



ARTS COMMISSION

OF GREATER TOLEDO

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For Immediate Release

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Arts Commission of Greater Toledo Announces 2010 Thursday Art Walk Series

The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo is pleased to announce that it will once again present one of the community's favorites of its summer programs, the Thursday Art Walk. On the fourth Thursday of each month, May through September, the Arts Commission, in partnership with the galleries, studios, businesses, and neighbors of the Arts Zone and Warehouse District will present one evening a month of exercise, fresh air, and diverse and affordable art.

WHAT: THURSDAY ART WALK SERIES

WHERE: Downtown Toledo's Arts Zone, Warehouse District, Uptown, and Old West End neighborhoods.

WHEN: May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, and September 23, 6 – 9 p.m.

WHO: Local art galleries, studios, venues, and arts-supporting businesses open their doors to feature a "walkable gallery event" featuring more than 100 local, regional, and national artists.

* Maps containing updated details and information will be available at each Art Walk location throughout the series, as well as available for download prior to each event at www.acgt.org.

One of Toledo's favorite arts series returns again this year – the Thursday Art Walk!

Community Opportunity:

The Art Walk series is an extension of the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo's (ACGT) Live Work Create Toledo program, which explores opportunities for economic development and revitalization through the arts. The program is presented and made possible through a partnership between ACGT and the galleries, venues, and businesses that populate the Arts Zone and Warehouse District. In the past three years, Art Walks have brought thousands of people into downtown Toledo to re-acclimate the community to the city core, as well as to expose them to the hundreds of artists and creatives that live and work in the area. The Art Walk series has also helped to elevate and promote the many arts-related, and arts-supporting businesses that populate Downtown.

As facets of Downtown continue to be redeveloped and revitalized, and neighborhoods like the Warehouse District, the Arts Zone, the Arena District, and Uptown's Adams Street continue to turnaround and see new businesses moving in each year, events and programs like the Art Walk (and its sister Live Work Create Toledo programs, the Gallery Loop and Artomatic 419!) play a vital role in exposing the community to this progress, while providing a safe, clean, healthy opportunity for citizens to explore and get to know their city better.

At its peak, the Art Walk features more than 15 local venues displaying art work, and draws several hundred attendees.

The Thursday Art Walk program is an extension of the Arts Commission's Live Work Create Toledo (LWCT) initiative, which explores and executes opportunities for economic revitalization and development through the arts. In August 2007, the "Arts Zone" was identified as a geographic point of focus because of the many existing galleries and art studios in the neighborhood.

Arting-up the Arts Zone:

UFP: New to the Arts Zone this year are The Urban Forest Project (UFP) Banners, which are currently bringing art to the light poles of Downtown Toledo. The UFP project was made possible through the partnership of AIGA Toledo, the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, SWEAT, and the City of Toledo's 1% for Art Program, along with support from Grumpy's, Deploy Creative, Off Contact Printing, Space 237, and Spoke.

This project has "planted" more than 50 banners throughout Downtown featuring the tree-inspired designs of local graphic designers. The project was organized in observance of the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day. Each banner uses the form or metaphor for the tree to make a powerful visual statement about the environment. The banners create a forest of thoughtful images in the Toledo urban landscape and raises awareness of sustainability and youth mentoring. Once the banners come down in late summer, they will be recycled into unique tote bags, designed exclusively for the project. Sales from the product will benefit the ACGT's Young Artists At Work Program (YAAW).

RE-surgence: Coming soon to The Huntington Center (formerly Lucas County Arena), a trio of artists (Sayaka Ganz, Greg Mueller & Steve Williams) will suspend a fifty-foot long sculpture topographically depicting the Downtown section of the Maumee River. RE-surgence will be assembled from thousands of recycled blue and green post-consumer items (measuring cups, spoons, toys). The artists will be available at the May 27th Art Walk to discuss the project and how the community can get involved with the construction process. Visit them in the Main Floor Lobby of the Secor Building. Attached is a flyer showing what type of recycled items the artists are looking to collect as material for the project. Bring something with you and get involved.

YAAW Art Benches: Visitors to this summer's Art Walks will also notice the addition of Art Benches, completed by the 2009 YAAW apprentices. Scattered about the Arts Zone and Downtown, a special event reception is currently being planned to officially unveil the benches for the June Art Walk event. More details about that event will be announced soon. YAAW is a six-week summer art-related youth employment program presented by ACGT.

Potential Patrons:

Thursday Art Walks are a great opportunity to browse and purchase affordable local art, while getting to know the artists and galleries of the Arts Zone, the Warehouse District, and the surrounding Downtown neighborhoods. Many of the galleries and studios that open their doors for the Art Walk offer visitors the opportunity to purchase unique, original, and handmade artwork. A broad array and diverse variety of work is available on the Art Walk, with each gallery and studio featuring different artists who work in a variety of media. ACGT encourages Art Walk visitors to support local artists and businesses by purchasing work for unique gifts, or to decorate their homes and offices.

Participating Venues:

OLD WEST END

Collingwood Arts Center 2413 Collingwood Blvd. 419.254.ARTS (2787)

www.collingwoodartscenter.org

Come wander the galleries and studios of this 100-plus year old Franco-Romanesque architectural treasure during the Art Walks. The CAC galleries will be hung with current work created by the CAC Resident Visual Artists, as well as the OMNI Artists Group, an African-American visual arts collective that is a new addition to the CAC resident artists roster. In the Gerber Parlors, Sarah Kurmin's Pictorial Garage Sale offers nearly 2,000 3" x 5" photos depicting Kurmin wearing and holding everything she owns. As the artist looks to lighten her load before leaving town, visitors are invited to peruse the selection, and, if interested, purchase the item, all items are between \$1 and \$5.

Parkwood Gallery 1838 Parkwood Ave., # 120 419.254.ARTS www.acgt.org

This colorful group show at the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo's Parkwood Gallery features the patterned design, symbol, and decay-inspired mixed-media work of Dustyn Bork, Renee Brand's abstract coastal village scenes, Elizabeth Cavalier's mixed-media works focused on the concept of interconnectivity (one part of a system being reliant upon another), inspired by biology, ecology, anatomy, and network theory, as well as the innovative sculptural glass of David Kolasky, who explores techniques in bridging the sometimes conflicting pedagogical theories of form versus the originality of design.

UPTOWN ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

Madhouse Gallery 1215 Jackson St. 419.873.0538 www.madmadmad.com

Through Friday, June 11, Madhouse Gallery will feature "Athanas: Greatest Hits and Other Drivel (A Collection of Mobiles, Drawings, and other Oddities)." The show features the aforementioned eclectic work of long-time Toledo music scene veteran, Steven J. Athanas (of Homewreckers, Raisin Band, Coosters fame). The show is composed of wire art, colored pencil drawings, and plenty of quips, rhymes, notes, and poems all bearing Athanas' unique wit and sense of humor.

Studio Eleven Eleven 1111 Adams St. 419.460.3239

One of Adams's Street's newest additions, Studio Eleven Eleven, presents the paintings and mixed media works of Julie VanHeyst, and the glass works of Leonard Marty. VanHeyst, a newcomer to the Toledo art scene, works with acrylics and mixed-media on canvas trusting her intuitive vision to explore the possibilities of color and texture. "There is power in imagination ... it's about using the raw material inside you and being open to the opportunities," she says. Leonard Marty, a long time glassmaker from the area and the Toledo Museum of Art's very own Master Instructor, will present new works of blown and hot sculpted glass. "Form first ... then color to accentuate," is Marty's motto.

Studio M Printmakers 320 N. Michigan St.

On the occasion of the first Art Walk, Studio M Printmakers will celebrate a closing reception for its current exhibition of works made in the workspace by Carrie Carter, Mania Dajnak, Brian Heller, and Mark Smith. Printmaking demos in the studio will take place continuously throughout the evening.

ARTS ZONE / WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

Secor Studios 425 Jefferson Ave. 419.514.7496

The Secor Artists will host Open Studio Night at the Secor Building. The artists encourage visitors to roam through the studios of over 15 artists located on the 5th, 6th, and 7th floors of the building, as well as to peruse the galleries on the 1st and 6th floors. The artists and plans for the coming Resurgence project will be featured in the Secor Lobby (see above "Arting up the Arts

Zone” for details). Bring along some folding money, the Secor Artists will have art works of various styles, media, and genre available for purchase.

20 North Gallery *18 N. St. Clair St. 419.241.2400 www.20NorthGallery.net*

20 North Gallery presents the 10th Annual Derby Days Exhibit, featuring the best in equine art by eleven local, regional and international artists: Walter Chapman, Marcin Chumiecki, Patrick Dubreuil, Emily Fray, Scott Heacock, Jeri Hollister, Joyce Lister, Matthew S. Mickel, Kevin M. Shaner, Margie Shoop and Robert Shorter. Horse-themed artwork in a variety of media – painting, photography, drawing, pastel, glass, sculpture and jewelry – are displayed. This year the exhibit includes a display celebrating the life and times of the late Chick Lang who was the Racing Director of the Preakness Race, run each year at Pimlico Race Track on the third weekend of May as the second race of the Triple Crown. The display also features the history of Bally Ache, the Toledo-bred winner of the 1960 Preakness, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard D. Fruchtman.

Sur St. Clair Gallery *1 S. St. Clair St. 419.241.7100*

For the first installment of the Art Walks, the Sur Saint Clair Gallery will feature a show that blurs the lines between buildings and art. "Architects as Artist and Architecture as Art" features the work of local architects as works of art and sculpture, putting on display the innovation and creativity that goes into architectural renderings.

Studio of Jack Wilson *19 S. St. Clair St.*

The gallery at 19 S. St. Clair St. occupies the space above metal-worker Jack Wilson’s first-floor work space. In the gallery, Wilson displays his unique, and often funny metal art, along with work from other notable locals. For the May event, there will be the ever popular pottery of Red Stanley, the photography of Lois Anne Bowlus, the abstract and very colorful paintings of Jim Kujawa, and, of course, Wilson’s metal sculpture.

Homeslice Pizza *28 N. St. Clair St. 419.724.7437 www.myspace.com/homeslicepizza*

Homeslice is not just a Downtown pizza staple, it is one of few restaurants that doubles as a sort of gallery, with a rotating body of work featuring a number of Toledo artists. Currently featured at Homeslice is the mixed-media work of Quest For Fire Studios artists Jerry Gray and Kerry Krow, as well as paintings by long-time arts scene staple, Yusef Lateef.

Bozarts Fine Art & Music Gallery *151 S. St. Clair St. 419.464.5785*

The Bald & the Beautiful Show: Artwork by Michael Ziegler & Luke Ellison

A statement from the artists: “You are invited to witness what some art critics have hailed as "A daring display of cheap framing" and "Work that pushes the boundary of what can be called art without laughing." World traveler and self-proclaimed philanthropist Michael Ziegler has recreated the inner zygote of his political womb with engaging prints, "sculptures", and astoundingly dull floral paintings. Clinically insane artist Luke Ellison has taken time off from

pan-handling to bring the public a collection of prints, paintings, and drawings suitable for both dentist offices and strip joint bathrooms. His genius breaks the scales, if by genius we mean his ego. So, stop by and witness the mediocre marvels of Toledo's artistic community!"

Swank Gifts 48 S. St. Clair St. 419.241.9340

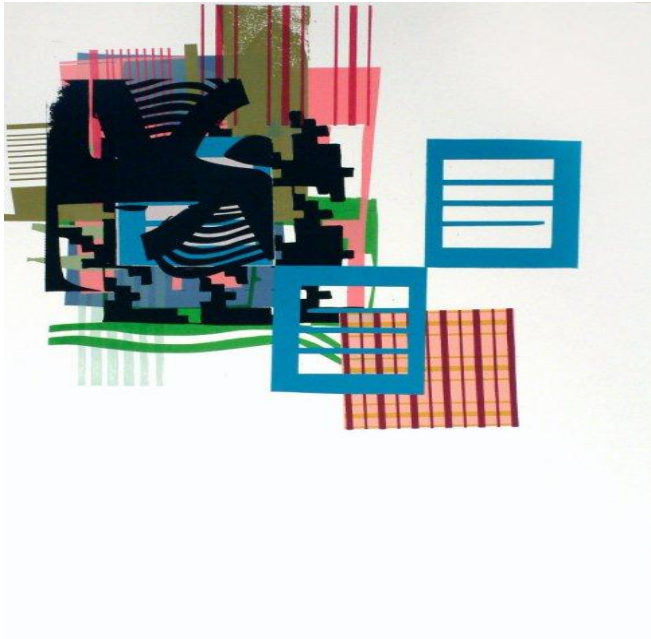
Swank Gifts is a new boutique shop that specializes in affordable gifts. The boutique proprietors pride themselves on the shop's large selection of one of a kind jewelry pieces, as well as an array of products from talented local artists. They also carry purses, stationary, baby and kids items.

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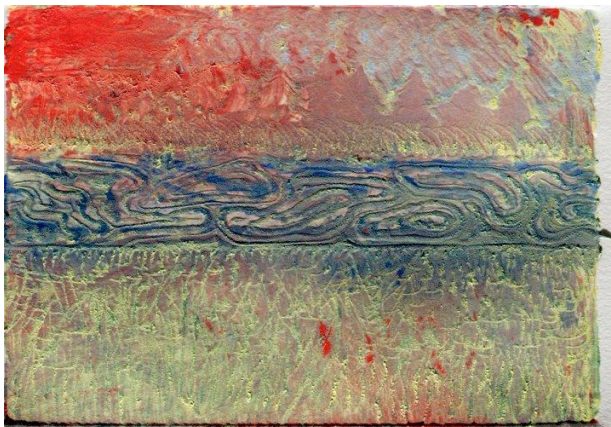
The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo is the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio that develops and promotes the arts in the community, serving Northwest Ohio since 1959.

www.acgt.org. 419-254-ARTS

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Dustyn Bork



Brian Heller