



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Texas SandFest - Annual Sand Sculpting Festival**

(Port Aransas, TX) The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Texas SandFest is the largest master sand sculpting competition in the United States. The three-day festival begins Friday, April 21, 2017 and continues through Sunday, April 23 in Port Aransas, Texas.

Texas SandFest is an invitational event and attracts master sand sculptors from around the world. Each year, more than 100,000 people attend this family-friendly event in Port Aransas. Sand sculpting contests and lessons are the highlight of the festival. Over 100 merchandise and food vendors are available, in addition to live music and beer and wine garden tents. Admission is \$10.00 for adults, and children under 12 are free. The event is held on the beach, between mile markers 9 and 13. Festival entrances are located at Sandcastle Drive and Access Road 1A in Port Aransas.

“We have many new plans in place for the 2017 event,” said Scott Tanzer, Texas SandFest board member. “We hope that everyone enjoys the sand sculptors, as we have several new artists appearing in Port Aransas for the first time. We can't wait to see how they do and what they create.”

Organized completely by volunteers, Texas SandFest is a nonprofit organization, supporting local organizations in Port Aransas and the Coastal Bend. In 2016, Texas SandFest gave over \$130,000 to community organizations. The Port Aransas & Mustang Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is proud to be a community partner and sponsor of this event. “We are thrilled to be a sponsor of Texas SandFest since its inception and welcome visitors to our 18 miles of beach,” said Jeff Hentz, President and CEO of the Port Aransas & Mustang Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau. “We look forward to hosting sculptors and guests from around the world in Port Aransas during this international event.”

For information on Texas SandFest, visit [www.texassandfest.org](http://www.texassandfest.org).

For listings of island accommodations, restaurants, shopping and activities, visit [www.portaransas.org](http://www.portaransas.org).

Discover the original ISLAND LIFE destination – Port Aransas & Mustang Island. The Port Aransas & Mustang Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is the one-stop information planning source for all travel trade and media professionals. Experience our 18 miles of wide, sandy beaches, world class watersport activities, sport fishing, kayaking, nature preserves, championship golf, and more. Port A is famous for nightlife and endless varieties of food, entertainment and great shopping. Accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets include hotels, vacation homes, condos, cottages, and RV parks.

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**PORT ARANSAS & MUSTANG ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU**  
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