

For Immediate Release

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest T-shirt Design Winner Chosen for 2019 Festival

(June 24, 2019 - Damariscotta, Maine) Heather Chouinard of Edgecomb, Maine submitted the winning t-shirt design for this year's Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™. The Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta is held every year during Columbus Day weekend. This year's festival will be October 11-14.

Her design was selected from among 42 entries that were submitted by 40 artists, the largest number of artist participants to date for the annual Pumpkinfest T-shirt Design Contest. The judges were the Pumpkinfest volunteers who attended the June 20 Pumpkinfest planning meeting. The winning design won a \$500 prize.

Heather Chouinard's inspiration for the Pumpkinfest design was to create an image that appears as a crest or a seal, with muted and rich New England colors.

Heather grew up outside of Atlanta, Georgia and attended Savannah College of Art and Design where she received a BFA with a focus in metals and jewelry. Around that time, she met her now-husband, Dennis, who is originally from Maine. They lived in Florida for several years and relocated to Maine with their young son in 2016.

Heather regularly works with metalsmithing, painting, illustration, and sewing. One of her specialties is drawing detailed portraits of people and pets, and she completes a few commissioned portraits each year. In 2018 she created a line of colorful, hand painted wood jewelry that she sells online, at local festivals, and in several Maine shops.

Heather and her husband recently opened Midcoast Craft in Wiscasset. It is a craft gallery, working studio, and class space where she sells her handmade jewelry and teaches multimedia workshops. You also will find Dennis' pottery and a curated selection of work from other artists in the gallery.

If you would like to keep up with Heather's work and process, find her on Instagram at [@chouinard_made](https://www.instagram.com/chouinard_made), visit Midcoast Craft at 75 Main Street in Wiscasset, or go to Midcoastcraft.me

The colors chosen for this year's Pumpkinfest T-shirts are stonewashed blue or black. Children's t-shirt sizes will be offered in yellow or black. The T-shirts, hoodies, and other Pumpkinfest gear will be available for sale in late August, initially at Supplies Unlimited, Main Street Market and Hannaford-Damariscotta. T-shirts and hoodies also can be pre-ordered by emailing merchandise@damariscottapumpkinfest.com indicating size(s), style(s), and color(s) desired.

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta is a 501(C)(3) organization whose mission is to promote education to citizens of all ages regarding the specific agricultural science required to grow giant pumpkins and to provide local non-profit organizations with opportunities for dissemination of information on their activities and fundraising.

[PHOTO: High-res JPG file here: <http://www.maine-pumpkinfest.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/HEATHER-CHOUINARD-T-SHIRT-DESIGN-CONTEST-2019.jpg>]

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™

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