



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH  
COMMISSIONER

# PRESS RELEASE

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**Contact: Chaille Clements, Communications and Marketing Specialist**

**Phone: (601) 359-1140**

**E-mail: [chaille@mdac.ms.gov](mailto:chaille@mdac.ms.gov)**

**What:** Harvest Festival

**Where:** Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum  
1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS

**When:** 9:00 am – 2:00 pm; November 5-8 and 12-15, 2014

## **Small Town, Mississippi, Comes to Life at Harvest Festival**

Join the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum on Lakeland Drive in Jackson for a memorable experience at the annual Harvest Festival. Small Town, Mississippi, comes to life November 5-8 and 12-15 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with live demonstrations throughout the museum grounds that give visitors a glimpse of Mississippi's past and show the impact agriculture has made on our lives.

Demonstrations include the operation of America's oldest functioning cotton gin with cotton donated by Jordan Planting Company in Yazoo City, Silent Shade Planting Company in Belzoni, and Jones Planting Company in Tchula. Sawmill demonstrations are performed with logs donated by Terry Wood Yard in Terry and Harrell's Tree Service in Jackson. There will also be demonstrations of the cane mill and blacksmith shop. Complimentary biscuits will be given to everyone participating in the festivities.

The exhibits inside the Heritage Center gallery give visitors the opportunity to see how agriculture has changed throughout the years from the methods and equipment used in farming with horses and mules to the invention of tractors, and visitors can discover the role that agriculture aviation has played in the agriculture industry at the National Agricultural Aviation Museum housed inside of the Heritage Center. The model train exhibit, featuring three gauges of model trains depicting life along the rails in Mississippi, is also a must see.

Train, carousel, and hay rides will be available each day for \$1 per rider. Stop by the General Store or Filling Station for snacks and souvenirs and visit the barnyard animals. Admission is as follows: Adults: \$6 and Children (ages 3-18): \$4.

The Museum, located at 1150 Lakeland Drive in Jackson, is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information about the Museum, call 601-432-4500 or 1-800-844-8687, visit [www.msagmuseum.org](http://www.msagmuseum.org), or "Like" the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum on Facebook.

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**Cutline and photo attached**



**Students stand in line to see a demonstration of the oldest operating cotton gin in America during Harvest Fest at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. Small Town, Mississippi will once again be brought to life during Harvest Fest taking place November 5-8 and 12-15. The event features demonstrations of a working cotton gin, saw mill, cane mill, and blacksmith shop.**