



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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62ND ANNUAL OLD TOWN ART FAIR TO HOST NATIONALLY LOCALLY RECOGNIZED ARTISTS TO AN ESTIMATED 50,000 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE

AmericanStyle Magazine has cited OTAF one of the top 10 art fairs in the country

(Chicago)—This year as in every year for the past 62 years, the Old Town Triangle community welcomes artists and patrons alike to the charming historic tree-lined streets to an annual rite of summer, the Old Town Art Fair.

More than 260 artists have been selected to exhibit from more than 600 entrants by a jury of gallery owners, museum curators, and artists.

This year's art fair is open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., rain or shine, June 11 and 12. The main gate of the Old Town Art Fair is at Lincoln Ave. and Wisconsin St. Donations of \$7 are requested from adults, with no donations for children 12 and under.

The Old Town Air Fair again this year features a wide range of art mediums, including 2D- and 3D-mixed media, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry and works in metal, stone and wood.

"Each year, we think that it can't get better than in the previous year, but it does," said Emily Rose, general chair of the 2011 Old Town Art Fair. "We are constantly amazed at the innovations and quality of the submissions.

"We know that those attending this year will be equally delighted and surprised by the presented work with its unmatched beauty, creativity and artistry," she said. "As the art work has evolved from the first years of the "Old Town Holiday" when art was displayed on fences, we continue to be delighted with our artists. We know our patrons will be thrilled. There is something for everyone."

As part of this year's events is a music stage, a food court, and children's corner, in addition to a garden walk where residents' open their gates and invite patrons to enjoy their beautiful landscapes.

A small army of volunteers, more than 750, put on the art fair and begin planning the event in November of the previous year. Judging and admission is early in the current year, as volunteers plan and execute this annual tribute to art. Volunteers also staff the two-day event.

The kickoff of the event is *First Sight, Friday Night*, where artists and patrons preview donated art work in a cocktail party and silent auction. This year's event is from 7-10 p.m., at The New Leaf Studio, 1818 N. Wells St., with music provided by The Jason Miller Group, and fare and margaritas by Adobo Grill, 1610 North Wells St.

Proceeds from the Old Town Art Fair and *First Sight, Friday Night* benefit a host of local youth groups, schools and neighborhood preservation projects.

The Old Town Art Fair thanks its 2011 sponsors: Blick Art Materials, Art De Triumph/Artful Framers, Chicago Tribune, House of Gluntz, WXRT-FM, Yelp.com and Treasure Island.

The Old Town Triangle Association is a community-based, not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for residents who live in an area of the City of Chicago bounded by North Avenue, Clark Street, and the former Ogden Avenue.

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Editor's Note: Illustrations or pictures available upon request.