



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**The 2019 Steel Pier Classic and Surf Art Expo  
announces local artist's work for show's commemorative poster**  
Beach photographer Heather Bautista is featured

**(VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. – May 9, 2019)** – [The Steel Pier Classic & Surf Art Expo](#) from May 24 - 27 at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront is pleased to announce Virginia Beach photographer, [Heather Bautista](#) has been selected as the poster artist for this year's event.

Bautista is a homegrown Virginia Beach artist who attended Princess Anne High School and graduated from Old Dominion University. This self-taught photographer loves to surf, kiteboard, hike or anything that brings her outdoors into the elements. Her love of nature and being able to share it through photography is her greatest passion. What separates Bautista's work from standard photography are her images which she prints on various mediums including metal, acrylic, metallic and canvas.

Her photography has been used by impactful environmental nonprofits like the Back Bay Wildlife Restoration Foundation, the Ocean Conservancy, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Surfrider Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund, the US Department of the Interior and now the commemorative poster for the VB Surf Art Expo.

"I am in awe of her talent -- how she captures the passion in each picture she takes. Whether it is tranquil, serene, happy, majestic, festive, angry, sad, joyous – you feel emotion in her images. That's what inspired us to select Heather's work this year. She depicts what it's like to live in this

region by capturing the moment in sea life, wildlife, garden life, the Chesapeake Bay, the Atlantic Ocean, our surrounding gardens, our feathered friends, dolphins, dunes, ships, piers, sunsets, and sunrises. And *she* is beautiful inside and out,” says Jodie Woodward, the organizer of the VB Surf Art Expo.

For more information on the Steel Pier Classic and VB Surf Art Expo, connect via [Facebook](#) or call 757-222-2355 or 757-348-1040.

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### **Steel Pier Classic**

Started on New Year’s Day 2004 and steered by Mary Knight, Zeke Saunders and the many passionate volunteers and members of the Virginia Longboard Federation, the mission has always been to give back to the community by bringing the community together as one. Everyone works on a volunteer basis for the love for surfing and the ocean. Our vision realizes that surfing is an art, no matter the medium – on a board or art capturing the elements of surf. Each Memorial Day, we celebrate this love and the art of surfing at the Steel Pier Classic and Surf Art Expo. Connect to [www.steelpierclassic.com](http://www.steelpierclassic.com) or Mary Knight at (757) 409-1363 or [surfchic38@aol.com](mailto:surfchic38@aol.com) for more info about surfing competitions, entry forms, and a schedule of events.

### **VB Surf Art Expo**

For the Surf Art Expo, go to [www.vbsurfartexpo.com](http://www.vbsurfartexpo.com) or contact Jodie Woodward, show director at [757-348-1040](tel:757-348-1040). Now in its 12th year, the Surf Art Expo takes place on the boardwalk during the surf competition and is all about the surf, the ocean, and the beach. Surf artists and artisans are featured in all mediums, such as painting, sculpture, metalwork, jewelry, photography, furniture, woodwork and custom surfboard and skateboard designs.