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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival CALL FOR ARTISTS

**WAUKEGAN, IL** (April 8, 2015) The Waukegan Park District's Cultural Arts Division is accepting applications for artists and vendors to participate in the Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival on Saturday, June 4, 2016. The registration deadline is May 20, 2016 and openings still remain for fine arts vendors to sell and showcase their art. The registration fee for artists to reserve a 10 foot by 10 foot space at the festival is \$40. For non-art vendors, \$60 is required to reserve a 10 foot by 10 foot space. A \$5 early registration fee discount has been extended through April. The application form may be picked up at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts-39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park or found online at [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org).

The Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival is a free annual event that celebrates summer with an annual attendance of 1,500. The festival is dedicated to championing the arts by showcasing local and regional artists and performers, and it remembers one of Waukegan's favorite sons, author Ray Bradbury. A variety of fine arts and crafts include: ceramics, drawing, glass, fiber arts, graphics, jewelry, leather, literature, metal, painting, printmaking, photography, poetry, sculpture, water color, weaving, wood, and more.

The Ray Bradbury's *Dandelion Wine* Fine Arts Festival is a grassroots event sponsored by the Cultural Arts Division of the Waukegan Park District and supported by a volunteer committee. There is no admission charge, suggested donation, or gated point of entry. All the performance events as

well as children and family activities are free. The festival is held at Bowen Park, Waukegan, Illinois, located on the corner of Sheridan Road and Greenwood Avenue and runs from 11:00am to 6:00pm.

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.

### **About the Waukegan Park District**

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 725 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 and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. 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 59 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 District (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.

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