

CONTACT: CARLA FLANDERS
LAKESHORE ART FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
PHONE: 231-724-3176
cflanders@muskegon.org

NEWS RELEASE
April 9, 2020

Lakeshore Art Festival Announces New PADNOS Public Art Project

Muskegon, MI – SPECIAL NOTE: The Lakeshore Art Festival is carefully monitoring how COVID-19 is impacting our community and local events. We are hopeful that our festival will proceed as normal and take place on July 3 and 4, 2020. For now, we are moving forward with projects that have been in motion and for that reason we would like to share a new project coming to the Lakeshore Art Festival this year.

The theme for this year's Lakeshore Art Festival is, "The Art of Recycling." As part of this theme, the Lakeshore Art Festival and PADNOS have partnered to create an exhibition of public sculptures in downtown Muskegon. The sculptures will be prominently featured outdoors during the Lakeshore Art Festival Friday July 3 and Saturday July 4, 2020. All of the sculptures created for this unique exhibit will be constructed from 90%-recycled materials. The selected artist have gathered recycled materials from PADNOS, at no cost to the artist.

Four artists were selected through a jurying process. The selected artists are Larry Sybesma, Chip Vander Wier, Sherri Balaskovitz and EA Craftworks comprise of the following artist: Mark Schentzel, Alex Kallio, Tom Hutchins, Jack Cantu.

Larry Sybesma, Holland, MI. Larry, enjoys working with reclaimed metals, building creative objects that mimic the wonders of nature as well as re-creating forms of transportation that tell the history of years past.

Chip Vander Wier, Muskegon, MI. Chip, creates curious sculptural objects that incorporate ceramics, steel and wood. Much of Vander Wier's work utilizes and repurposes discarded objects and materials, reflecting his environmental philosophies.

Sherri Balaskovitz, Muskegon, MI. Sherri, enjoys creating sculptures constructed of stainless steel and copper with manipulated oxidations and formed glass, and also is a painter who has assisted with the creation of the manufacturing heritage murals in downtown Muskegon.

EA Craftworks, Grand Rapids, MI. EA Craftworks is a metalworking and design shop that offers a wide variety of design and fabrication services. Artists Mark Schentzel, Alex Kallio, Tom Hutchins, Jack Cantu

Mark Schentzel's enthusiasm for welding and custom metal work can be seen in their large scale public sculptures that usually carry notions of sustainability and infrastructure.

Artist will receive a stipend to produce the public art piece and if chosen to be a permanent art display in downtown Muskegon, additional funds will be paid as the purchase price of the sculpture. Artist may also have the opportunity to sell their work. The completed sculptures will be on public display from July until the end of September 2020.

Carla Flanders, Director of the Lakeshore Art Festival Director commented, "We are acutely aware of what is happening around the world today. The beauty of public art is that anyone can enjoy it at a safe distance. This project is something we can look forward experiencing this summer in downtown Muskegon."

The PADNOS Public Art Project is funded in conjunction with PADNOS, Quality Tool & Stamping, Clifford Buck and through a grant from the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. If you are interested in supporting in this project please contact Carla Flanders at artfest@muskegon.org or by calling 231.722.3751.

###

About Lakeshore Art Festival

The Lakeshore Art Festival is always the first Friday and Saturday in July. The Lakeshore Art Festival features a unique blend of 350+ fine art and craft exhibitors, street performers, specialty food booths, interactive art stations, children's activities and so much more in beautiful Downtown Muskegon, Michigan. Local businesses interested in supporting this locally and nationally recognized festival through sponsorship can contact Carla Flanders at artfest@muskegon.org. For more information visit lakeshoreartfestival.org.