



## **Contact**

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**NEWS RELEASE—June 12, 2008**

**For immediate release**

## **ArtFest Midwest Welcomes Community Representatives**

ArtFest MidWest “The Other Art Show”

June 28-29, 2008

**Media: Press releases & downloadable photos (including demo. artists' work) 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)

Check [www.artfestmidwest.com](http://www.artfestmidwest.com) for complete artist list

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.

- ArtFest welcomes area community representatives:

Greater Des Moines Convention & Visitors Bureau—Staff will be on hand during the show to promote the Des Moines area.

Orchard Place, our partner and recipient of proceeds from our show's “Silent Auction”


Jan Fleming, author of "Grotesques in Des Moines... Iowa and Abroad"

Former Governor Robert D. Ray encourages us to discover Fleming's book and calls it a "remarkable and illuminating presentation of the long obscured art treasures of Gargoyles, Grotesques and Green Men." Sue Jensen and Jan Fleming will appear as Living Statue Green Men! All profits from Fleming's book, which she will sell at the show, go to Drake University for Fine Arts scholarships.

(Fleming's photos can be found at [www.artfestmidwest.com](http://www.artfestmidwest.com) (media photos))

VSA arts of Iowa, provider of artists to teach our KidzDuArt family workshops.

## **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.

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