

PRESS RELEASE

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Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair ranked one of the top 100 fairs in the nation

2011 marks the 65th anniversary of this Bellevue tradition held July 29 - 31, 2011

Bellevue, WA – Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair was recently ranked as one of the top 100 fairs in the nation by Art Fair Sourcebook, the “Definitive Guide to the Best Juried Art & Craft Fairs in the United States.” Deservedly so: Celebrating its 65th anniversary this year, BAM artsfair has continuously grown to become one of the largest and most prestigious festivals in the U.S.

For three full days every July, BAM transforms downtown Bellevue into a massive hub of performance art, live music, artist demonstrations and delicious food. Over 300 juried artists from around the continent are met by 320,000 art enthusiasts seizing their once-a-year opportunity to buy unique, handmade works of art. From jewelry and wearables to paintings and ceramics, the quality of the merchandise is top-notch and entrance to BAM artsfair is free. Plus, Bellevue Arts Museum offers free admission to all of BAM's galleries and a rich variety of free community programs, including the popular kidsfair.

“BAM artsfair celebrates the connection between our community and the Museum’s focal point: art, craft and design,” says Meredith Langridge Anderson, the fair’s producer. “There’s something for everyone: art to make, art to look at and art to buy. Almost all artist exhibitors will be on site -- a rare opportunity to directly interact with the creators of the work.”

QUICK FACTS

What: Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair

When: Friday - Sunday, July 29, 30 & 31, 2011

Friday & Saturday: 9:30am - 9:30pm

Sunday: 9:30am - 6pm

Where: Bellevue Arts Museum & Bellevue Square

Tickets: Free (including free admission to BAM's galleries)

Details: <http://www.bellevuearts.org/fair/index.html>

Call for volunteers!

Every year, Bellevue Arts Museum relies on the support of over 350 dedicated volunteers to help bring this important event to life! Volunteering is a great way to give back to the community, meet artists and help insure that BAM artsfair is a success. A list of volunteer tasks and a downloadable application form can be found at www.bellevuearts.org.

Thank you to our partners!

Bellevue Arts Museum is proud to partner with the following companies and organizations on the 2011 BAM artsfair: Microsoft, Overlake Hospital Medical Center, Amica Insurance, The Bellevue Collection, MulvannyG2 Architecture, Tiffany & Co., American Family Insurance, City of Bellevue Arts Program, Fred Meyer, Parker, Smith & Feek, University Mechanical Contractors, Inc. and Coca Cola. Media sponsors include: The Seattle Times, KOMO TV, Xfinity, 425 Magazine, Titan, Classic King FM, Warm 106.9 fm, Click 98.9 and KOMO News Radio.

About Bellevue Arts Museum

Bellevue Arts Museum is the Pacific Northwest's center for the exploration of art, craft, and design. The Museum connects people of all ages with the extraordinary works of Northwest artists while bringing national and international collections to its community. Dynamic educational programs provide unique opportunities to connect with art and artists; past or present, experimental or established. Each July, BAM hosts one of the largest and most treasured art festivals of the year, the Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair. BAM is located in the heart of downtown Bellevue, provides free parking and is wheelchair accessible. Please visit www.bellevuearts.org for details.