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OMAHA  
SUMMER  
ARTS  
FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



**49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OMAHA SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND IN AKSARBEN VILLAGE**  
*Event Showcases Tons of Art, Live Music, Tasty Food, and More!*

(OMAHA, Neb.) June 6, 2023 – Summertime is officially here, and with it comes one of Omaha’s favorite events: the 49<sup>th</sup> annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival will take place on June 9, 10, and 11 in Aksarben Village. The Festival is presented by FNBO and admission is free.

At the heart of the Omaha Summer Arts Festival is the Artists’ Market, presented by Kiewit Companies, where more than 130 professional juried artists from around the country will showcase their works. Festivalgoers can also find live entertainment on two stages, a wide variety of local food, and youth art activities including the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Young Artist Exhibition at UNO’s Mammel Hall and on Saturday and Sunday, a Children’s Fair in Stinson Park. Organizers have also worked with local art organizations to bring new interactive programming to the Festival.

“The Omaha Summer Arts Festival (OSAF) has been committed to attracting and showcasing an increasingly diverse array of art, music and culinary experiences for nearly 50 years,” said Molly Hartford, Board President. “OSAF proudly continues to develop and support arts programs and related initiatives that promote diversity, equity and inclusion in our community.”

General festival hours are Friday from 11am to 9pm, Saturday from 10am to 9pm, and Sunday from 10am to 4pm. For more information, visit [www.summerarts.org](http://www.summerarts.org).

**Kiewit Artists’ Market**

The Kiewit Artists’ Market offers a variety of fine arts and crafts in 14 two-dimensional and three-dimensional categories including painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass, photography, jewelry, and more. High-quality artworks span a wide range of prices to fit all budgets. Among those exhibiting this year are 40 artists from Nebraska and Iowa, as well as professional artists from 20 different states.

**Homegrown Artists**

This program is part of an ongoing effort to cultivate and encourage local artistic talent. Nine up-and-coming artists will be featured, showcasing artwork in a variety of media including painting, photography, and more.

**ArtSeen**

ArtSeen showcases additional local talent to complement the national visual artists found in the Artists’ Market. Blacksmith Shop Omaha, Passageway Gallery, Old Market Artists, and Hot Shops will be on-site all weekend with art for sale, live demonstrations, and hands-on activities.

**New Programming**

This year, the Festival is excited to have several new partners join us on-site throughout the weekend. Art-ABLE, Benson First Friday, D’Colores, Local Art Plug, and the Nebraska Poetry Society will provide exciting and unique arts-based programming and opportunities to support local artists. Additionally, festivalgoers can stop by UNO’s Samuel Bak Museum to see the largest collection of works by the artist and learn about his experiences as a Holocaust survivor.

### **Live Music**

Throughout the three-day event, OSAF will present over 30 free concerts on TWO stages: the Luigi Waites Main Stage, located in the OSAF Pavilion at 67<sup>th</sup> & Frances, and Sonny's Stage, located in the pop-up park just north of the Inner Rail Food Hall. Both stages will feature a full schedule of local artists spanning a wide variety of genres all weekend long. For a complete line-up of performances, visit [www.summerarts.org/music/](http://www.summerarts.org/music/).

### **TasteFest**

This year's TasteFest offers a wide variety of cuisine – from classic Mexican food and smoked barbeque to more traditional festival fare like kettlecorn and shaved ice. Festivalgoers can also enjoy beer (including local brews!), wine, seltzers, cider, and an expanded selection of ice-cold beverages at the OSAF Music Pavilion. For a complete list of food vendors, visit <https://www.summerarts.org/food/>.

### **Children's Fair**

Even Omaha's youngest artists can get in on the fun at the Festival. The Children's Fair, open Saturday and Sunday in Stinson Park, is the creative headquarters for all ages, complete with crafts and activities from local nonprofit organizations and businesses. Young art enthusiasts will also have the opportunity to browse and purchase small pieces in the Art Collector's in Training Tent. Children's Fair hours are Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Young Artist Exhibition**

The Young Artist Exhibition features almost 300 pieces of artwork created by local students in grades six through 12. Hosted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the inspiring exhibition will be held in Mammel Hall at 67<sup>th</sup> & Pine on Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Mini Mural Project**

This project features original murals created by Omaha-area high school students. Find the murals in Stinson Park and vote for your favorite at the Children's Fair Info Booth – the three schools with the most votes will win prizes of art supplies for their classrooms.

### **Mural Cubes**

This is your last chance to see the Mural Cubes! There are five GIANT cubes located around the city featuring 15 local artists. A PDF including information about the artists and locations can be found at [www.summerarts.org/mural-cubes/](http://www.summerarts.org/mural-cubes/).

### **Featured Illustrator**

Local artist Jair Rodriguez was selected as the 2023 Featured Illustrator. Rodriguez's graffiti-inspired work has been showcased in schools, galleries, and live events throughout the local community and around the world. He has a number of murals around Omaha, and was a participant in the OSAF Mural Cube Project both in 2021 and 2022.

### **Parking Details**

Aksarben Village has a number of free parking garages that festivalgoers can utilize when visiting the Festival. For a map of parking garage options, visit [www.summerarts.org/visiting-the-festival/](http://www.summerarts.org/visiting-the-festival/). Additionally, there is free street parking available, as well as parking options at Baxter Arena.

**2023 Sponsors**

The 2023 Omaha Summer Arts Festival is presented by FNBO and sponsored by Douglas County, The Sherwood Foundation, Kiewit Companies, Noddle Companies, and Aksarben Village. Media partners include KETV Channel 7 and Sweet 98.5. Additional support is provided by: Union Pacific Railroad, Baxter Auto Group, Nebraska Arts Council/Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Mammel Family Foundation, LeafFilter, HDR, Inc., University of Nebraska at Omaha, the Samuel Bak Museum: The Learning Center, Nebraska Lottery, Premier Midwest Beverage Company, RDG Planning & Design, Hilton Garden Inn Omaha – Aksarben Village, Mangelsen’s, Ginger’s Hang-Up, Park Omaha, and the Nonprofit Association of the Midlands.

**About the Omaha Summer Arts Festival**

OSAF is consistently recognized as one of Omaha’s best annual events with a variety of local honors and awards including the 2021 “Best Local Annual Event” award by the Omaha Choice Awards and the 2019 “Best Festival” in the *Omaha Magazine* Best of Omaha awards. For more information, visit [www.summerarts.org](http://www.summerarts.org) and follow the Festival on Facebook and Instagram.

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