

Explore “Roots ~ Raices” at NeoRio 2018

For immediate Release

What: NeoRio 2018: Roots ~ Raices

Where: Montoso Campground, Wild Rivers, Rio Grande del Norte National Monument

When: Saturday, September 15, 4 - 9 pm (see schedule for specifics)

Price: Free and open to all. Donations appreciated. Camping \$7/night

Press Contact/More Info for Public: www.LeapSite.org emailforleap@gmail.com (575) 224-9066

NeoRio offers thought-provoking art installations right on the rim of the Rio Grande gorge, along with a farm-to-table feast, poetry and music. The outdoor contemporary art and community event is an opportunity to discover the sublime Wild Rivers area of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, or, to experience it in a whole new way. Now in its 10th year, this annual event offers a unique experience every year. NeoRio 2018 will take place at Montoso Campground at the Wild Rivers Recreation Area on Saturday, September 15, from 4 to 9 pm.

Each year, NeoRio features a different theme. This year it is *Roots ~ Raices*, which “digs deeper” into the botanical strand of recent years. Roots are mysterious, complex, often unseen, but also innate and essential. This year’s theme is a little different because it intentionally encourages deep, metaphorical exploration and interpretation, invoking concepts of cultural heritage and place as well as other manifestations to be discovered throughout the afternoon and evening at NeoRio. The event will host featured artists, Scott Sutton, Kacie Smith and UNM students of the immersive Land Arts of the American West program. NeoRio contributing artists are Martha Shepp and Nicholette Jean Coddling.

During the afternoon, guests are invited to tour and interact with the art installations and projects and explore family-friendly, hands-on activities offered by collaborators. The roots-inspired late afternoon poetry and music salon will begin at 5 pm, featuring youth poetry and local musicians, followed by music from the High Desert Acoustic Duo (Justin Dean and Mark Dudrow) and a locally-sourced, northern NM, fall Feast from the Questa Farmers Market growers, cooks and bakers. At dusk, on the heels of dinner, portable solar power provided by PPC Solar will allow NeoRio featured artists to offer short, informative, illustrated talks.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers and Trails Acts, and will be celebrated at NeoRio along with National Public Lands Day. NeoRio is organized by LEAP - Land, Experience and Art of Place, (a program of Local nonprofit Localogy) in partnership with the new Questa Creative Council, the Bureau of Land Management’s Taos Field Office and others.

NeoRio 2018 Schedule, Montoso Campground, Wild Rivers:

4 pm: Roots-Inspired Art Installations and Activities

5 pm: Poetry and Music Salon

6 pm: Farm-to-Table Feast and Music by Justin Dean and Mark Dudrow

7 pm: Artist Talks by NeoRio Featured Artists

8 pm: Campfire and Music (bring an instrument!)

Please carpool if you can; parking is limited. This is a *free* event; donations appreciated. NeoRio is made possible by individual donations, sponsorships from PPC Solar and other businesses. This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts. Special thanks also to grants from Taos County, Questa Economic Development Fund and Chevron Questa Mine Grants for Good.

Find out more about NeoRio at www.LeapSite.org or call Claire at 575-224-9066.

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