

PRESS RELEASE

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.jpg photos avail upon request

FESTIVAL & TOUR SHOWCASE VIBRANCY OF DOWNTOWN LIVING

TOUR & DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL RETURNS MAY 14 & 15

ATLANTA- The Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association (ADNA) hosts the annual Atlanta Downtown Festival and Tour, a showcase of downtown life on May 14 and 15 in the Fairlie Poplar and Centennial Park districts of downtown Atlanta. The Association is producing the combined tour and street festival on its own this year, after teaming up with Central Atlanta Progress for several past events. For eight years, CAP had hosted one of the region's most popular home tours, The Downtown Tour of Lofts and Lifestyles. In 2002 the Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association launched a festival on the streets of the historic Fairlie Poplar district held on the same weekend as the loft tour. Last year, the two organizations banded together to produce the combined event. For 2005, Central Atlanta Progress has turned over the reins of the event to the neighborhood association.

The Downtown Festival and Tour is a resident led event held on Walton and Broad Streets in the heart of Fairlie Poplar and it includes a walking tour, artist's market, children's activity area, and live entertainment on two stages.

This year's tour will feature 20 lofts, condos and other unique living spaces on a walking tour in and around Fairlie Poplar and Centennial Olympic Park. This year the event will also feature other historical and renovated spaces throughout the area. The festival site in the heart of the district will include live entertainment on two stages beginning at noon each day, an artist market with more than 100 booths, a beer garden and other activities designed to showcase the vibrancy of downtown living. Some of the Southeast's finest visual artists will display their work at the Artists' Market. The children's area will let young artists create their own masterpieces and enjoy a series of hands-on activities and storytelling.

Applications for artists, vendors and entertainers wishing to participate in the festival are available at the ADNA website www.atlantadna.org.

Sponsors for the Festival include ING, AMC America's Mart, Fulton County Arts Council, The Coca-Cola Company, Sweetwater Brewing Co.

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For more information or the latest updates, log onto www.atlantadowntown.com

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