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The 2005 Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original

Ann Arbor, MI – The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is the Original of the four art fairs that comprise the award-winning Ann Arbor Art Fairs, and has been voted **number one of the top 25 fairs in the country** by *AmericanStyle* magazine. Collectively, the fairs draw more than half a million visitors each year. The 46th annual Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, The Original, takes place on North University Avenue, Thayer Street, and Washington Street. Adjacent to the University of Michigan's Central Campus, the Street Art Fair neighbors noteworthy university landmarks, such as the Burton Carillon Tower, Hill Auditorium, Michigan League, and Rackham School of Graduate Studies, which all border the water fountain and green pathways on Ingalls Mall. This year's fair opens Wednesday, July 20th and continues through Saturday, July 23rd. Hours of the Fair are 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM Wednesday through Friday, and 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM on Saturday.

Getting to the Street Art Fair

Take the Art Fair Shuttle from either Briarwood Mall or Pioneer High School to the State Street and South University Avenue stop. Walk across the University of Michigan Diag to the Burton Carillon Tower, and you have arrived at the Street Art Fair. Another option is parking at the U of M commuter lot on Glazier Way at Huron Parkway, and riding the University of Michigan Art Line Commuter Bus for free, which stops on Fletcher, and brings you to the Washington Street corner of the fair. Evening and weekend visitors might consider parking in the U of M Thayer Street parking garage or the U of M Fletcher Street garage for a fee.

Things to Do

There is something for everyone at the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair. The 2005 Fair includes several exciting new programs joining the annual line up, so make sure you check out all the highlights.

- *Embrace ART!* Enjoy the artwork of our 185 talented juried artists from all over the US, and some from around the world. Stroll down the rows of white tents, and make sure you take a peek inside the artist's booths. Our artists are delighted to meet you, so please take time to learn about how their work is made and the story behind their art. With nineteen different art media on exhibit by both new and returning artists, you will certainly find something to suit your taste!
- *Need a personal tour guide?* If you are interested in learning more about the artists, their work, and the Street Art Fair, make sure you join a special guided tour. In this new program, the Street Art Fair is establishing a series of daily *Street Art Fair Walks*, which will be led by trained volunteers. Art Walk tour guides will lead small groups around the Fair, stopping at artist booths to introduce the artist and let them discuss their work. Some tours may be media specific, so check the schedule to see which tours suit your interests. Tours will begin at the ArtZone tent – the schedule will be posted on signboards throughout the Fair.
- *Attend an Artist Demonstration.* Each day, the Potter's Guild, and a selected group of juried artists will demonstrate how their work is made. For schedule information, check the INFO booths or signboards around the Fair. (With support from Toyota Technical Center USA)
- *Get to the ArtZone.* Free art projects and hands on activities for everyone to enjoy, featuring the new *Imagination Station* on Washington every afternoon staffed by art teachers from the Michigan Art Education Association. In the morning and evening teens from the will *Neutral Zone* organize additional free projects, both for teens and families. The *Neutral Zone* will also present a juried exhibit and sale of art by high school student artists. Everyday there will be a new workshop led by a different Ann Arbor Street Art Fair artist, including 2005 featured artist Renee Harris's fiber workshop. Check the Map boards, or the INFO booths for schedules. If you're interested in helping create a public work of art, make sure to stop by the ArtZone mosaic studio set up by the *Avalon Community Housing Mosaic Project*. Visitors will learn about mosaic art, receive one-on-one instruction, and work directly on the mosaic to be installed in the spring of 2006. Adults and mature children are invited to participate through the duration of the Fair.
- *Meet a future art star.* Be sure to check out the five new emerging artists. Students from the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, and University of Michigan School of Art & Design gain real world experience by presenting their work at the Street Art Fair on Washington Street, near Fletcher Street.
- *Enjoy a performance.* Mr. B. is back! He will be on North University in the midst of the artist booths. Arts at Michigan, along with UMS and the U of M School of Music has partnered with the Fair to present an exciting schedule of performances on the lawn of Ingalls Mall. Stop by one of the INFO booths at the Fair for the performance schedule.
- *Take home a souvenir.* T-shirts, tote bags, posters, and ball caps will display an original design by this year's featured artist Renee Harris from Cincinnati, Ohio. Don't leave the Fair without your 2005 souvenir!

- *Hungry or thirsty?* Grab a bite to eat at the Food Court at the Fountain on Ingalls Mall, presented by the University of Michigan Unions. Bottled water will also be sold at stands around the Fair, which will be staffed by the Boy Scouts.
- *Get Involved!* There are numerous opportunities for you to help out at the Fair. From office help weeks before the Fair to tearing down and everything in between, dedicated volunteers are always welcome. Please visit the Volunteers Page at www.artfair.org/volunteers.html for detailed ways you can help!
- *Need more Information?* Take a virtual tour at www.artfair.org before the fair. At the website, you can create your own custom guide to the fair by printing out maps, schedules, and artist lists. If you have any questions at the fair, stop by one of the four INFO booths and ask one of the volunteers to help you. Don't forget to pick up a copy of the official Detroit Free Press Guide to all the fairs, and *Street Art*, the illustrated guide to the Original Fair.

Get more Information

For the most current information regarding the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original, visit www.artfair.org or call (734) 994-5260. The art fair website features fair maps, an online gallery featuring each artist's work, links to artist websites, artist demonstration schedules, performance schedules, opportunities to volunteer at the Fair, ArtZone activities, and more. For visitor information, check out the Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau's website at www.annarbor.org or call 800-888-9487.

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