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The Peoria Art Guild
203 Harrison
Peoria, IL 61602
Gallery Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Peoria Art Guild Junction City Art Fair to be held June 2-3

Peoria, IL — The Peoria Art Guild will host the 2nd Annual Junction City Art Fair on June 2-3, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the newly renovated Junction City Shopping Center. Now in its second year, the Junction City Art Fair showcases the talents of local artists residing within 100 miles of Peoria and expects to attract over 10,000 visitors. This year, there will be an added kids component: the Young Artists Show, which will feature the artwork of middle and high school-aged students from the tri-county area.

The Peoria Art Guild is known for its downtown Fine Art Fair, now in its 45th year, which takes place annually the last full weekend of September and enjoys a national reputation as one of the top Fairs in the U.S. Although local artists are encouraged to apply and exhibit at the larger Fair, the Art Guild developed the Junction City Art Fair to focus on the amazing pool of local talent in the area. Like the downtown event, the fair is a success thanks to helpful staff, an abundance of volunteers and an artist-friendly atmosphere.

“We felt it was important to show off the artwork of our local artists. The Junction City Shopping Center and the fact that it’s limited to only 50 artists, provide a more intimate setting. And since the Fine Art Fair actually used to be held at Junction City, it’s the perfect place for us to ‘come home again’ and help bring people back. They have really done a great job revitalizing the shopping center and making it a destination location again,” said the Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair Coordinator, Liza Decoteau.

ADMISSION AND LOCATION

Admission is free. The Junction City Art Fair began as a partnership with the Junction City Shopping Center after Alexis and Beth Khazaam purchased the property in 2006. Prizes will be awarded in the amount of \$15,000 with generous corporate support from Coyle Insurance, ELM, Saturn of Peoria, Leiter Group and Busey Bank.

ARTISTS

Fifty fine art fair artists from the surrounding area will exhibit and sell works of art in jewelry, painting, photography, ceramics, wood, glass, mixed media, metal and fiber. All artwork is original and has been created by the exhibiting artist. In April, a panel of six to eight art professionals and two collectors will judge all the entries; over 100 applications are expected (over 500 slides)! Through an extensive rating process, 43 artists will be invited to exhibit at the Fair along with 7 artists who will be invited to attend as 2006 award winners.

YOUNG ARTISTS SHOW

Begun as opportunity to highlight the talents of middle and high school-aged students, the Young Artists Show provides a venue for aspiring young artists to show off their work. All artwork will be original and on display during Fair hours; prizes will be awarded for both competition levels. The Young Artists Show is generously sponsored by eServ.

For more information on the Junction City Art Fair, the Young Artists Show component, or for volunteer opportunities, call 309-637-2787.

The Peoria Art Guild, one of the nation's oldest visual arts organizations, exists to serve the community

and artists through the exhibition and sale of contemporary artwork, to provide education and to promote appreciation of the visual arts. The Peoria Art Guild provides the community with art exhibits, art classes, original artwork for purchase or rent, and other special events such as the Fine Art Fair. Programs are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.