



for such a wide breadth of artists to come together in a gathering-of-the-tribes type of vibe. “Ultimately, it really comes down to the culture surrounding it – which is why BMX and skate demos fit with handmade people, fit with food trucks, fit with local musicians,” Johnson said. “It’s not about one of those specifically; it’s about promoting this culture.”

With a year under their belt and more time to plan this year, all involved expect an even larger turnout for year two. Rohr said the key factor is quality.

“Good word of mouth spreads quickly,” Rohr said. “The quality of exhibitors was extremely high last year. My expectation is that it will be just as high, if not higher, this year and people expect that. They want to see things that are thoughtfully made, hand-crafted and well made.”

The handmade ethos pops up in every aspect of the festival. While DIY staples, such as jewelry and apparel might first come to mind, the same mindset applies even to food vendors. The growing popularity of food trucks, for example, allows culinary diehards to forego the traditional route of buying or leasing a building to open a restaurant.

“There’s been a huge outcropping of people saying ‘I don’t need \$300,000 to open a restaurant, I can make good food and take it with me wherever I go,’” Johnson said.

It really comes down to a very American line of thought. Galvin said these vendors have committed themselves to a life where their wares provide their living. The resurgence is not just in handmade goods – it’s the resurgence of the American Dream.

“Basically, the idea is, you don’t have to outsource anything,” Johnson said. “There’s these people, locally, who are doing all these things that can basically supply you with anything you need. Everybody’s aware that some aspect of this exists, but they don’t realize how completely accessible it is on a daily basis.”

Other offerings include a craft beer garden sponsored by WYSO, street art demos and even Dayton’s own roller derby ladies, The Gem City Rollergirls will be on hand. Austin Burkhart from Derailed hair salon in the Oregon District will be giving out as many free mohawks as he can shave.

Also, patrons making it out early can grab a “swag bag” with goodies from

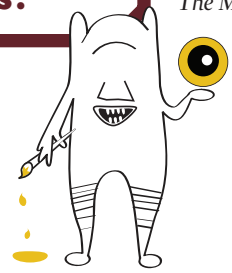
festival vendors as well as from Yellow Springs stores. The first 50 purchases of any kind land the swag.

Again, it all comes down to the idea that products made with a personal touch, by local people will never go out of style.

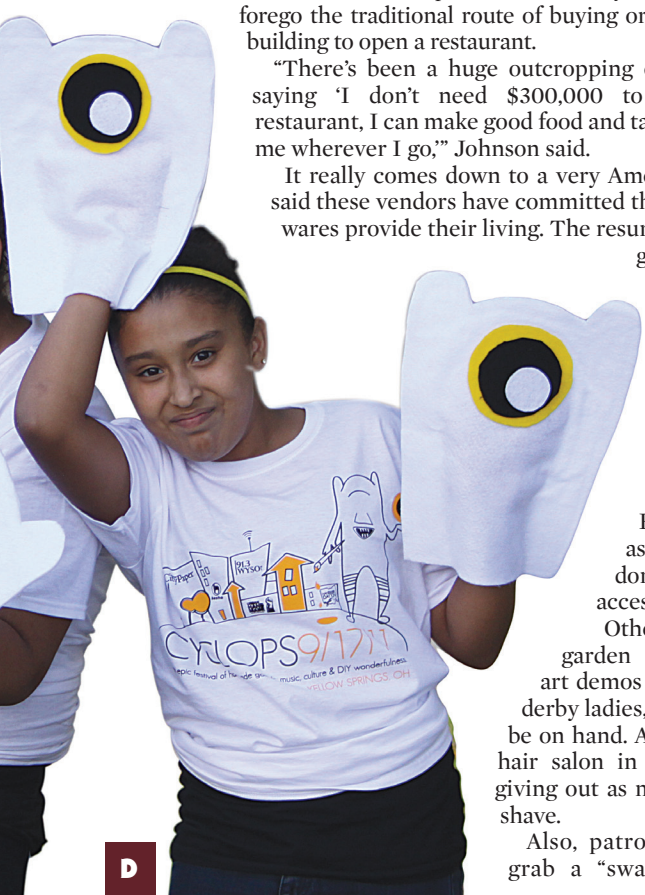
“I really think it’s something that could be applicable to everybody, in their day-to-day life,” Galvin said. “That’s kind of the idea – come here and see what they’re doing and inspire people to make things locally and buy things locally.”

The Cyclops Fest takes place on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. at John Bryan Center, 100 Dayton St., Yellow Springs. The event will be both indoor and outdoor, with smaller vendors in the venue’s gymnasium. The event is sponsored by the Dayton City Paper, WYSO, Destinationyellowsprings.com, Handmade Dayton, Corner Cone, Toxic Beauty Records, Clay+Stan, Digital Fringe and Youindie.com. Music lasts all day, with performances by Nicky Illiopolis, Grey Market/Dysfunktional Family, Turntable Philanthropy, Skratchmatik Turntable Crew, Tin Armor, The Motel Beds and Ruckus Robotikus. The event is free to all ages.

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D. Cyclops Fest volunteers with the popular Cyclops Mascot **E.** Jewelry from handmade artist at Cyclops Fest 2011