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YOUNG ARTISTS THRIVE AT OSAF'S CHILDREN'S FAIR
Hands-On Arts Activities and Crafts in Stinson Park

(OMAHA, Nebr.) June 6, 2023 – There's something for everyone at the Omaha Summer Arts Festival, including the youngest artists! The Festival welcomes families and people of all ages with free activities, art, and fun.

The **Children's Fair** is geared toward children ages 3 to 12, and will be located in Stinson Park. Admission is free and there will be a number of local non-profits offering hands-on activities and art projects activities. Children's Fair hours are Saturday, June 10 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Activities and hosts include:

- African Culture Connection (Sat. ONLY)
- Omaha Children's Museum (Sat. ONLY)
- El Museo Latino (Sun. ONLY)
- Omaha Symphony (Sun. ONLY)
- TeamMates (Sun. ONLY)
- Arts for All
- Girls Inc.
- Lauritzen Gardens
- Omaha Area Youth Orchestra
- Omaha Community Playhouse
- Omaha Conservatory of Music
- Omaha Public Library
- SkateFest Omaha
- The Rose Theater

There will also be ticketed activities such as candy art, spin art, face painting, and balloons; tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased at the Children's Fair info booth in the heart of Stinson Park.

A special feature of the Children's Fair is the **Art Collectors in Training (ACT) program**. ACT encourages the appreciation of the arts from a young age by offering children an exclusive opportunity to purchase original artwork donated by professional Festival artists. The art is priced at just \$3-\$5, and after making their purchases, young buyers and their families are encouraged to visit or research the artist who created their piece.

While wandering the Children's Fair, be sure to check out the **Mini-Mural Project** in Stinson Park. These murals were created by Omaha-area high school students, and the public has the opportunity to vote for its favorite murals (the top three schools win art supplies for their classrooms!). Pick up a ballot at the Children's Fair info booth to cast your vote.

More impressive artwork from Omaha's emerging young artists can be found at the **Young Artist Exhibition**. In its 28th year, the exhibition displays the work of local artists in grades 6 through 12. The Exhibition includes almost 300 pieces of original art representing 38 area schools. Scholarships, recognition awards, art supplies, and special prizes will be presented at a reception for students, teachers, and parents on Saturday, June 10 at 2:30 p.m. Hosted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha in Mammel Hall (67th & Pine Street), the Young Artist Exhibition is open for public viewing Friday, June 9 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, June 10 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year's featured illustration is "My Jerebear's Sweet 16" by Elkhorn South High School student Maclaina Hodges. Her work was selected to represent the Young Artist Exhibition in various marketing materials and will be on display at the gallery. The Young Artist Exhibition is presented by the University of Nebraska at Omaha,

and sponsored by The Sherwood Foundation, the Mammel Family Foundation, the Samuel Bak Museum: The Learning Center, Mangelsen's, and Ginger's Hang-Up.

About Omaha Summer Arts Festival

The 49th annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival is Friday, June 9 through Sunday, June 11 in Aksarben Village. With over 130 artists showcasing art in 14 different media, there's something for every taste and budget! In addition to the Artists' Market, the Festival features live entertainment on two stages, local food vendors, a Children's Fair on Saturday and Sunday, a Young Artist Exhibition, and more. For more information, visit www.summerarts.org and follow the Festival on Facebook and Instagram @omahasummerarts.

The Festival is presented by FNBO, sponsored by Douglas County, The Sherwood Foundation, Kiewit Companies, Noddle Companies, and Aksarben Village, with media partners KETV Channel 7 and Sweet 98.5.

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