

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Media Contacts: Mary Knight, Virginia Longboard Federation SurfChic38@aol.com. (757) 409-1363

Jodie Woodward, VB Surf Art Expo info@vbsurfartexpo.com (757) 222-2355

Tanya Kaish Keller, external comms mejanepr@gmail.com (757) 618-3655

2018 Steel Pier Classic & Surf Art Expo This Memorial Day Weekend at the Oceanfront Celebrating Surf, Art and Community

(VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. – May 7, 2018) – Virginia Longboard Federation, the producers and organizers of the Steel Pier Classic and VB Surf Art Expo are gearing up for the $\underline{15}^{th}$ Annual Steel Pier Classic and $\underline{11}^{th}$ Annual VB Surf Art Expo held Memorial Day weekend May 26-28 between 2^{nd} and 7th Streets at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront.

This annual kick-off to the Oceanfront summer season brings some of the most competitive surfing, Grom Fest, stand-up paddleboarding (SUP), SurfRider Foundation Student Art Show on the Beach, O'Connor Brewing Company 5K race, Virginia Beach Surf Art Expo featuring 70+ local and regional artists from Maine to Florida, Hawaiian dancers and the close-out of the weekend on Memorial Day, the Altmeyer Hawaiian Paddle-Out in memory of our military fallen.

2018 Steel Pier Classic & VB Surf Art Expo schedule of events:

Saturday, May 26

Location: Virginia Beach Oceanfront

7 a.m. -5 p.m.: Surfing competition begins

8 – 9 a.m.: SUP Race

9 a.m. – **5 p.m.** Surfrider Foundation Student Art Show on the Beach with Vans Custom Culture Student Shoe Exhibition - 2nd Street

10 a.m. -6 p.m.: The 11th Annual VB Surf Art Expo on the Boardwalk 3rd - 6th Streets

10:30 a.m.: Gromfest Surfing Competition presented by Southern Auto Group

Sunday, May 27

Location: Virginia Beach Oceanfront

7 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Surfing Competition

7 a.m.: Race Packet pick up before the race at 7th Street.

8 a.m.: O'Connor Brewing Co. 5K Race at 7th Street

9 a.m. – **5 p.m.** Surfrider Foundation Student Art Show on the Beach with Vans Custom Culture Student Shoe Exhibition - 2nd Street

10 a.m. -6 p.m.: The 11th Annual VB Surf Art Expo on the Boardwalk 3rd - 6th Streets

1:30 p.m.: Hawaiian dancing performance by Copeland Mills School of the Arts

Monday, May 28 – Memorial Day Location: Virginia Beach Oceanfront

7 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Surfing Competition - Finals

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.: Surfrider Foundation Student Art Show on the Beach with Vans Custom Culture Student Shoe Exhibition - 2nd Street

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.: The 11th Annual VB Surf Art Expo on the Boardwalk 3rd – 6th Streets

12 p.m.: Virginia Longboard Federation/Altmeyer Memorial Hawaiian-style Paddleout to honor our fallen U.S. military of on-going operations

5 p.m.: 15th Annual Steel Pier Classic & Surf Art Expo concludes.

Organizer Note: Due to wave conditions, all surfing events subject to change without notice. Surfing Divisions: Pro/Am Longboard, Pro/Am Shortboard, Stand Up Paddle Surf, Stand

Steel Pier Classic

Started on New Year's Day 2004 and steered by Mary Knight, Zeke Saunders (of blessed memory), and the many passionate volunteers and members of the Virginia Longboard Federation, the mission has always been to give back to the community by bringing the community together as one. Everyone works on a volunteer basis for the love for surfing and the ocean. Our vision realizes that surfing is an art, no matter the medium – on a board or art capturing the elements of surf. Each Memorial Day, we celebrate this love and the art of surfing at the Steel Pier Classic and Surf Art Expo. Proceeds from this annual event support the local charities. Connect to www.steelpierclassic.com for more information, entry forms, and a schedule of events.

VB Surf Art Expo

For the Surf Art Expo, go to www.vbsurfartexpo.com or contact Jodie Woodward, Show Director at 757-222-2355. Now in its 11th year, the Surf Art Expo takes place on the boardwalk during the surf competition and showcases the works of 70+ local and regional artists from Maine to Florida. The creations of surf art are from all mediums including painting, photography, jewelry, sculpture, pottery, wood, metal, fiber, and mixed media. Each artist has a connection with surfing, the ocean, beach life, sea life, seascape scenes, shells, coral, dolphins, fish, lighthouses, mermaids, custom surfboard and skateboard designs.