

For Immediate Release
May 20, 2010



June First Friday: June 4, 2010

Explore Local Arts, Music in Downtown Free and Support Local Commerce

Greensboro, N.C. – The public is invited to discover Downtown Greensboro and its creative community on First Friday, June 4. The evening will feature live blues music performances, hand-crafted jewelry making demonstrations, photograph restoration demonstration displays, new art exhibits and more. All activities are free from 6-9pm unless otherwise noted.

First Friday is a self-guided tour of Downtown Greensboro's shops, galleries and alternative arts venues that participate with **specialty 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 promoted through a partnership between Downtown Greensboro Inc. and the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro.

For further information and a downloadable map/guide, visit the First Friday Web site, www.downtownfridays.com. Visit DGI's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages for daily updates.

PARTICIPATING VENUES AS OF PRESS TIME (all events are free, unless otherwise noted):

African American Atelier – 200 N. Davie St.

Featured in Center City Park, browse "Atelier's Traveling Trunk" including arts and crafts. The gallery will also be open featuring our newest art *Guilford County Minority Student Exhibition* sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the Greensboro Alumnae Chapter.

Center City Park – 200 N. Elm St. (corner of Elm St. & Friendly Ave.)

Enjoy live roots/ jazz music from The Brand New Life at 6pm and funky hip-hop sounds from the The Urban Sophisticates at 7:20pm. Interact with Mischief Makers Handmade Market and activities for children.

Indie Craft Market – corner of Elm and MLK

The Indie Market is a place where local artists and crafts people come together for an Open Air Market of handmade and vintage items, with a little music thrown in for your shopping

pleasure. The Market is open from 4pm - 9pm. Crafters includes: TBS Creations; Witch Hazel Handmade; Melissa Blackburn Glass Design; Squackdoodle; and Debb's Clay Designs.

Jules Antiques & Fine Art – 530 S. Elm St.

Featuring a stunning display of ten bronze, American, European and Russian-style sculptures from \$295. Live folk music in the rose and magnolia garden. Refreshments.

Lyndon Street Artworks – 205 Lyndon St.

Lyndon Street Artworks features over forty local artists' working studios potters, painters, sculptors, glass artists, metal smiths and many others.

Erik Ström will be demonstrating on the stage, working in black and white, and showing off his latest Sharpie techniques on paper illustrating trees, landscapes, animals and fantastical creatures all at great prices. **Charlotte Chipman Ström** will show newly painted landscapes. **Charlotte and Erik Ström** will be selling signed copies of the children's book "Wishful Thinking," written by Max McNamara and illustrated by Joshua Hendry and Erik and Charlotte Ström. **Mariana Rodrigez-Pardy** displays pottery for sale. Meet her during First Friday. **Erik Beerbower** has a number of new sculptures. Ask him about them!

Susan Ridenour offers several new pottery pieces recently returned from the pinching the clay. She uses a most ancient method of making vessels for everyday use.

Trace O'Connor, a sculptor, is with a new series of completely unique wine bottle trees that are unlike any you've ever seen before. Trace's trees are priced to move and really fill with the summer's party bottles!

Trace O'Connor will also teach three one-hour welding hourly lessons from six to nine this First Friday. Learn the basic skills, satisfy your curiosity about how zapping hot steel works or just come watch the sparks fly. For equipment list and information, contact Trace at phantazm_13@hotmail.com.

Old Photo Specialists – 320 S. Elm St.

Enter your name to win one of three \$25 gift certificates and see restoration demonstrations, portrait studio and antique frame gallery.

Studio B – 520 S. Elm St.

Beautiful Forms - Exhibition by Orlando Silva. *Beautiful Forms*, an exhibition by artista Orlando Silva, celebrates the beauty of shapes through digital, acrylic and mixed media techniques. Music performed by local electric violinist Marta Richardson.

The Summit Station Eatery - 125 Summit Ave.

Artists Jessica Nelson & Tara Winther will demonstrate their hand-crafted jewelry technique in the sofa lounge. Local Blues band Big Bump will perform on the patio beginning at 8pm.

230-A S. Elm St.

Art exhibit *Art 496* will feature portraits, abstract and construction/ collage works from advanced painting and drawing students from UNC-Greensboro in this available Elm Street space.

Winter Light Gallery, 410 Blandwood Ave., (Corner of Spring Garden St.)

Opening reception for interactive photographer, producer and author Steve Clark and his exhibit *Breaking Free*. Photographic images of trained dancers, yogis and athletes in motion demonstrating collaborative improvisation. Refreshments.

Yew Tree Gallery – 604 S. Elm St.

Yew Tree Gallery's featured artist is High Point painter Judith Glazier, who works in acrylics, watercolors and oils. Her style is loose and impressionistic, characterized by movement, color, and flow.

The gallery will also present a theme show in June entitled "Spring," and will display the latest works of all 15 Yew Tree artists.

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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. Visit www.downtownfridays.com

About Downtown Greensboro Inc.

Downtown Greensboro Incorporated is a nonprofit 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.