



300 Country Club Road,  
Wylie, Texas 75098  
Collin County  
[www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov)

**City of Wylie**  
**Public Information Office**  

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Craig Kelly  
972-516-6016  
[craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov](mailto:craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov)

Judy Truesdell  
972-516-6017  
[judy.truesdell@wylietexas.gov](mailto:judy.truesdell@wylietexas.gov)

**Wylie Arts Festival, Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Dec. 5**

**Wylie, TX, Aug. 25, 2015** – The City of Wylie and the Public Arts Advisory Board proudly to present the sixth annual Wylie Arts Festival Dec. 5, from 10 am to 7 pm, at the FBC Wylie Event Center, 200 N. Ballard Avenue. Join us in historic downtown Wylie and shop for fine art and unique, handmade crafts at more than 100 vendors, listen to the sounds of the season, and enjoy festive foods. Admission is free.

**More than 100 Arts & Craft Vendors**

The Wylie Arts Festival is the perfect opportunity to cross some names off your Christmas list or simply treat yourself. Shop at more than 100 vendors, handpicked by the Public Arts Board to ensure a diverse, unique selection of quality handmade fine art and craft items. From jewelry to home décor to clothing to paintings to gift items you will not find anywhere else, there is definitely something for everyone. The downtown merchants also welcome you to stop by and discover the many shops in lining Ballard Avenue in downtown Wylie.

**Festive Foods**

Historic downtown will be filled with more than just the sights and sounds of the holidays on Dec. 5; the smell of festive food will be in the air. Choose from your favorite “fair fare” including funnel cake, Kettle corn, turkey legs, corn dogs, Tater Twisters and sausage on a stick. Or savor the barbecue, quesadillas, tacos, beans and rice, and more. Just stop by and check out the selection.

-more-

### **Festival of Lights Christmas Parade**

The celebration continues at 5:30 pm with the Festival of Lights Christmas Parade on Ballard Avenue, sponsored by First Baptist Wylie and the Wylie Downtown Merchants Association.

### **Tree Lighting**

Top off the evening in Olde City Park with the annual tree lighting ceremony at approximately 7 pm, following the parade, featuring Christmas music and Mayor Eric Hogue's reading of "A Visit from St. Nicholas" (aka "The Night Before Christmas").

### **Children's Activities**

Kids will enjoy a selection of inflatables, a petting zoo, and a barrel train. Other activities include face painting and caricatures. And check out our vendor's wide selection of handmade children's items.

### **Community Art**

One of the more unique and much-anticipated activities at the festival is the 5-by-8-foot Community Canvas. Kids of all ages will have the opportunity, under the supervision of an artist, to help create a masterpiece. Once complete, this unique, colorful art piece will be hung in the Wylie Recreation Center for all to enjoy.

For more details on the Wylie Arts Festival go to [www.wylietexas.gov/artsfestival](http://www.wylietexas.gov/artsfestival) .

About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 44,938) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 197-percent increase since 2000. It was named 25 on MONEY magazine's Best Places to Live in America 2015.