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**NEWS RELEASE—June 3, 2008**  
**For immediate release**

## **“KidzDuArt” Corner!** **Expanded Family Art Activities**

in Partnership with



**ArtFest MidWest “The Other Art Show”**  
**June 28-29, 2008**

**Media: Press releases & downloadable photos at [www.artfestmidwest.com](http://www.artfestmidwest.com)**

**Check out ArtFest Midwest pg. 22-23 Intro magazine (Conv. & Visitor’s Bureau publication):**  
**[http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/businesspub/intro\\_2008spring](http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/businesspub/intro_2008spring)**

ArtFest Midwest was initiated in 2003 as a response to several local artists’ requests for a show that would include Iowa artists. The show is always held the same weekend as the Des Moines Arts Festival and will celebrate its sixth year this June. It is offered as an alternative, affordable art show—a complement to the downtown show.

- We’re excited to announce, for the first time, our expanded KidzDuArt area will be staffed by VSA arts of Iowa artists, all of whom have a disability. Annually, VSA arts of Iowa provides arts

experience for over 30,000 children and adults with disabilities. In addition, VSA performing artists (New Vision Dancers and Railroad song performer Frank Strong) will appear.

- "Make-a-Puppet" workshop—

Design your very own puppet to take home—a funky sock puppet, delirious sack puppet or how about a crazy pencil puppet? Possibilities are endless!!!!

(Directed by VSA artist Gwynne Burke)

Time: 11-5 Saturday & Sunday

- "A, B, C, D—I can draw!"—

Make & illustrate a cool bookmark to use when reading at home or school!

(Directed by VSA artist John Jannenga)

Time: 11-5 Saturday & Sunday

- "Printmaking made simple!"

Learn the art of printmaking—Moms, Dads & kids of all ages! See how to make a design & then make it appear backward!

(Directed by VSA artist Kathy Kooyman)

Time: 11-5 Sunday

- "Mixed Media Madness"

Kids, work on your own "collage" creation with all sorts of art supplies: paper, glue, markers, beads, ribbon, fabric, glitter, paint.....you name it!

(Directed by VSA artist Honey Grodt)

Time: 11-5 Saturday

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- About our KidzDuArt VSA arts of Iowa artists—


**Gwynne Burke, Ankeny:** Gwynne has been designing puppets for over 25 years for television, churches and schools. She was head costumer for the Ingersoll Dinner Theater and has created the current Science Center shows. She claims that a puppet in a child's hand can help him sing a song, feel a beat or even read a book!

**John Jannenga**: As an illustrator and educator, John sees having Attention Deficit Disorder as his greatest asset. He received his first art scholarship in 3<sup>rd</sup>. grade!

**Kathy Kooyman (Des Moines)**: A Drake Fine Arts graduate, Kathy instructs kids in printmaking & how to make shadow boxes. Kathy uses a wheelchair for mobility and restricts her teaching to the Des Moines area.

**Honey Grodt**: A self-taught artist who has not only published poems, but also works in acrylics and photograph, uses her talents to guide children to create collage.

## **Show details!**

- 225 artists selected to participate:  
almost 50% from Iowa  
92% from Midwest
- Check [www.artfestmidwest.com](http://www.artfestmidwest.com) for complete artist list
- Expanded outdoor “ARTIST DEMONSTRATION AREA”—traditional glassblowing, metal & pottery sculpting, lampwork jewelry, paper folding, live caricatures, copper soldering & jewelry design
- Iowa’s largest fine art show!
- Sixth annual juried show!
- June 28-29, 10-6 Saturday & 10-5 Sunday
- Iowa State Fairgrounds, Varied Industries Building
- Same weekend as Des Moines Arts Festival
- Artwork Silent Auction to benefit  Orchard Place
- Affordable, alternative show
- Free admission, parking and shuttle between Des Moines Arts Festival and ArtFest Midwest—park at the Fairgrounds for both shows!
- Expanded indoor Iowa artist demonstration area
- Expanded “KidzDuArt” fun!
- Chosen as a “Show-Stopping Startup” in 2003 and described as “overall this show is a hit” by Sunshine Artist Magazine
- Estimated attendance 2003 (by Sunshine Artist Magazine): 30,000

## **About ArtFest Midwest THE OTHER ART SHOW**

ArtFest Midwest THE OTHER ART SHOW began in 2003, after several local Des Moines artists expressed concern about being excluded from the annual downtown art show in June. Stookey Companies is a Des Moines-based family-owned and operated business that has been in existence for 15 years. Stookey Companies also promotes a fine art show at Valley West Mall in West Des Moines, Iowa.