

Bayou City Art Festival D O W N T O W N

Photo ID - Bronze sculptor Kimber Fiebiger, who earned first place honors at Bayou City Art Festival Downtown 2008 --her Houston art debut --, is the featured artist of the October 10-11, 2009 juried fine art event in Downtown Houston. The artist, shown frolicking amidst her Texas-sized Humpty Dumpty creations last fall, owns the Joan of Art gallery in Minneapolis, MN.

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Houston's Nationally Ranked Bayou City Art Festival Downtown:

Art in the Heart of the City, Oct. 10-11

HOUSTON (Sept. 14, 2009) – Houston's nationally-ranked Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, set for October 10-11, primes the heart of the city for a weekend of art in the city. The juried fine art festival, framed by Houston's world-class skyline, is a one-of-a-kind outdoor gallery with its highly acclaimed mix of visual, performing, culinary and interactive arts.

“Based on our award-winning reputation, Bayou City Art Festival attracts the ‘best of the best’ artists from all over the U.S. to exhibit their works in Houston,” said Joe Pogge, board president of the Art Colony Association, producer of the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown. This year, 850 national and international artists vied for 300 juried positions, which is up by nearly 20 percent over 2008, the previous all-time high.

Over the two-day festival, art lovers enjoy downtown's newly fashioned pedestrian promenades in and around City Hall/Hermann Square. Walker, Bagby and McKinney Streets, closed to vehicular traffic, are lined with artists' booths where patrons can interact with artists one-on-one. The Festival also encompasses Houston Public Library Downtown Plaza and



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Sam Houston Park, which are home to the Capital One Bank Creative Zone and international food and wine cafes, respectively.

An arts and entertainment destination for the entire family, Bayou City Art Festival Downtown features the popular Capital One Bank Creative Zone for children to experience the fun of making art projects they can take home. Other offerings include the Houston Arts Alliance performance stage with continuous multi-cultural musical and dance shows and close-up art demonstrations, such as past festivals' origami, pottery and guitar making.

The media formats at the Festival will include clay, drawing/pastel, fiber/textiles, furniture, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, watercolor and wood. The "Art on Water" floating art installation will grace City Hall's Hermann Square Reflection Pool.

A bevy of restaurants and wine cafes will offer American and international fare for taste buds of all ages. New this fall will be the Epicurean Adventure presented by the Houstonian Lite Health Club, boasting wine tastings and free professional chefs' cooking demonstrations.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

The City of Houston and Houston Parks & Recreation Department, Budweiser, Capital One Bank, KTRK-TV, Houston Chronicle, Houstonian Lite Health Club and TEXAS MONTHLY are among the Festival sponsors. The Festival is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance.

Over the past 37 years, the Art Colony Association, producer of Bayou City Art Festival Downtown in the fall and Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park in spring, has raised more than \$2.5 million for local nonprofit organizations. The Art Colony Association is a 501 C-3 organization. For further info, go to www.bayoucityartfestival.com, or call (713) 521-0133. # # #

