

# Mark calendar for Ann Arbor Art Fair

Thirty consecutive years is quite an achievement, and that's what the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is celebrating in 1989.

Its local founders thought they were developing an excellent event but had no idea it would still be around after 30 years. The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is the third oldest outdoor art fair in the United States. More important, along with longevity, it has achieved national recognition for presenting high-quality contemporary fine crafts and art on a consistent basis.

ART FAIRS and festivals have become very popular in the past 30 years. The 1989 Michigan Council for the Arts listing of Michigan Art Fairs lists more than 400 visual arts/crafts fairs or festivals in Michigan alone.

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair

ranks in the top 10 nationwide when one is looking for top quality art work and high attendance. Approximately 400,000 people are expected to attend the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair on South and East University avenues in 1989.

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is not only special with its record for quality and attendance, it is special in that it now presents concurrently with two other Ann Arbor art fairs. Ann Arbor's central downtown has three distinct shopping districts.

THE ORIGINAL, juried fair, the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, was developed by community members and the South University Merchants. In 1960 and ever since, artists' booths have been on South University Avenue. As the fair grew, booths were added on East University Avenue.

By its eighth year the Ann Arbor

Street Art Fair was so successful the merchant group on State Street decided to develop their own fair — The State Street Area Art Fair.

A FEW YEARS later the third merchant area added its own art fair run by the Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans and now called the Summer Art Fair. All three fairs meet together monthly as the Mayor's Art Fair Committee (city, University of Michigan, and county officials are also members) and do planning and coordination.

Even so, each fair is separately in charge of its own specific geographic area. Artists may apply to more than one fair but they can only have a booth in one area. All three art fairs agree on this rule and adamantly enforce it.

The combination of three separate but connected art fairs, happening concurrently, brings nearly 1,000

artists and their work to downtown Ann Arbor for four consecutive days.

ORGANIZERS FOR the three fairs cooperate in many ways. All three fairs work with the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority to bring visitors on shuttles to the downtown area from an outlying shopping mall. Then circulators move visitors from one fair to another. (The three fairs are within walking distance, but the circulators help get visitors back to their cars or back to the fair at which they started.)

In 1989 only the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair existed. Then 100 artists signed up by the July 11 deadline to sell their work on South University Avenue. Organizers described the Street Art Fair as an "experiment" at the "local level."

IN 1989, the 30th annual original juried Ann Arbor Street Art Fair will feature 230 artists and their

works, from 30 states. Approximately 80 of the artists are new to the Street Art Fair in 1989. The category of sculpture and clay were totally rejuiced by slides, and there are new artists in every category.

These 230 featured artists are chosen by professional jurors from more than 1,200 artists who applied by the current Feb. 15 deadline.

THE ORIGINAL juried Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, on South and East University avenues, continues to lead in quality of art presented and innovation of related activities. A month before the Street Art Fair, the work of selected Street Art Fair artists will form an exhibit at the University of Michigan Hospitals. This is the second year for this exhibit that reaches special audiences and previews the fair to come.

During the fair itself, nearly 20 artists in a variety of media will

demonstrate their art to the public. A schedule of these demonstrations is available at the information booth. These free demonstrations by professional artists offer an opportunity to learn about the processes of creating art.

In three areas space has been assigned to an arts group. These three groups are: the Potters Guild, the Senior Citizens Guild, and Students of the University of Michigan School of Art. The Potters Guild has been a part of the Street Art Fair all 30 years, but the School of Art is joining the Street Art Fair for the first time this year.

The art fair will take place July 10-22. Wednesday-Friday hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturday the fair runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For additional information, call 994-5260.

## Full steam ahead for July 4 celebration

From the little engine that could, to the big engine that did, the machines that led America through the industrial revolution will be in action at Greenfield Village's Pageant of Power, July 1-2. Power and machinery enthusiasts from around the nation will gather to exhibit and demonstrate the sputtering, pottering contraptions that helped to change the face of the world.

Throughout this "power-full" weekend, visitors can observe the evolution of engines dating from the 1800s to the mid-1900s, as improvements in technology enabled smaller and smaller machines to put out more and more power. Visitors can also take part in debates comparing the advantages of gasoline-powered engines over those run by hot air or steam.

A total of 18 "special weekends" have been scheduled through 1989 to mark the 60th anniversary of Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. These weekends have been themed to reflect both the scope of the museum's collections and visitor interests, with activities ranging from small, intimate demonstrations to major, large-scale productions. Upcoming programs include A Family Fourth, July 4, Colonial Life Festival, July 8 and 9, and Fire Engine Muster, July 22 and 23. There is no charge for special weekend activities beyond regular village admission.



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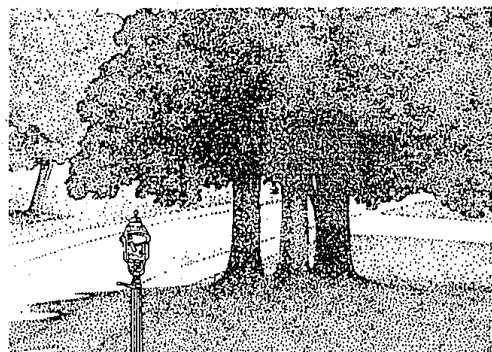
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## It's a wrap for 'Kimono Caper'

Following on the heels of November's very successful "Great Kimono Caper" fund-raiser, the Slusser Gallery in the University of Michigan Art School will be the site of a second "caper" in June and July. The Summer Kimono Caper will be held concurrently with the Ann Arbor Summer Arts Festival, through July 15.

On July 19 and through July 22, the Kimono Caper will move to the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair.

A variety of kimono will be offered for sale as a benefit for the gallery. From silks or cotton, hand-painted or that dyed, floor length to jacket length, the antique to the merely old, the selection is seemingly endless. In addition to the kimono, there will also be a number of unusual scarves, sashes and obi for sale.

THE EVENT IS SPONSORED by the Friends of the Jean Paul Slusser Gallery and proceeds will be used to expand the number and kinds of installations the gallery can sponsor. The

Friends is an independent group of volunteers committed to having an outstanding exhibition and installation program for the U-M school of art and the community. Friends memberships support gallery receptions, sponsor the annual Student Awards Show, underwrite special gallery events and help to upgrade the facility on a continuing basis.

The sale will take place in the Jean Paul Slusser Gallery in the Art and Architecture Building located on the north campus of the University of Michigan. Gallery hours for the sale are Monday to Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

The sale will continue at the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair July 19-22 during normal art fair hours. Kimono will be available at the Friends of the Jean Paul Slusser Booth located in the non-profit section of the fair on Liberty Street in front of the Federal Building.

Membership information and listings of other upcoming events are available at the School or by calling Elizabeth Richardson at 936-1950.

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