



**News Release**

**Contact: Dee McKinsey**

**312-337-1938, or [dmckinsey@oldtowntriangle.com](mailto:dmckinsey@oldtowntriangle.com)**

### **TOUR OF RESIDENTS GARDENS AS PART OF THE OLD TOWN ART FAIR, JUNE 11 AND 12**

***Weekend kicks off with First Sight, Friday Night cocktail party and silent auction.***

A little publicized added bonus to the Old Town Art Fair, June 11 and 12, is our annual garden walk where residents in the historic district allow attendees into their private sanctuaries at no charge.

The gardens range from free-form and unfettered as with the front yard of a retired publishing marketing executive, to more structured and pedicured gardens, to the garden used in the movie set of *Return to Me*, and then there are the Triangle chickens, where a local resident houses four chickens in a very upscale hen house for fresh eggs.

This year, more than 53 residents will open their gardens as part of the Old Town Art Fair in a trail that begins at the Old Town Triangle Center, 1762 N. North Park, Ave., where maps can be picked up, and then winds through the brick and tree-lined streets to the gardens. Many are accessible only through alleys.

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

For the past 62 years, Old Town residents have hosted an annual art fair, which began as "Old Town Holiday," with residents displaying art on fences.

This year the Old Town Art Fair was named one of the top 10 art fairs nationally by *American Style Magazine* and features this year a wide range of art media, including 2D- and 3D-mixed media, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry and works in metal, stone and wood.

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 show off their beautiful landscapes.

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.

####