Downtown Alive Has First Anniversary

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When Downtown Alive begins Wednesday, it will mark the first anniversary of the project which was initiated by the Acadiana Arts Council and the City of Lafayette.

Originally intended to increase interest in the downtown area, the program has also been able to provide an excellent opportunity for local performers and artists to show their talent. Since its beginning in October of 1978, Downtown Alive has been held 24 days with over 500 performers and hundreds of spectators participating.

The project has been funded not only by the council and the city, but also by the Louisiana Division of the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

This week's Downtown Alive will feature Cajun bands, the Acadiana High School Choir, Comeaux High School's Magic Moods, Lafayette High School's Speech Group, UL's Sigma Alpha Iota fraternity, and numerous individual performers and artists. Friday will be proclaimed Senior Citizen's Day. Working with RSVP, the City's Senior Citizen's program, local nursing homes, Del Mills, and other individuals, local senior citizens will perform and exhibit their work, including Janice Buerdeau, Bernadine Wofford and Eva Campion. Mrs. Philip Trahan, and the RSVP Goodwill Singers, under the direction of Lewis J. Arthur.

As usual, there will be exhibits of arts and crafts by local artists, with an emphasis on Friday at Senior Citizen's Day. Food, including plants and flowers, will be available. Hours for the programs each day are from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There is no admission and the programs are free to the public.

Tickets are now available for the Dec. 1 performance of the Nutcracker by the Atlanta Ballet and the Baton Rouge Symphony. For more information, interested persons may call 536-7000.

DOWNTOWN ALIVE — Lucille LaCour and Mildred Greig, members of the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) are shown with some of the hand-made crafts that will be on display at Downtown Alive next Friday. The non-time programs, free to the public, will be held in the parking lot at the corner of Jefferson and Garfield Sts.