



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**THE ARTISTS' MARKET AND OMAHA'S ARTSEEN INVITE PUBLIC
TO VIEW, PURCHASE AND EVEN MAKE THEIR OWN ART**

Featuring work by 135 artists from 29 states and Canada and offering demonstrations by artists from local galleries, the Artists' Market and Omaha's ArtSeen will provide many opportunities for Festival-goers to immerse themselves in the world of art. Artists and demonstration booths will stretch five blocks along Farnam between 10th and 15th Streets. Visitors will be able to purchase art, learn about techniques and local art-lovers' hot-spots or simply admire the amazing variety of artwork featured at the Festival.

The Artists' Market will present a wide array of artistic media including ceramics, fiber, glass, leather, sculpture, metal, paint, film, wood and more. Participating artists were selected by a jury of local and regional art professionals from more than 300 applications. Applicants were evaluated based on technical competence, basic design and originality.

Many of last year's award-winners will be returning including first place-winner Bud Sloan, a fiber artist from Ponca City, Oklahoma and second-place winner, Tom Hubbel, an Omaha ceramic artist. In addition, the following merit-award winners will return for the 2008 event: Judy Thompson (ceramics), Wes Honeycutt (jewelry), Wendell King (metal), Steve Baldwin (wood), Chris Hartsfield (painting), Glen Wans (photography), Donald Marquardt (metal) and Peggy Corpeny (photography).

(More)

Omaha's ArtSeen, with four locations spread throughout the Artists' Market, encourages a dialogue between artists and the public. Tents hosted by Passageway Gallery, Hot Shops Art Center, Omaha ClayWorks and the Old Market Artists Gallery will exhibit and sell member artwork, take commissions, distribute promotional literature and artist information and offer demonstrations.

The Old Market Artists Gallery, which opened in 2007, is making its first appearance at Omaha's ArtSeen. "We wanted to be involved because it allows us to get feedback from the public about what they enjoy," said artist Dan Klima. "As an artist, I prefer to have feedback before explaining what my work is about. It is a very interesting interaction. Sometimes what an artist sees, and what the public sees, are very different things."

Each day of the festival, Hot Shops' artists Tim Barry, Dan Toberer and Ron Loken will offer blacksmith and pottery demonstrations. Tom Harnack of Omaha ClayWorks will demonstrate clay-throwing.

In addition, the following demonstrations are scheduled:

Old Market Artists Gallery

Friday, June 27

11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.	Deb Groesser	Oil Painting
1 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.	Zach Jones	Oil Painting
3 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.	Diane Mattern	Copper, Concrete, Patinas
6 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.	Dan Kilma	Wood

Saturday, June 28

11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.	Deb Groesser	Oil Painting
1 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.	Dede Johnson	Pottery Wheel
4 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.	Lisa—Beads for Humanity	Wire Wrap/Beads
5 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.	David Weiss	Oil painting

(More)

Sunday, June 29

11 a.m. to 11:40 p.m.	Dan Kilma	Wood
12 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.	Diane Mattern	Copper, Concrete, Patinas
3 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.	Zack Jones	Oil Painting

The Passageway Gallery

Friday, June 27

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Jeri Martinez	Pastel Painting
1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.	Paul Nichols	Pottery Wheel
3:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.	Paul Nichols	Pottery Wheel
5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.	Dotty Robarge	Hammered Copper

Saturday, June 28

11 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.	Sandy Hagen	Glass Beadmaking
3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Jeri Martinez	Pastel on Sandpaper & Portrait Drawing
5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.	Paul Nichols	Wheel Thrown Pottery

Sunday, June 29

11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Gerry Klein	Fused Mosaic Table
1 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	Jeri Martinez	Pastel Painting
3 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.	Dotty Robarge	Copper Hammering

For more information regarding the Omaha Summer Arts Festival presented by First National Bank, the Artists' Market and Omaha's ArtSeen, please visit **www.SummerArts.org**. Artists interested in participating in the Artists' Market, or serving as a Summer Arts Festival juror, may also visit the Web site for more information.

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