

Art on the Green to launch Friday

Jolie Basler, Citizens Council for the Arts

The 48th Art on the Green art festival has risen in attendance and notoriety to become one of the most prestigious festivals in the Inland Northwest area. As one of the oldest continual festivals in the region, Art on the Green is known for its elegance of venue, family atmosphere, and variety of affordable art.

Art on the Green is free to the public and will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 5, 6, 7, 2016. It's staged on the beautiful green of North Idaho College on Lake Coeur d'Alene and is only minutes from Interstate 90 (off the Northwest Boulevard exit) and parking at the college is easy and free.

Art on the Green celebrates seasoned as well as emerging artists and craftsmen. All participating artists have been juried and the festival will have more than 175 art booths this year. Many artists are regional from Oregon, Washington, Montana and BC, Canada, while others come from California, Arizona, and Nevada, and still others from as far away as Alaska and New York. There is also a Juried Show within the festival where participating art pieces are judged and eligible for over \$4,000 in prize money and awards. Art works in the Juried Show are original creations and available for purchase. The Clothesline Sale features original paintings and photographs priced from \$10 to \$75.

Younger artists are encouraged to "test the waters" as working artists and are able to participate as Youth Booth artists. This year we have six youth artists with booths where they will sell their wares.

Art on the Green is distinctly known as a family affair and has received local awards and attention as a "Best Family Event." The festival is stroller-friendly, and children (and adults) are invited to participate in our "hands-on" art area where each child can create and take home their own masterpiece. Easels, washable paints, and brushes, as well as modeling clay, are supplied free to every child.

Good old-fashioned festival food will be available for the hungry festival attendees. All food booths are run by Art on the Green volunteers and feature fresh, local food. Fresh corn on the cob, grilled chicken, sausages and sandwiches, veggie noodle bowls, frozen lemonade, and ice cream are centrally available near the North Stage, where patrons can eat while enjoying performances. The Healthy Snack Shack near the South Stage returns this year, where patrons can get healthy drinks and snacks including organic and gluten-free items, salads, fresh fruit. and more.

Live entertainment runs all weekend long on two stages, and features music of many genres, including Classical, Jazz, Latin, Pop, Folk, Bluegrass, Rock, Americana, Celtic, Ballet, and many singer/songwriter performers. All performances free, made possible by dedicated Art on the Green volunteers.

The 48th annual Art on the Green is presented by the Citizens' Council for the Arts, a non-profit corporation of interested volunteers formed to encourage, promote and support the arts locally. Art on the Green is unique in that it is run by volunteers, and it is not a fundraiser for another cause: it is art for

art. Fees and commissions from artists and food booth sales pay the costs of the festival for the next year.