



**David Allen**  
**Walking Stick Carver**

A native of Claiborne parish in North Louisiana, David Allen was born in 1925 and was one of the best-known walking stick carvers in the South. Although he didn't begin carving hickory sticks until he was an adult, he came from a rich tradition of whittling and carving.

Mr. Allen was featured at festivals across Louisiana, including the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the Louisiana Folklife Festival, and the Natchitoches/NSU Folk Festival. He also appeared at the Festival of American Folklife in Washington D.C. He was a member of the Louisiana Hall of Master Folk Artists, and in 1984, served as a master craftsman in the Folklife Apprenticeship Program. He attended festivals with his wife, Rosie, and accomplished craftspeople as well. David passed away in 2014.

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