COLUMBIA, MO - Listen, learn and see history as it comes alive at the 31st Annual Heritage Festival, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. September 19-20 in historic Nifong Park. A wide variety of entertainment on three stages will be featured. Visitors will also learn about the mid 19th century strolling through an 1859 town of shopkeepers and townspeople. Artisans and tradesmen will be dressed in 19th century attire demonstrating their trades. The Festival will also feature a mountain man camp, a Lewis and Clark replica outpost and a cowboy camp with chuck wagons.

Entertainment on three stages will include music, dancing and storytelling. Featured entertainers include the Haskell Indian Nations Dancers, Branson Variety Show Performers (Johnny Lonestar – roping, gun spinning, whip cracking, Clay Cooper and funny man Matt Gumm), Professor Farquar - Medicine Man, roots music and Western swing, bluegrass, Cajun, blues, jazz, folk, an old-time string band, a fiddlers’ competition, and many local bands. On Saturday, ghost stories will offer thrills from 8–9:30 p.m.

The crafts area will offer the opportunity for shopping for handmade gifts. Children will enjoy numerous activities in the Fun for Young'uns Area and hayrides. Tour the historic Maplewood Home and the Walter’s Boone County Historical Museum. Great food and a beautiful park setting will make the Heritage Festival a family tradition!

The Heritage Festival is coordinated by Columbia Parks and Recreation and sponsored by 360Columbia, Columbia Convention & Visitors Bureau Tourism Development Program, and the Columbia Daily Tribune.

For more information, call 573-874-7460 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

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