

# Thomas Jefferson MONTICELLO

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[www.monticello.org](http://www.monticello.org)

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## Heritage Harvest Festival draws largest crowd

THE HERITAGE HARVEST FESTIVAL DRAWS MORE THAN 6,000 PEOPLE—A RECORD CROWD FOR THE EVENT.

A glorious fall day set the stage for the sixth annual Heritage Harvest Festival at Monticello. A record crowd of more than 6,000 took part in the annual celebration of Jefferson's legacy on gardening, farming and food, held at the West Lawn, the Vegetable Garden and the Thomas Jefferson Visitor Center.

The ever-popular Tasting Tent was the main attraction for many, offering more than 100 varieties of heirloom tomatoes and dozens of different varieties of melons and peppers. The festival, hosted by

Monticello and Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, provided educational workshops ranging from agriculture, farming, bee-keeping to canning and vinegar making. Festival-goers enjoyed

cooking demonstrations, the Seed Swap, the new Starr Hill Craft Beer Garden and local food vendors. Children rolled hoops on the West Lawn and played a garden scavenger hunt.

Keynote speaker and owner of Polyface Farm Joel Salatin kicked off the Heritage Harvest Festival on Friday, September 14, during a special dinner program featuring local foods. Salatin's key message: "Whatever is worth doing, it's worth doing poorly first." Salatin acknowledged Jefferson's gardening philosophy of trial and error. Jefferson once said "...such a variety of subjects, some one always coming to perfection, the failure of one thing repaired by the success of another."

**Mark your calendars for next year's Heritage Harvest Festival at Monticello, September 6-7, 2013. Learn more about the Festival throughout the year at [www.HeritageHarvestFestival.com](http://www.HeritageHarvestFestival.com)**

