

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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16TH ANNUAL HISTORIC SHAW ART FAIR OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2008

ST. LOUIS – One of the city’s historic and most beautiful neighborhoods will once again play host to one of the midwest’s premier art fairs. The Historic Shaw Art Fair, featuring 135 artists from across North America, is set among the mansions of Flora Place in the heart of the Shaw Neighborhood. The 16th Annual Historic Shaw Art Fair promises to be the best one yet, as the reputation of this competitively juried Art Fair, with its uniquely urban yet relaxed setting, continues to grow.

WHAT

The 16th Annual Historic Shaw Art Fair is a juried art fair and features 135 artists displaying and selling their work which represents various media.

Music will also serenade you as you view wonderful art. Various musical artists will play both days, musicians will be at the music tent as well as strolling throughout the grounds.

The food court will serve a varied menu, and wine and beer will be available.

Art demonstrations and hands-on activities for all ages are provided. The Student Art Gallery features work from area schools for display and sell.

NEW THIS YEAR!

Brunch a la Art, served 9 to 11:30 am, Saturday, October 4

Early entry at 8:30 a.m. allows you first choice of artist’s work. Feast on a delicious selection of food by Mangia Italiano, City Diner, Mokabe’s, Revival & La Tropicana, and listen to the jazz of Silk Pajamas.

\$25 a person includes admission plus \$20 of script to purchase food.

Purchase **Brunch a la Art** tickets online at ShawArtFair.com

WHERE

Historic Shaw Neighborhood – City of St. Louis

Flora Place at Tower Grove Avenue, 4100 and 4200 Flora Place, 63110

(Just east of the Missouri Botanical Garden)

WHEN

Saturday & Sunday October 4 & 5, 2008

Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADMISSION

\$5.00 Adults, Children 14 and under free when accompanied by an adult. The proceeds from the Art Fair benefit the Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association which works to promote and improve the city through beautification, safety and family programs.

SPONSORS

The Fair is sponsored by the Regional Arts Commission, Missouri Arts Council, Saint Louis University Hospital, Willert Home Products, 88.1-KDHX, and 90.7-KWMU.

For more information and to view representative work visit: ShawArtFair.com

Shaw Neighborhood

Improvement Association

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Artists, Visitors Once Again Welcomed To Shaded Streets of the Shaw Neighborhood

As they have for 15 years, the tree-lined streets of the Historic Shaw Neighborhood will welcome artists and visitors to the 16th annual Historic Shaw Art Fair, Saturday and Sunday, October 4 and 5.

135 artists from 24 U.S. states and Canada, culled from more than 326 entries and returning 2007 award winners, will be displaying works in the residential setting of Flora Place, immediately adjoining the Missouri Botanical Garden, whose "Best of Missouri Market" once again coincides with the Historic Shaw Art Fair (HSAF).

The Art Fair opens Saturday, October 4 at 9 a.m. and continues until 5 p.m.; on Sunday, October 5, opening is 10 a.m. and closing is 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 per adult; children 14 and under are admitted free when with an adult. All proceeds benefit the programs of the Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association.

New this year is "Brunch a la Art," on Saturday morning. Starting at 8:30 a.m., a \$25 ticket will get visitors early pre-opening admission to the Art Fair and \$20 in coupons to purchase food from five select vendors brought to the Fair site: Mangia Italiano, City Diner, Mokabe's Revival and La Tropicana. The Brunch will continue until 11:30 a.m.

HSAF Director Greg Gobberdiel notes that the Shaw event, first held in 1993, is the oldest neighborhood art fair in the immediate St. Louis area, "and, unquestionably, the most comfortable, convenient and enjoyable." The exhibit layout is compact, the shaded streets and graceful homes are relaxing and seating is close at hand. Even the food court, Gobberdiel noted, is conveniently located in the very center of the Fair's exhibits, not on the distant perimeters of the event. Also provided are hands-on art activities and demonstrations, and a student art gallery featuring work from area schools.

Exhibitors are selected by a three-person jury of artists and arts professionals. There are many returning artists and a bevy of new artists bringing fresh work to the Fair. The price range of the works displayed conforms to what St. Louisans consider affordable, both for their own enjoyment and as gifts for others.

As in prior years, artworks are chosen to offer a balanced array of pleasures to see and to touch—oil and watercolor paintings, drawings and photographs; wood, metal, clay and ceramic sculptures; crafted jewelry, woven fabrics and even one-of-a-kind crafted furniture.

Also unique to Shaw, many artists coming from outside the area are "in residence" for the Art Fair. Continuing a custom begun 15 years ago, Shaw residents open their homes to the artists for the weekend, offering hospitality and, in many cases, building friendships that make Shaw an attractive destination for artists from around the nation.

"I like to think that this art fair, unlike any other in the entire area, offers visitors a glimpse of city hospitality," Gobberdiel notes. "We provide compact space, a tree-shaded setting, graceful homes and a welcoming heart — bringing others to our neighborhood and even into our homes. This demonstrates that Shaw is a place where people grow flowers, grow children, grow relationships, grow artistic appreciation and find a great place to live for themselves and their families."

Further information on the Historic Shaw Art Fair is available at shawartfair.com.

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