
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

FINAL CALL FOR ARTISTS for the Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival

WAUKEGAN, IL (May 16, 2014) The Waukegan Park District is excited to announce that 30 artists are participating in the 15th Annual Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival on Saturday, June 7, 2014. The registration deadline is May 28, 2014 and openings still remain for fine arts vendors to sell and showcase their art. Registration fees to reserve a 10 foot by 10 foot space at the festival is \$40.00. An additional \$10.00 is subtracted from the registration fee if the artist is demonstrating how they make their art at the festival. The application form can be picked up at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts-39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park or online at www.waukeganparks.org.

The Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival is a free annual event that celebrates the start of summer. The festival is dedicated to showcasing local and regional artists and venues, championing the arts, remaining free to the public, offering low participation fees to artists, and remembering one of Waukegan's favorite sons, Ray Bradbury. Varieties of fine arts and crafts are encouraged including: ceramics, drawing, glass, fiber arts, graphics, jewelry, leather, metal, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, water color, weaving, wood, and others. Sorry no other jewelry booths will be accepted.

The Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival is a grassroots event sponsored by the Cultural Arts Division of the Waukegan Park District. There is no admission charge, suggested donation, or gated point of entry. All the performance events are free to view. Family activities including a creative art project are free. The festival is held at Bowen Park, Waukegan, Illinois, located on the corner of Sheridan Road and Greenwood Avenue and runs from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

For more information please call the Waukegan Park District- Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740. The Jack Benny Center is located at 39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park.

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About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 47 properties and 720 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 57 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park Districts' (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.