



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - July 10, 2025

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# JUST ANNOUNCED: Speed Painter Annika Wooton to Headline Starry Starry Night in the Wild West

**Hailey**, **ID** – The Trailing of the Sheep Festival is excited to announce that nationally renowned speed painter, **Annika Wooton**, will headline this year's *Starry Starry Night in the Wild West* celebration, creating a custom work of art on-stage at the event to be auctioned off to the highest bidder.



Annika Wooton is a nationally recognized speed painter, known for transforming blank canvases into bold, unforgettable art - live, and in under six minutes.

She has performed on NBC, for NCAA halftime shows, and went viral with the WNBA, captivating audiences with her one-of-a-kind blend of art and showmanship. From corporate events and conferences to sports arenas, galas, and press tours, Annika brings high-impact entertainment to stages around the world. Her high-speed art has captivated audiences across the country, and now she is bringing her talent to the heart of the Wild West.

The <u>Trailing of the Sheep Festival</u> will present its annual fundraising event, this year themed '<u>Starry Night in the Wild West</u>,' on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 6:00pm at The Argyros Performing Arts Center in Ketchum, Idaho. Guests are invited to don their finest western wear and enjoy an evening of entertainment, food, drinks, and auctions to support the Trailing of the Sheep Festival's mission to gather, celebrate, present, and preserve the history and cultures of sheepherding in Idaho and the West. The event will bring together community-minded, philanthropic guests to enjoy a celebratory feast, participate in silent and live auctions, try their luck in a mystery raffle and have the opportunity to customize their own hat at the Idaho Hat Bar, all while enjoying lively bluegrass tunes.

Tickets are on sale now for '<u>Starry Starry Night in the Wild West</u>' with a limited number remaining. "Don't miss this magical night of creativity, community, and culture under the stars," shared Laura Musbach Drake, the Executive Director of the Festival. VIP tickets are \$225.00 and include Sheriff's VIP Swag, VIP Seating, Reception, Host Bar, Lamb Dinner with Premium Wine; General Admission tickets are \$150.00. Tickets can be purchased at online at <a href="https://trailingofthesheep.org/starry-starry-night">https://trailingofthesheep.org/starry-starry-night</a>.

#### **Event Details:**

Starry Starry Night In The Wild West Thursday, August 7, 2025 The Argyros Performing Arts Center Tickets: https://trailingofthesheep.ejoinme.org/SSNTickets

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <a href="https://trailingofthesheep.org/">https://trailingofthesheep.org/</a>. Follow us on social media @TrailingoftheSheepFestival for the latest updates.

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## About the Trailing of the Sheep Festival

Each fall, the Trailing of the Sheep Festival honors the 150+ year annual tradition of moving sheep ('trailing') from high mountain summer pastures down through the Valley to traditional winter grazing and lambing areas in the south. This annual migration is living history and the focus of a unique and authentic Festival that celebrates the people, arts, cultures, and traditions of Idaho's sheep ranching families, highlighting the principal contributors – the Basques, Scottish and Peruvians.

The five-day Festival, this year October 8-12, 2025, includes nonstop activities in multiple venues - history, folk arts, an authentic Sheep Folklife Fair, lamb culinary offerings, Wool Fest classes, music, storytelling, National Qualifying Sheepdog Trials and, the always entertaining, Big Sheep Parade with over 1,200 sheep hoofing it down Main Street in Ketchum.

The Trailing of the Sheep Festival has also garnered some well-deserved accolades over the years, including being recognized as one of the **Top Ten Fall Festivals in the World** by msn.com travel, **Top Ten US Fall Festivals** by smartertravel.com, **Top Animal Festivals in the World** and **Top Ten Fall Festivals** by USA Today, **Top 7 Fun Fall Festivals** by AARP, **One of the Greatest Cultural Events in the West** by Northwest Travel, and recipient of the Society of American Travel Writer's **Phoenix Award** for best in cultural tourism, and the **Idaho Governor's Award for Cultural Heritage.** 

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