West Bloomfield Beacon June 11, 2021 Article: Orchard Lake Fine Art Show Set to Return

Art



The Orchard Lake Fine Art Show is set to return after being disallowed last year.

File photo by Patricia O'Blenes

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WEST BLOOMFIELD — Some local residents may want to mark their calendars for July 24 and 25, as those are the scheduled dates for the Hot Works' 18th Orchard Lake Fine Art Show.

According to a press release, out of several thousand shows, the Orchard Lake Fine Art Show has been voted in the top 100 art shows in the country 12 times.

The events are scheduled for 10 a.m.-6 p.m. July 24 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 25 "in the heart of West Bloomfield," on Powers and Daly roads, south of Maple Road and west of Orchard Lake Road.

The show is outdoors, with "up to 125 quality juried and professional artists selling their original and personally handmade art in all disciplines."

There is a \$5 admission fee to attend, but kids 13 and younger can enter for free.

Those attending the shows can park for free in the back half of the parking lot behind Beaumont Medical Center, which is located at 6900 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield.

White Lake resident Patty Narozny is the show's founder. She shared her opinion about what helps make it so popular.

"Patrons now know that the Orchard Lake Fine Art Show is the art show to go to," Narozny said. "We bring artists to Michigan who don't attend other Michigan art shows. You're (going to) see a lot of work that you don't see at many other events."

Prices for artwork can range from \$25 to several thousand, according to Narozny.

The fine art show is set to return after being disallowed last year.

Narozny said the show wasn't canceled, but that the permit was revoked.

"The Health Department, in late June 2020, issued an order disallowing the art fair because of the number of people that would be in attendance," said West Bloomfield Township Supervisor Steven Kaplan. "The reason the Oakland County Health Department issued that edict had to do with the state law regarding outdoor gatherings."

Kaplan said that the township Board of Trustees is "elated" about the art show being restored.

"Many residents look forward to the event," he said. "It's one of the highlights of the summer season in West Bloomfield."

Narozny shared her thoughts about the show's scheduled return.

"It's a sense of relief," she said. "The revoke of the permit set us back heavily. ... Pre-paid show expenses were incurred and not reimbursed. ... I'm very excited to reopen."

From Narozny's perspective, the show's return is part of the "bigger picture."

"It's so important to reopen and live our lives — get back to normalcy," she said.

Narozny discussed COVID-19 precautions that she expects to be in place.

"It's outdoors, No. 1, and there's plenty of room for social distancing, No. 2," she said. "Face coverings are recommended. ... If you're vulnerable, please stay home. ... If you don't (want to) do that, please wear your face covering if you feel uncomfortable."

Narozny said there is a call for youth artists.

"They can go to the website, hotworks.org, and get an application for the youth artists, which is K-8, or ages 5 to 13," she said. "It's a unique and one-of-a-kind program where the students are encouraged to create their original and personally handmade art, as they're exposed to the rules and entrepreneurship of doing art shows for a living. So this is the purpose of the program."

Narozny said there will be a presentation with \$250 in youth art awards at 3 p.m. July 25.

Light entertainment and food vendors are also expected to be part of the show.

Narozny said it's a "nice, clean, quality event" that brings with it economic impact and positive exposure for the community.

"It's a major community event," she said. "We love that West Bloomfield Township is involved."

Those who may be interested in renting space or inquiring about sponsorship opportunities can contact Narozny at patty@hotworks.org.