

22nd annual Art on the Avenue fills Del

Art on the Avenue came back to Del Ray's Mount Vernon Avenue for a 22nd time on Saturday.

Color was center stage at the event, from the pie-baking contest, in which amateur and professional bakers alike were invited to participate, in to pumpkin painting to artist demonstrations to a wide array of food. The event also featured more than 350 artists and five stages of music,

which included genres from bluegrass to soul and more. Favorite restaurants from Del Ray were also present during the event, including Pork Barrel BBQ, Stone Steak House, Kaizen Tavern, Del Ray Pizzeria and more. The event, which went from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., also ran at 2 p.m. to longtime resident and neighborhood

Pat Miller honored at Art on the Avenue

At the annual Art on the Avenue festival on Saturday, Alexandria's local elected leaders and state representatives gathered with the Del Ray community to honor the person fundamental to the event's creation.

City council dedicated Pat Miller Neighborhood Square, named after longtime Del Ray resident and neighborhood activist Pat Miller, in the midst of the popular art event, which attracted more than 60,000 visitors in its 22nd iteration. Miller, who has lived in the neighborhood for 30 years, created a number of Del Ray's most popular events, including Art on the Avenue, which she chairs, and the weekly Del Ray Farmers' Market, where she still serves as market manager. She's a past president of the Del



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Ray Business Association and has served as a board member for 20 years.

Councilor Del Pepper, who was present at the dedication, praised Miller's contributions to the community.

"Pat is somebody who has really been a game-changer. She has been a cheerleader for Del Ray,"

Pepper said at the event. "This is what Alexandria is all about – people who are willing to work for the dream they have for their community."

Mayor Allison Silberberg was also present at the event and described Miller as a "phenomenon in our midst."

"It's such a heartfelt thanks," Miller said. "I am absolutely, totally speechless."

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During the 22nd Annual Art on the Avenue, the Alexandria City Council dedicated the farmers' market space in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria "The Pat Miller Neighborhood Square," named for Pat Miller, founder of the annual arts festival.

Top left: Four-time Art on the Avenue pie baking champion Rande Hilton and the Bellefonte Wizards. **Top right:** Photographer Chris Fedderson uses macro digital photography to show the art on the Avenue. **Above:** Bopping flamingos by Judy Basedow of JB Brown and Company bo