



**ADIRONDACK
EXPERIENCE™**
The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake

For Immediate Release:
May 19, 2025

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Adirondack Experience Kicks Off 2025 Season on May 23

Innovative Exhibits, Educational Programs and Interactive Fun for All

Blue Mountain Lake, NY — Adirondack Experience (ADKX), the Museum on Blue Mountain Lake, will open for the 2025 season on Friday, May 23. Leading this year's lineup is the debut of ***Natural Beauty: The Art of Rustic Furniture***, a major new exhibition that explores the history, artistry, and current trends of rustic furniture design.

Returning favorites also help define the 2025 season, including ***Artists & Inspiration in the Wild***, now in its third year and featuring new additions that bring fresh perspectives to this evolving exhibit. This dynamic exhibition invites guests to explore the creative legacy of the Adirondacks through the lens of light, forests, water, and mountains with interactive features in the ADKX Art Lab.

"We're always energized by the start of a new season," said David Kahn, Executive Director at Adirondack Experience. "It's a chance to welcome visitors with fresh programs, engaging exhibitions and new ways to experience the campus. This year, we're especially excited to showcase the evolving world of Adirondack rustic—where tradition meets innovation in unexpected ways."

This season also marks the return of ADKX's standout events, from the ever-popular Adirondack Art Festival, Mushroom Mania and Rustic Fair to Xperience for All and FallFest.

Exhibit Highlights

- Launching this summer, [*Natural Beauty: The Art of Rustic Furniture*](#) celebrates the beauty, creativity, and deep connection to nature expressed in handcrafted furniture and decorative arts. On view in ADKX's new temporary exhibition gallery, the exhibit features over 100 rare works from around the world drawn from US museums and private collections alongside the museum's own holdings, many never seen by the public. The exhibition explores the evolution of rustic furniture, from its 19th-century origins to contemporary interpretations that continue to shape the field today.
- Returning for its third season, [*Artists & Inspiration in the Wild*](#) continues to immerse guests in the power of place. The exhibition will feature new acquisitions and rarely seen pieces from the museum's art vaults, with a special emphasis on textile arts in 2025. Highlights include *Tabletop Mountain*, a large tapestry by pioneering artist Cynthia Schira; a dimensional felted landscape by New York artist Sara Pearsall; and *Ripple: Lake Water*, a hooked wool piece by Liz Alpert Fay inspired by the shimmering surface of Blue Mountain Lake. Additional new works by bead workers, sculptors, photographers, and painters expand the story of how the Adirondacks have shaped and sparked artistic vision. The exhibit's interactive ADKX Art Lab, created in collaboration with artist Barney Bellinger, invites visitors to continue their creative journey hands-on.
- 2024 marked the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Northville-Placid Trail, a 138-mile route that traverses the Adirondack Park from the town of Northville to Lake Placid. [*Trail Makers: 100 Years of the Northville-Placid Trail*](#) invites visitors to discover the trail's origins, the team behind its creation, the communities along its path, and how it is used today. Featuring selections from the museum's extensive collections of art, photography, guidebooks and maps, the exhibit also complements permanent displays focused on hiking and trail life. This special exhibition will remain on view through the end of the 2025 season.
- ADKX encourages visitors to start their journey on campus with [*Life in the Adirondacks*](#), a 19,000-square-foot immersive exhibition that introduces visitors to the Adirondack Park with videos, historical objects, and artifacts.
- [*Woods and Waters*](#) invites visitors to learn the history of outdoor recreation in the Adirondacks. Historic and present-day photographs provide a lively view of Adirondack recreation with a focus on people in a natural setting.
- [*Boats and Boating*](#), a celebration of more than 50 vintage watercraft and their role in regional life, returns this season with an enhanced entry experience at the Drew and Nancy Forhan Boat Building Plaza. New features — including welcoming seating, native landscaping, and a tranquil water feature — set the tone for an exhibit that honors the enduring connection between people and the region's waterways.

- [Work in the Woods](#) explores the history and traditions of one of the region’s most important industries. Discover the tools used and species harvested in the Adirondacks as well as the products made from wood. See what life was like in a logging camp and how the industry has changed.

New Workshops and Artist- in-Residence Programs

- Our annual season of workshops includes a variety of options, including opportunities to create an Adirondack Pack Basket, craft natural bug repellents, or try outdoor photography.
- The museum’s **2025 Artist-in-Residence Program** will welcome four talented artists—Jacoub Reyes, Iakonikonriiosta, Tom Bonamici, and Réka Szabó—who will live and work on site for one month each from June through September. Selected through a competitive international application process, these artists will create original works across the museum’s campus and lead hands-on activities in the ADKX Art Lab. Visitors will have the opportunity to observe their creative process, chat with the artists, and explore how the museum’s collections and surroundings inspire contemporary artistic expression. In addition, shorter residencies will feature artists including illustrator Lydia Nicolas; plein-air painter Sandra Hildreth; Akwesasne sculptor and potter Natasha Smoke Santiago, and Akwesasne basket-maker Angello Johnson.

Outdoors Highlights

- Starting July 1*, visitors can borrow a range of boats at the [ADKX Boathouse](#), including a rotating collection of vintage canoes, traditional guideboats, and rowboats, to enjoy upon Minnow Pond, a roughly 90-acre body of water above Blue Mountain Lake.
- [Minnow Pond Trail](#) is an easy ¾-mile walk, suitable for the whole family to discover Minnow Pond, known as a “gem in the wilderness.”
- [Blue View Trail](#) offers a short, vigorous route for more experienced hikers. From the higher vantage point, the views of Blue Mountain Lake are even more breathtaking. The Blue View Trail can be accessed as a spur off the Minnow Pond Trail.

**Boathouse & Trails open July 1st - weather, trail, and safety conditions permitting.*

ADKX will be open daily from May 23 through October 13, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information on exhibits, events, and visitor experiences, visit www.theadkx.org.

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About Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake

Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake (ADKX), accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, shares the history and culture of the Adirondack region through interactive exhibits, hands-on activities, and culturally rich collections in more than 24 historic and contemporary buildings on a 121-acre campus in the heart of the Adirondacks. The ADKX offers a broad range of programs and activities including special and permanent exhibitions, the 19,000-square-foot *Life in the Adirondacks* interactive exhibition, and an outdoor hiking and boating experience on Minnow Pond. ADKX offers daily activities with artist-in-residence, workshops, lectures, nature walks, family and educational programs, and signature events like the Rustic Fair, FallFest, and the Adirondack Art Festival. The museum is supported in part with donations from the public, with some general operating support made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. For additional information, call 518-352-7311 or visit www.theADKX.org.

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