

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Haven Art Festival to be Held June 23 & 24**

The 2018 Grand Haven Art Festival is slated for Saturday & Sunday, June 23 & 24. Nearly one hundred artists will fill the first three blocks of Washington Avenue, turning downtown Grand Haven into a chic, outdoor art gallery. Artists from near and far will be showcasing their original, handmade work perfect for the home, office or cottage.

As the event moves into its 57th year, The Chamber of Commerce, producers of the event, are excited about the variety of artists involved with the event. "We will have everything from photography and pottery to fiber art and jewelry. It is always delightful to watch people wander Washington Avenue adding pieces to their collections, starting new ones or just purchasing artwork that speaks to them," said Mary Sherman, Grand Haven Art Festival Director.

The Chamber will have free Art Guides available for visitors. "It will list the artists' art medium, where they are from and their contact information," Sherman explained. Each artist's tent will have their information displayed so that visitors can easily find their favorites.

The festival will open to shoppers on Saturday morning at 10am and close at 5pm that evening, starting back up at 10am Sunday morning and ending at 5pm. Attendance and parking are free.

There will be an event Information tent located at Washington Avenue and Second Street. All attendees are invited and encouraged to take a brief survey, either at the tent or on their phones. Survey respondents will be entered to win a custom piece of pottery from local artist, Brad Patterson.

The weekend is filled with art activities, as Family Fun Day will also take place on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 2pm on Second Street. It is a great opportunity for families with young children to be creative by participating in free arts and crafts activities that are provided by local businesses. Family Fun Day is sponsored by Bethany Christian Services, Centennial Securities Company, Freedom Boat Club of West Michigan, TimberView Apartments and Health Zone Chiropractic.

Additionally, on Sunday, the ReImagine Project will have a tent on Second Street for the length of the Festival, encouraging attendees to help paint a Community Mural. Local artist, Michelle Martin, is creating the mural's outline, which features classic Grand Haven icons as well as pieces from the new Imagination Station playground. The Community Mural is sponsored by Piper Lakes Apartment Homes.

The Grand Haven Art Festival at large is sponsored by West Michigan Cadillac, American House Senior Living Communities, Republic Services, Grand Haven Tribune, Courtyard Concerts and Ryke's Bakery Catering & Café.

For more information, visit the Grand Haven Art Festival Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/GrandHavenArtFestival](https://www.facebook.com/GrandHavenArtFestival) or the website at [www.grandhavenartfestival.org](http://www.grandhavenartfestival.org).

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