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August First Friday: August 7, 2009

Greensboro, N.C. –The public is invited to experience center city's creative community for First Friday, August 7! First Friday is a free, self-guided tour of Downtown Greensboro's shops, galleries and alternative arts venues that participate with specially programmed events and extended hours (until 9pm) on the first Friday of every month.

First Friday is an opportunity to discover the center city's local artistic community and encourages commerce and support of locally-owned, independent businesses located in Downtown. The event is sponsored through a partnership between Downtown Greensboro Inc. and the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro.

First Friday is free and open to all ages. Residents and visitors are encouraged to come Downtown to explore the venues within the historic district on South Elm. For further updates and a downloadable map/guide, visit the First Friday Web site, www.downtownfridays.com.

PARTICIPATING FIRST FRIDAY VENUES TO DATE:

Ambleside Gallery – 524 S. Elm St.

Special exhibition of paintings and reception for the members of the Watercolor Society of North Carolina.

Artmongerz – 610 S. Elm St.

Fresh art by 10 resident artists and live ambiance by artist, songwriter and producer Phil Comstock.

Basketdoodle – 317 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.

Open mic night that encourages readings, poetry, music and performances.

Center City Park -200 N. Elm St. (intersecting at Elm, Friendly and Davie)

Join poet and host, Josephus III for Center City Poetry Experience, an open mic event at the Pavilion from 6-8pm.

Cultural Arts Center – 200 N. Davie St.

- **City Arts**
City Arts & Mobile Cinema Park team up on the 1st Floor of the Cultural Arts Center for First Friday. Come experience 3D movies *Journey Through the Universe*, *Keep It Wild* and *Amazing World*. Movies will be shown every 30 minutes, beginning at 6pm.
- **Green Hill Center for North Carolina Art**
In partnership with Downtown Greensboro Inc. & with support from Face to Face and synerG, the gallery presents an **August Art Oasis, First Friday August 7th, 6-9pm**. The **Greensboro Cultural Center** will be transformed in to a mecca of music and art to include street art & pottery demonstrations, street belly dancing, hip hop dance and base line DJ music thumping through the atrium.

Elsewhere Artist Collaborative – 606 & 608 S. Elm St.

Friday August 7th (8pm-11pm) free - Anthony Lowe, aka DJ 1993J (his dance party pseudonym), will proudly host his Artist Conversation at Elsewhere and DJ an interactive mix throughout the evening. Anthony hails from Winston-Salem, and works in the mediums of process and performance art, printing, audio design, writing and cataloging.

Greensboro Chamber of Commerce/ Greensboro Partnership – 342 S. Elm St.

Just two blocks up from Center City Park, the Chamber will display the work of several local artists represented by the Heart of Living Gallery.

Jules Antiques and Fine Art (530 S. Elm St.) Jules-Too! (524 S. Elm St.)

Both **Jules Antiques** and **Jules-Too!** will kick off summer sales on this First Friday August 7th. The 30-day event will offer antiques, large and small, at 50% reductions. A huge collection of vintage costume jewelry will also be offered at amazing prices.

- **The Upstairs Gallery** at Jules Antiques (530 S. Elm) will be introducing a limited collection of original, signed & framed watercolor miniatures, by Russian artist **Peter Kostenkot**. Despite their size, these pieces are bright, cheerful and feature topical subjects such as cycling, sailing and golf.

Lyndon Street Artworks – 205 Lyndon St.

Recycle! Renew! Reuse! Relive! @ Lyndon Street Artworks

Artists include: **Julie McKnight** - “Art is all around us, in bottles, in broken glass, in nails, in salvaged metal, in discarded household utensils.”; **Karen Bjorn Dischell's** oil painting; **Susan Ridenour's** tableware; **Kris Hohn's** projects including drift wood, shells, bottle caps, and wire and a new collection of mini paintings; and **Anne Marie Davis** “Pears.”

Watch artists demonstrating their techniques live on the stage in the Lyndon Street Lounge.

Erik Beerbower and **Trace O'Connor** have collaborated and the gallery welcomes another new artist, **Jillian Webb**. **Charlotte and Erik Strom** collaborate with color pencil artist, **Joshua Hendry**, in the illustrating of a children's book for author, **Jamelia Fritz**.

Also enjoy the Lyndon Street Movie Night double feature starting at 9pm- *The Matisse Print*. Movies not suitable for children. Then, stick around for our main feature, James Cameron's Undersea/Sci-Fi/Action/Thriller *The Abyss* - both free.

Mack and Mack - 220 S. Elm St.

Drop-in throughout the evening to join in a Music Jam or to enjoy this organic listening experience. The two-hour jam session will end with a performance by F-Art Ensemble beginning at 7:30pm.

Manny's Universal Café – 321 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.

Hear Travis Wilson alto saxophonist and recording artist, on the patio. Friday evening fish fry and tasty light meals also available.

Mary Contrary – 227-A S. Elm St.

The home furnishings and gift shop will feature a trunk show from 5-8pm by Honduran-born dress designer, **Alexa Castillo** who was recently featured in Signature Magazine's March/April 2009 issue. Alexa's designs are for the young to mature age and are inspired from international cultures with a touch of European flair. Sold exclusively in the Triad at Mary Contrary in Downtown Greensboro.

Old Photo Specialists – 320 S. Elm St.

Old Photo Specialist will again be featuring Express Portraits. Get your picture made and watch while Bill magically manipulates it! Also there will be demonstrations and examples of archival restoration work.

The Yew Tree Gallery – 604 S. Elm St.

Yew Tree presents the watercolors of featured artist, **Sue Moser Boggs**. Sue's work has been accepted into and won awards from Watercolor and Arts Societies across the NC region. Also see a live painting demonstration by **Jane Averill**.

The artists of Yew Tree Gallery challenged each other to produce a painting that would fit into the theme of "Renewal", and came up with some special and evocative results. Included in this exhibit are works by **Frances Baker, Maggie Fickett, Tony Forrest, Judy Glazier, Sally Lambrecht, Leigh Rodenbough** and **Helen Shaw**.

Free refreshments will be available.

Tin Rooster – 602 S. Elm St.

See works from featured abstract artist Denise Hall.

Winter Light Gallery and Art Studio – 410 Blandwood Ave.

Open Studio Art Tour showcasing this month's featured artist: a painting group "THE PEACOCKS" Home to 14 Artists, painters and photographers including Alice Bachman, Larry Benner, Jan Bartlett, Cheryl Hunt, Stella Jones, Nancy McNally, Doris Dale Paysour and Phyllis Sharpe. Refreshments.

About First Friday

First Friday is sponsored through a partnership between Downtown Greensboro Inc. and United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro to promote and encourage participation in the Downtown Greensboro arts scene.

About Downtown Greensboro Inc.

Downtown Greensboro Incorporated is a non profit economic development organization established in 1997. Our core purpose is to lead the development of downtown Greensboro as a prosperous and vibrant urban center, memorable and meaningful for those who choose to live, work, play and invest here. Visit www.downtowngreensboro.net for more information.

About United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro

The UAC invests in our creative community. Our mission is to inspire growth of creative expression in our community by providing strategic and financial leadership to arts organizations, artists and educators that enhances quality of life and cultivates economic vitality and educational engagement with the Arts. Our vision is for Greensboro to be nationally recognized as a vibrant center for the Arts with a community rich in creative expression. Visit www.uacARTs.org for more information.