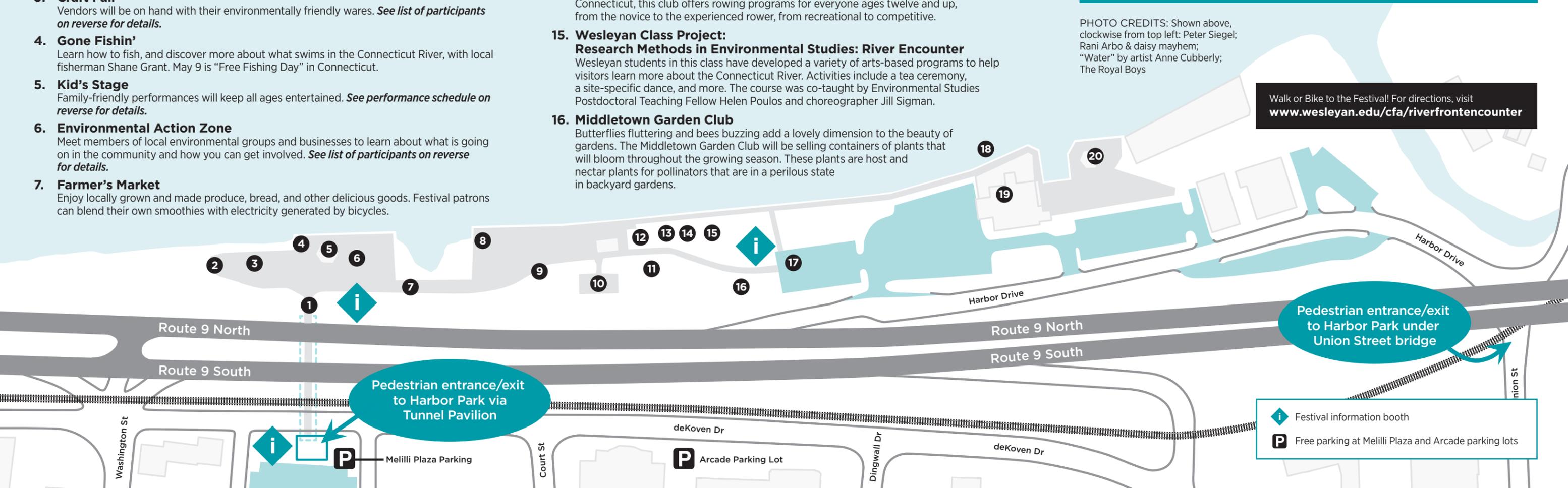
Various Locations

Plein Air Painters (located throughout the park)
Watch artists paint the landscape of the Connecticut River and Harbor Park throughout the day of the festival. Organized by the Art Guild of Middletown.

Anne Cubberly's "Water" Puppet
Meet "Water," a giant puppet designed by Connecticut artist Anne Cubberly, as she roams the festival from Noon to 3pm.

PHOTO CREDITS: Shown above, clockwise from top left: Peter Siegel; Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem; "Water" by artist Anne Cubberly; The Royal Boys

Walk or Bike to the Festival! For directions, visit www.wesleyan.edu/cfa/riverfrontencounter



Pedestrian entrance/exit to Harbor Park via Tunnel Pavilion

Pedestrian entrance/exit to Harbor Park under Union Street bridge

i Festival information booth

P Free parking at Melilli Plaza and Arcade parking lots