COLUMBIA, La. - All the uses that delight the sense bring special interest and excitement to North Louisiana this month.

The color and magic of the 13th annual Louisiana Art and Folk Festival will beautify the bank of the lovely Ouachita River near here Oct. 12-13.

The Caldwell Parish Community Center grounds and building will be the outdoor art gallery and stage setting for the performing arts at the festival, which will feature artists and craftsmen from throughout Louisiana and several surrounding states.

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

Theme for this year's festival, which will emphasize Louisiana folk ways and arts, is "Louisiana Louvre." Amateurs and professionals of all ages are expected to participate in the event, which last year attracted more than 10,000 exhibitors and spectators.

SATURDAY PLANS

The program Saturday will include Margaret and George Ogan, writers for teenagers; folk singer Bobby Durham Bridger; Caldwell Parish High School band; Northeast Louisiana State College jazz ensemble; and Mrs. Margaret McDaniel, a handicraft demonstrator.

Sunday afternoon's program will offer jazz and popular show tunes by the Louisiana Tech Collegians, folk dancing and folk singing.

Organizations, collectors and commercial establishments will display and sell their wares in the "flea market."

An authentic log cabin is located on the festival grounds and will be the center of demonstrations on folk foods, folk arts and folk ways. Another feature will be an accredited flower show sponsored by the Caldwell Garden Club.

DEMONSTRATIONS SET

Among demonstrations planned by some of the artists are those on weaving; block printing; silk screening; oil, watercolor and pastel painting, and pencil and ink drawing.

Visitors are urged to attend the festival, not only to view the arts and crafts, but also to meander down aisles of moss-draped trees, listen to the music, watch the folk dancing, eat the fried chicken and home-baked desserts, buy art creations, browse in the sales area and enjoy the planned program.

Many demonstrators are expected, and visitors are urged to exhibit any collection, favorite antique or anything of beauty that they would like to share with other festival viewers. For a fun-filled "folksy" weekend, Columbia is a gem among the Pelican State's communities, and its annual Art and Folk Festival is another colorful Louisiana pageant.