

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chamber of Commerce
Grand Haven Spring Lake Ferrysburg
Mary Sherman
Director of Events & Programs
616.842.4910
msherman@grandhavenchamber.org

Grand Haven Art Festival Announces 2018 Award Winners

The 57th Grand Haven Art Festival held on Saturday, June 23 and Sunday, June 24 was a fantastic event. Nearly 100 artists from West Michigan and across the country set up a line of white tents down the middle of Washington Avenue, turning the street into a chic, outdoor art gallery. Thousands of visitors from near and far came to enjoy the beautiful weekend and purchase art that is perfect for their homes, offices and cottages.

The Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg coordinates the Art Festival and are very happy with the turnout. "It has been a delightful, busy weekend!" Mary Sherman, Grand Haven Art Festival Director, said. "Downtown has been full of fantastic art, friendly artists and excited visitors."

The Festival also included the annual Family Fun Day, sponsored by Bethany Christian Services, Health Zone Chiropractic, Freedom Boat Club, Best Financial Credit Union, TimberView Apartments and Centennial Securities Company, today from 10am – 2pm. Nine local businesses provided children attending the Festival with free arts and craft activities. Over 500 children participated, taking home decorated bags, painted tiles and other handmade items. Past ArtPrize winner, Chris LaPorte, was also onsite, sketching his famous caricatures.

Three artists also received award by a panel of jury members. The recipients included:

Best in Show: Julie Billups, Jewelry, Booth 85

Jury's Choice: Aaron Sault, Jewelry, Booth 75

Excellence Award: Josh Merrill, Photography, Booth 59 & 61

In addition, attendees were encouraged to vote for their favorite booth and artist.

The People's Choice Award: Brad Patterson, Clay, Booth 20.

In case you missed their award-winning work, these artists will be automatically invited back to next year's show.

The Grand Haven Art Festival and The Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg would like to thank the Art Festival sponsors: Cadillac, Republic Services, American House Senior Living Communities, Cutco, Outdoor Adventure, Courtyard Concerts, Ryke's, Meijer, Health Pointe, Piper Lakes Apartment Homes and the Grand Haven Tribune.

For more information and pictures from the event, visit the Grand Haven Art Festival Facebook page www.facebook.com/GrandHavenArtFestival or Art Festival website www.grandhavenartfestival.org.

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