

The Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival celebrates 60 years, March 15-17, 2019

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One of Central Florida's most celebrated harbingers of spring will celebrates its 60th year March 15, 16 and 17th. The Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious juried fine art shows. It consistently ranks among the most highly regarded outdoor art shows in the nation and its artists compete for one of the largest cash awards (\$74,500) among the top shows. Additionally the enthusiastic Patrons Program is expected to spend more than \$80,000 in Art Bucks this year.

The festival features original artwork that has been designed and executed by the exhibiting artists during the past two years. The show is located in Central Park, a beautifully landscaped area whose surrounding streets are closed during the Festival to allow for foot traffic only. Artists' booths nestle under large oak trees in the park and line Winter Park's historic Park Avenue, in the heart of a charming downtown with brick streets, unique boutique shops, and inviting outdoor cafes and bistros.

Attendance usually reaches 350,000 people for the three-day festival, which is one of Central Florida's largest outdoor events. Each year up to 225 artists are selected for participation, chosen from more than 1100 national and international applications. Along with these juried fine artists and three emerging artists, the festival features concerts in Central Park, a wide variety of food and beverages, a large display of outstanding art from local schools and interactive art activities for the kids guided by local museums. The Friday night jazz concert is free and is much anticipated by the community each year drawing a large enthusiastic crowd.

Highlights for the 60th include:

- An increase in the Best of Show purchase award to \$12,000
- A beautiful peacock poster by artist Elizabeth St. Hilaire, known for her unique paper painting style.
- Friday Night Concert Headliner- the highly acclaimed Blues Saxophonist & Vocalist Mindi Abair, along with the Boneshakers
- A very special Sunday afternoon performance by The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

For more details about the festival visit the website at http://wpsaf.org/. WPSAF, P.O. Box 597, Winter Park, FI, 32790 * 407-644-7207