



**Friends of
SOUTHWEST
VIRGINIA**



**SOUTHWEST
VIRGINIA**
Cultural Center
& MARKETPLACE



**'ROUND THE
MOUNTAIN**
Southwest Virginia's Artisan Network



REGIONAL MARKETING & BRANDING

By capitalizing on the unique qualities of our region, **Southwest Virginia** utilizes its cultural and natural assets to build a comprehensive, long-term, sustainable economy through initiatives like the Southwest Virginia Cultural Center & Marketplace (formerly Heartwood), The Crooked Road, 'Round the Mountain, and related cultural heritage organizations and venues that promote entrepreneurial and employment opportunities.

The creative economy movement is defined by innovative business development techniques. From the arts and music of the region to cultural goods and services capitalized through tourism to research and development, the joint work of the Foundation and the Friends is revolutionizing the rural economic development system of Southwest Virginia and providing new jobs for the region.

Quick Facts about #SWVA

- **19 counties**
- **4 independent cities**
- **53 towns**
- **Located on the southern and western border of Virginia**
- **8,600 square miles**
- **2 national parks**
- **11 state parks**
- **Over a thousand square miles of national and state forests**
- **100+ music venues**
- **300+ artisans**



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Why Participate?

Friends of Southwest Virginia's goal in marketing is to **promote our region** to locals and visitors all over the world. **Your participation allows you to access our programs and work in collaboration with a variety of partners all over the region.** This Marketing Investment Program is meant to meet **YOUR needs and wants.** Let Friends of #SWVA do the leg work on innovation and education, and sit back and see results flood into your business or destination! Friends has worked hard over the past year to build this program, specifically catering to you. Join us!

GOAL: MARKET SWVA AS A WORLD-CLASS TOURISM DESTINATION



One Heartwood Circle, Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 492-2400

VisitSWVA.org | FriendsOfSWVA.org
RoundTheMountain.org | SWVAculturalcenter.com



Be a "Friend" of Southwest Virginia!



Engage with us:

1. Regional Storytelling
 - Access assets in our regional digital asset management system
 - Send us your content or let us send one of our SWVA Storytellers to you!
2. Participate in the Marketing Access Program
3. Let us tell your story through media and public relations



TESTIMONIALS

"As a Lavender farm / trail site we have welcomed visitors from all over the world and our affiliation with 'Round the Mountain has been tantamount in making this happen. Our bath and body line has been shipped all over the country as a result of purchases made at the SWVA Cultural Center & Marketplace which was then reordered directly from us. Folks have then made their way out to our farm when they have returned to Southwest Va. Thank you for being the conduit to a perfect circle which benefits all of us."

- Ellen Reynolds (Beagle Ridge Herb Farm)

"Through the Floyd Country Store, County Sales and the Handmade Music School, I have had the great opportunity to get to know and work with the team at Friends of Southwest Virginia. The whole team seems to be eager to work with and for the communities they serve. They really get to know the constituents of each community and take their work very seriously. I can't say enough about their efforts and their commitment, which was fully displayed recently during a collaboration with The Floyd Country Store to bring important Southwest Virginia musicians to the Bristol Rhythm and Roots Festival to ensure a higher visibility for them. There are also several initiatives and collaborations that are being pursued which demonstrate their interest in my community and the cultural, recreational and social vitality that is so important."

- Dylan Locke (Floyd Country Store)

VISIT [FRIENDSOFSWVA.ORG/MARKETING](https://friendsofswva.org/marketing) TO LEARN MORE

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