

PRESS RELEASE

Golden Isle CultureFest 2026
The Abbott Institute
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10th Annual Golden Isles CultureFest Returns April 18, 2026 *Celebrating a Decade of Culture, Community, and Legacy*

Brunswick, GA — The Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute proudly announces the **10th Annual Golden Isles CultureFest**, a milestone community celebration honoring global cultures, artistic expression, and unity in the Golden Isles. The free, family-friendly festival will take place **Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Mary Ross Park in Downtown Brunswick.**





Now in its tenth year, Golden Isles CultureFest has grown into one of the region’s most anticipated cultural events, drawing residents and visitors together for a vibrant day of live entertainment, international cuisine, artisan vendors, and interactive cultural experiences. The 2026 festival marks a decade of honoring heritage, creativity, and community connection.

Attendees can expect a dynamic lineup of **live performances** featuring singers, musicians, dance teams, cultural dancers, step and cheer teams, spoken-word artists, poets, and storytellers representing traditions from around the world. The festival will also showcase **artisan and food vendors**, food trucks, and community organizations curated to reflect cultural authenticity and the spirit of CultureFest.

“Golden Isles CultureFest was created to celebrate diversity while bringing our community together in a meaningful way,” said **LaTanya Abbott-Austin, Executive Director of The Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute.** “As we celebrate our 10th anniversary, we are especially proud of the legacy this event has built—uplifting culture, supporting local talent, and creating space for unity.”

Vendor applications for artisans, food vendors, food trucks, and local entertainers are now open. Community partners and sponsors are also invited to participate in this landmark year.

Event Details:

-  **Saturday, April 18, 2026**
-  **11:00 AM – 4:00 PM**
-  **Mary Ross Park | Downtown Brunswick, GA**
-  **Free and open to the public**

For vendor opportunities, sponsorship information, or general inquiries, visit theabbottinstitute.org

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What Is CultureFest?

Golden Isles CultureFest is a signature community celebration produced by the Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute (ARUI). Inspired by the legacy of Robert S. Abbott — founder of *The Chicago Defender* and a national voice for unity, opportunity, and justice — CultureFest brings cultures together through shared experiences that educate, inspire, and connect.

From global flavors and traditional performances to local artisans and community storytelling, CultureFest is where culture comes alive — in a space designed to be accessible and welcoming to all.

And yes — it is completely FREE to attend.

Investing in the Next Generation — The ARUI Defenders

CultureFest is more than a festival — it's a launchpad for future leaders.

Through the ARUI Defenders Youth Ambassador Initiative, young people gain experience in cultural literacy, leadership, storytelling, and civic engagement. During CultureFest, Defenders participate in real event operations, community engagement, and cultural learning — preparing them to become the next generation of community and civic leaders.

When you support or attend CultureFest, you are helping invest in youth leadership and community future. The ARUI Defenders Youth Ambassador Initiative connects young people to real-world leadership, workforce readiness, and community engagement experiences.

About The Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute

The Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute (ARUI) is dedicated to promoting cultural awareness, unity, and civic engagement through education, arts, and community-centered programming. Golden Isles CultureFest is one of the Institute's signature events, fostering connection and celebration across cultures in Southeast Georgia.