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Silver Dollar City Presents
Cowgirls, Crafts, Music, Majestic Birds & Missouri's Best
For the *National Harvest Festival*
September 12 – October 31

(Branson, Mo. 7/09) **Trick riding Cowgirls, over 100 of the nation's top craftsmen, award-winning musicians, and Missouri's Best** from majestic native birds to exhibits spotlighting the state's most famous citizens -- all come together for **Silver Dollar City's *National Harvest Festival***. Within the setting of harvest-time activities in the 1880s-style theme park, the Ozarks' premier fall festival features new events, shows and fall specialty foods, September 12 – October 31.

New this year, the festival presents a special September feature: **A Salute to the Great American Cowgirl, September 12 – 27. Featured performers are the All American Cowgirl Chicks equestrian drill team, bringing precision trick riding, daring stunts and expert horsemanship to Silver Dollar City's arena.** The show includes a variety of riding tricks atop, astride and even under the galloping horses, demonstrating the talent and synchronization between these world-famous riders and their horses. The Salute to the Cowgirl also includes trick ropers, juried cowgirl artists and an exhibition of turn-of-the-century rodeo photographer R.R. Doubleday's cowgirl photographs.

Then new for October, the National Harvest Festival presents **Missouri's Best, featuring the Wings Over Missouri birds-of-flight show**, presenting the state's most majestic birds in soaring flight, from Bald and Golden Eagles to Great Horned Owls. The park's biggest showcase ever of Best of Missouri Hands juried artists includes crafts such as copper work, wood furniture making and pewtersmithing. Special exhibits spotlight famous Missourians including Mark Twain, Laura Ingalls Wilder, George Washington Carver and Thomas Hart Benton. Missouri's Best is featured September 30 - October 31.

Long known as "The Home of American Craftsmanship," Silver Dollar City showcases fine craftsmanship during the *National Harvest Festival*, widely recognized as the region's foremost event for fine craftsmanship and the nation's largest gathering of demonstrating craftsmen. The festival features handcrafted jewelry, bronze

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sculpture, basket weaving, pottery and stained glass, with more than **100 visiting artists** demonstrating their art.

Entertainment includes hundreds of musicians on stages throughout the park, performing western, country, bluegrass and gospel music. Plus, the **original musical production *Headin' West* is featured, telling the story of the American pioneer spirit** in the 1870s west. The production comes to life with elaborate sets, surround-sound, and special effects from deep cave prospecting to white water rafting. A talented cast of 14 actors performs, with live music enhanced with an original orchestra score. *Headin' West* runs through October 25.

The tastes of the fall harvest are served up throughout the park, with smoked turkey legs, roasted corn on the cob and hearty skillet meals cooked on open grills. For a **full festival feast, guests can dine at *Tastes of America* in the Red Gold Heritage Hall, featuring** barbecued ribs, roasted prairie chicken, southwestern tacos or buffalo chili, and desserts from blackberry cobbler and peach pie to hot apple dumplings.

The festival at the theme park near Branson, Missouri, runs September 12 – October 31, open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and on Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. For information, schedules and tickets, contact 800-831-4FUN or www.silverdollarcity.com.

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Salute to the Great American Cowgirl, September 12 - 27

From the Red Gold Arena with the **All American Cowgirl Chicks** trick riders to trick ropers and Cowgirl artists, the flavor of the West is featured in September. Watercolorist and ***Gunsmoke* star Buck Taylor** hosts Western stars Stella Stevens and Ruth Buzzi.

Performers include:

The Quebe Sisters Band	Joni Harms	Judy Coder & Cowgirl Swing
New Found Road	Patty Clayton	Belinda Gail & Curly Musgrave
Special Consensus	Ginny Mac	Liz Masterson

Missouri's Best, September 30 - October 31

Missouri's Best includes the all-new Wings Over Missouri birds-of-flight show presenting the state's most majestic birds in flight, Best of Missouri Hands juried craftsmen and exhibits spotlighting famous Missourians from Mark Twain to Laura Ingalls Wilder. Guests can kick up their heels at Missouri's largest barn dance each afternoon.

Performers include:

Leroy Van Dyke Show	The Chapmans	Les Gilliam & His Silver Lake Band
Big Smith	Midnight Flight	Leona Williams Band
Texas in the Swing	Bluegrass Brigade	Jody Nix & the Texas Cowboys