ED VEARS

ts Fest evolves over 44-year history

s who set up the festival went on time. The State College Borough plans that year to move the festival according to Collegian archives.

ting taught us that we could do more alk sale downtown as well as on camntz said. "We changed the layout on us because the campus was getting

st's reputation as a premier arts gan to grow nationally. In 1979, Arts Magazine rated the festival a 9 making it one of just five festivals to at ranking.

0s brought a whirlwind of fun to the avid Garfield made the first "unoffir appearance and hot air balloons r inaugural flights at Arts Fest.

ter became the "official mascot" of al in 1983. During the same festival, eries changed its name to "A Slice of classic movies were shown on the

said he remembers sitting on the child watching the movies on the ut modern technology and a lack of rest killed the event, he said.

eat, who was managing director dur- Promotion boards: two giant banana splits were treated for minor injuries, according to were built in canoes.

"[The ice cream] is great, but the little kids 978, moving Arts Fest off campus for are dangerous. You have to keep saying 'No, no, that's OK please don't decorate my legs with ice cream,' " Mark Disabato told a Collegian reporter in 1988.

That messy tradition unfortunately soon disappeared, too.

The 1990s

In 1990, Rana McMurray Arnold founded Festival Eyes. Still occurring today, Festival Eyes aims to show the visually impaired visual arts through the use of the other four senses.

Three years later, a great divide happened when George Marion initiated the People's Choice festival, for artists not accepted to Arts Fest to showcase their work.

After he was not accepted into the festival, Marion had had enough. Even a man who made doormats out of used tires was chosen over him.

The People's Choice festival still continues running today in Boalsburg.

Then at about 1:30 a.m. on July 13, 1998, a dark cloud fell on Arts Fest. A riot broke out when a trashcan was thrown into Beaver BookFest PA. Avenue near Beaver Canyon. The crowd grew from 150 to 1.500 people.

ensued after three fires were started and 33 ly that tradition will stay on." a tasty form of art was created with lampposts were broken. Twenty people were s of ice cream — sponsored by the arrested, 11 of whom were university students.

decided on a juried show," said Centre County and Pennsylvania Dairy Sixteen police officers and two pedestrians Collegian archives.

The 2000s

Early in the new decade, history repeated itself with a 2,500-person riot, but police quickly quelled it before any damage could be done.

Also in 2000, the now-popular Italian Street Painting was added to the festival.

Pam Lautsch, sidewalk sale and exhibition coordinator, said street painting was included because it was "beyond hopscotch creativity."

"The interaction with the people coming to the festival because the creation would happen as people were wandering the streets [is a reason it was added]," she said. "It had also become a popular item across the country where people would be using that medium."

In 2001, in an effort to deter rioting, AfterFest hosted a few years of concerts at the HUB-Robeson Genter until 3 a.m. Local churches also held Christian music festivals called Bless the Fest, another event that has now stopped

Today

This year, the festival will premiere

'Things change with the festival," Bryant said. "[We're] keeping it fresh by changing An estimated \$150,000 worth of damage the elements whenever necessary... hopeful-

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2006 - Security cameras in Beaver Canyon are monitored for the first time.

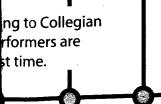


2000 - Italian street painting starts.



1993 - People's Choice festival begins.

1994 - First sand sculptures are created at festival.





1998 - Thousands flood downtown in a riot that results in \$50,000 in damage.