

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE AKUMAL ARTS FESTIVAL & RESIDENCY WILL BE HELD NOV. 9-11, 2018

A front of women artists arrive to 'paint up the town' of Akumal.

Akumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico – The Akumal Arts Festival & Residency will hold its free, inaugural event on November 9-11, 2018. Unusual in the male dominated urban art form, close to half of the guest artists who will be painting around Akumal Pueblo are women.

“Exposing the Mayan Mexican girls and young women in Akumal to accomplished creative women offers a window of possibilities to their future that they may have never been exposed to” said Jennifer Smith co-owner of Turtle Bay Cafe & Bakery and co-founder of the festival along with Iran Beltran, Delegado Municipal de Akumal. A festival objective is to #BeautifyAkumal. Says Smith, "What better way to celebrate the many ways that beauty manifests than with a platform of women artists".

One of the most transformational street artists today is TooFly. According to Miss Crew [Women Making History](#) edition, they write "In the world of urban contemporary art, [Toofly](#) [USA] has quickly become a grandmaster. Her unstoppable moves have helped push female graff artists to the forefront of the urban community." Named by Widewalls Magazine "One of street art's finest female duos," Nomad Clan from England is on tour in the Americas.

More than 70 established street artists, muralists, musicians, and performing artists from United States, United Kingdom, Columbia, Cuba, Argentina and Europe will collaborate with local artists, students, and civic groups to develop a series of creative projects that celebrate the rich culture, vibrant community, and natural beauty of Akumal.

There is something for everyone at the Akumal Arts Festival & Residency. Opening ceremonies begin in the evening of Friday, Nov. 9. Weekend activities will include workshops for children and adults, guided art walks, exhibit booths with art for sale, food and drink, and live music and performances.

Public events will be held in the Akumal Pueblo, the Paseo de Akumal, at the park, bandstand, and community center. Artists create new artistic works on the walls of the overpass bridge, government buildings the park, and schools.

Akumal Arts Festival & Residency is a community based, global initiative. The vision is to bring a fiesta of art to Akumal Pueblo through an international consortium of artists making art, engaging community, enhancing and beautifying the town for locals and our many worldwide visitors.

For more information about confirmed artists and sponsors, please contact Marti Johnston at tortuga.escondida108@gmail.com, Kerra Bolton at kerrabolton@gmail.com or visit our website www.tortuga-escondida.com/the-festival.

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