



VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

APRIL 24 - 27, 2025
SCOPE ARENA, NORFOLK, VA

An Awe-inspiring Celebration of Patriotism



Presented by

VIRGINIA
ARTS
FESTIVAL

The
HIXON
FAMILY

VA250



2025 VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO



Photography © by: Thirty-three Photography, David Polston, Heiko DeWees, Trina Haj, Rachel Greenberg, Christopher Carroll, Larry Ferdinande, De Ann Troen and Todd Owyong

VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

The Virginia International Tattoo is located in the Coastal Virginia city of Norfolk, which is home to the world’s largest Navy base, NATO’s only North American headquarters, and the largest population of active duty and retired military in the United States. With our “home port” in these waters, it is no surprise that our Tattoo is widely known as the most patriotic in the world.

THE “TATTOO” TRADITION

The centuries-old tradition of Tattoo originated as a signal from drummers instructing Dutch innkeepers near military garrisons to “Doe den Tap-too” or “turn off the tap.” Hearing the call “Tap-too,” soldiers would return to their barracks for an evening roll call. The ensuing parade of soldiers evolved into a spectacle now known worldwide as “Tattoo.”

TICKETS AVAILABLE ORDER TODAY for the BEST SEATS!

Tattoo performances sell out every year.
Guarantee great seats for your group — order now!

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025, 7:30 PM (OPENING NIGHT)
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025, 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025, 7:30 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025, 2:30 PM
SCOPE ARENA, NORFOLK, VA 23510

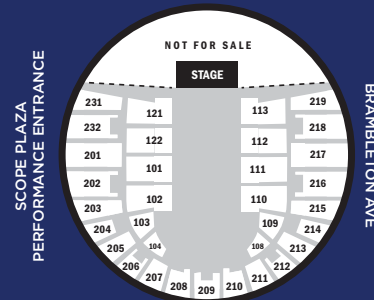
VAFEST.ORG | 757-282-2822 | 1-877-741-2787

Groups traveling on motorcoaches receive complimentary tickets for the driver and escort when at least 25 tickets are purchased.

CALL OUR GROUP SALES DEPARTMENT
757-282-2819 OR 877-741-2787

SEATING CHART

MONTICELLO AVE



ST. PAUL'S BLVD

Tickets \$25, \$35, \$45, \$55, \$75, \$100
Groups of 10+ SAVE 15%
Students under 25, SAVE 50%
Seniors and Military, SAVE 10%
No discounts on \$75 & \$100 tickets

ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND ENJOY THESE FREE EVENTS!



VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO HULLABALOO

Come early and enjoy music, dancing, drill routines and drumming exhibitions that kick off each Tattoo performance. Food, drink and souvenirs are available for purchase. Prepare for the downbeat of the Virginia International Tattoo!

THURSDAY - SATURDAY, APRIL 24 - APRIL 26, 2025, 4:30 - 7:30 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
 SCOPE PLAZA, NORFOLK, FREE



INTERNATIONAL DRUMMING SHOWCASE

Percussionists from all over the world show their skills in this exciting display. In partnership with Drum Corps International.

THURSDAY - FRIDAY, APRIL 24 - APRIL 25, 2025, 6 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025, 5 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025, 1 PM
 SCOPE PLAZA, NORFOLK, FREE



FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Celebrate the bond between the city of Norfolk and NATO at this military ceremony. See representatives from all NATO Member Nations and performances by the U.S. Fleet Forces Band.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025, 5 PM - 6 PM
 SCOPE PLAZA, NORFOLK, FREE



72nd ANNUAL PARADE OF NATIONS

The only parade in the U.S. to honor NATO features over 100 parade units including U.S. and international bands, military units, community groups and floats representing every NATO Member Nation!

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025, 10 AM - 11:30 AM
 DOWNTOWN NORFOLK, FREE
 RESERVED SEATING: \$10, RESERVE AT VAFEST.ORG



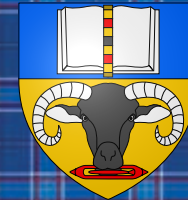
INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE

Visit the Village in Norfolk's beautiful waterfront Town Point Park. Explore international heritage with performances complimented by food and international beers available for purchase. Immediately follows the Parade of Nations.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025, 11:30 AM - 3 PM
 TOWN POINT PARK, NORFOLK, FREE

THE VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO HIXON TARTAN

THE SCOTTISH REGISTER OF TARTANS



The Virginia International Tattoo has embraced Scottish Tattoo tradition with its own tartan design. The tartan is the inspiration of Virginia Arts Festival Board Member Jim Hixon and therefore named the Virginia International Tattoo Hixon Tartan.

The Virginia International Tattoo Hixon Tartan perfectly demonstrates the rich heritage the Tattoo celebrates and the great state in which it resides. The dominant "Festival Blue" embodies the Virginia Arts Festival and pays tribute to those who bring the arts to life. The red, white and blue threads intricately woven throughout the tartan symbolize the patriotic themes and the heart-stirring performances synonymous with the Tattoo. The Virginia Flag and the Norfolk Seal are represented by the blue hues interlacing the tartan. And the grey stripes remind us of the massive grey hulls that guard our harbor and the mighty jets whose presence overhead keep us ever mindful of the men and women who sacrifice for our freedom.

VISITING THE TATTOO IS EASY!

Whether you fly, drive, or ride the train or bus, our central mid-Atlantic location is easy to reach — within a day's drive from two-thirds of the nation's population, and serviced by international airports.



DISTANCE FROM:
 Outer Banks, NC...75 miles
 Richmond, VA.....90 miles
 Washington, D.C...195 miles
 New York City.....356 miles
 Atlanta, GA.....564 miles



GROUPS LOVE THE FESTIVAL! For information about bringing your group of 10+ to a Virginia Arts Festival performance, call **757-282-2819** or email **groupsales@vafest.org**.

HOTEL PARTNERS

- NORFOLK**
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 757-963-6000 • marriott.com/orfdt
- Glass Light Hotel & Gallery, Autograph Collection**
 757-222-3033 • glasslighthouse.com
- Hampton Inn Norfolk - Naval Base**
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- Hilton Norfolk The Main**
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- Norfolk Waterside Marriott**
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- Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel**
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- WILLIAMSBURG**
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Co-presented with **HIXON FAMILY**

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APRIL 24 - 27, 2025 • SCOPE ARENA, NORFOLK, VA

Presenting Sponsor **VA250**

“ We were so touched by the performance. I became very emotional and the singing brought tears to my eyes ... It was hard getting to sleep when we got home. It was an amazing evening. ”

Nell Wichmann



Presented in cooperation with North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Norfolk NATO Festival.

Supported in part by the Diann Prentiss Virginia International Tattoo Fund of the Virginia Arts Festival Endowment.

Event Sponsor 4/24

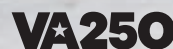
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Additional Support provided by Bank of America, HII Mission Technologies, Omni Financial, Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, and Virginia Electronic Systems.



HUNDREDS OF PERFORMERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD!



2025 VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

A CELEBRATION 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 250TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE CORPS

The 2025 Virginia International Tattoo will feature an incredible international cast of more than 800 civilian and military performers from 6 nations. Expect returning favorites, including Norway's spectacular Band and Drill Team of His Majesty the King's Guard and new performers that are sure to become favorites. The remarkable Massed Pipes and Drums from 4 nations will be joined by the incredible OzScot Australia Highland Dancers.

This Tattoo will include an emotional and grateful tribute to the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps on the occasion of their 250th Birthdays. With stirring music and presentations, tributes from U.S. military bands and appearances by special guests, this Tattoo will remind us that as Americans, we have lived under a blanket of freedom woven by the service and sacrifice of our fellow citizen soldiers for 250 years. And of course we will celebrate the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard, Air Force, and Space Force as well!

The Virginia International Tattoo - A Scottish Tradition with American Soul! Get your tickets now!

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SCOPE ARENA, NORFOLK
TICKETS START AT \$25

AUSTRALIA

OzScot Australia Highland Dancers: This team is celebrating their 23rd year touring and will bring 32 elite dancers for their 6th performance in the Virginia International Tattoo.

Pipes & Drums of the Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia: The oldest civilian pipe band in the Southern Hemisphere received the prefix 'Royal' from King George VI in recognition of their service during the Boer War and World War I.

CANADA

Royal Canadian Air Force Pipes and Drums: Formed in 1949 the band shares Canadian military tradition, heritage, and excellence at high-profile events in Canada and internationally.

JAPAN

Japan Air Self-Defense Force Central Band: In 1992, the band was the first Asian band to receive the "Colonel Howard Commemorative Outstanding Military Band Award" from the Sousa Foundation. This will be their first performance in the U.S. since 1999.

NORWAY

His Majesty the King's Guard Band and Drill Team: Comprised of conscripts, those serving required military service, Hans Majestet Kongens Garde is comprised of a combined band and drill team who showcase Norwegian tradition, precision drill and expert musicianship.

UNITED KINGDOM

Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band of Northern Ireland: Based in Ballyclare, the band was formed in 1957 and named after Major John Maynard Sinclair MP, who served as a Captain with the Royal Irish Rifles during World War I.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Camden County Emerald Society Pipes and Drums: This New Jersey-based band, comprised of active and retired emergency and military personnel, support the community by performing in ceremonies for the fallen and in special events and parades.

Granby High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

Hampton Roads Police Honor Guards

Mesa Caledonian Pipe Band: Arizona's premier Scottish pipe band was founded in 1980 and has grown from the original four founding members to over 30 today.

Norfolk Fire-Rescue Honor Guard

Old Dominion University Concert Choir: These graduate and undergraduate students major in a variety of studies, including music, engineering, education, medical sciences, and graphic arts.

Tidewater Pipes and Drums: Formed in 1975, the band wears the Virginia International Tattoo Hixon Tartan and performs extensively in the community.

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Band:

The TRADOC Band performs numerous concerts annually in support of regional and national events, festivals, inaugurations, and commemorations.

U.S. Marine Corps Band, Quantico: Established in 1917, on top of their primary musical duties, bandmen are trained Marines, fully equipped to fulfill their duties as Marine Riflemen.

U.S. Marine Corps FAST Company: The U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team (FAST) Companies, over 300 specially-trained Marines, rapidly deploy all over the world.

U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard: Using 12-pound Springfield M1903 rifles with a 10-inch fixed bayonet, the team has perfected 25 different rifle movements.

U.S. Navy Fleet Forces Band: Established in 1945, "The Finest of the Fleet" performs more than 400 engagements annually.

Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus: Celebrating its 35th season, the chorus has performed to sold-out houses locally and internationally.

**Subject to changes and additions.*



TATTOO TIPS TO PLAN YOUR TRIP

Everything you need to know to plan your trip and enhance your experience.

VAFEST.ORG/TATTOO

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