

# 2010 Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair

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## Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair to be held September 25-26 on Peoria's Riverfront

Peoria, IL — The Peoria Art Guild will host the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Fine Art Fair on September 25-26, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Peoria's Riverfront. Nationally recognized as one of the top fairs in the country, the Fine Art Fair is the largest community event on Peoria's Riverfront with an anticipated audience of 40,000.

"Each year we attempt to keep the art fair fresh by giving our audience more than one reason to come to Peoria's riverfront," said Co-Chair Kim Armstrong. "This year, we are showcasing live glassblowing demonstrations by the renowned Southern Illinois University mobile glass studio. Our featured poster artist is a glass jewelry artist who uses a very old and complex technique called lampworking. You can come to the fair to see exceptional art, enjoy the music and food, and participate in the community mural and this year we'll also give you the opportunity to actually see art being created."

### ADMISSION

Daily Admission: \$7; 12 yrs. & under, free; PAG members, free (memberships available at the gate)

Weekend Pass: \$10

### WEB SITE

For updated information, visit, [peoriafineartfair.com](http://peoriafineartfair.com)

### VOUNTEER

Over 400 volunteers are needed to showcase one of the best-organized art fairs in the country.

To volunteer: [peoriaartguild.volunteerhub.com](http://peoriaartguild.volunteerhub.com)

### NEW TO THE FAIR

**Raffle.** For just \$5, you can enter to win an Apple iPod, iPad, iTouch or 3 Staycation Gift Packs from The Shoppes & Hotels at Grand Prairie. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the PAG Raffle tent located near the fountain.

**Glassblowing Demos.** The Southern Illinois University-Carbondale mobile glassblowing studio will give art fair participants the opportunity to see firsthand how art is created. The "oven on wheels" was the brainchild of Bill Boysen, a renowned glass artist who started the graduate glass program at Southern Illinois University in 1966. He had been traveling around the country setting up small glass studios for demonstrations when he received a research grant to build the first mobile glass blowing studio. Because he felt that you needed a "rich aunt" to support you" in order to blow glass, he affectionately named the mobile glass blowing studio 'Aunt Gladys'. The studio that will be featured at the Fine Art Fair will actually be the second incarnation, 'Aunt Gladys 2'. An SIU professor and two students will at the fair the entire weekend demonstrating how blown glass starts with a bubble and is transformed into various forms like bowls, vases, cups and other sculpted items.

## FEATURED POSTER ARTIST

*Glass Artist Mary Smith, St. Charles, MO*

After studying fine art and commercial art, Smith worked for 20 years as a graphic designer for Fortune 500 corporate marketing departments. In 2000, she took her first class in lampworking , an ancient glassmaking technique that takes a great deal of talent and patience. Her lampworked beads are made one-at-a-time by melting glass rods over an open flame using a surface-mix torch and wrapping the molten glass around a steel mandrel to form a one-of-a kind glass bead. Alternating layers of glass in various surface techniques are added to complete each bead before it leaves the flame. Beads are put into a kiln where they are annealed for strength and durability. Smith primarily uses Moretti soda-lime glass from Murano, Italy. She exhibits at many of the top art shows in the country and also teaches lampworking classes. For more information: [beadedjewelrybydesign.com](http://beadedjewelrybydesign.com)

## ARTISTS

150 fine art fair artists from across the United States will exhibit and sell works of art in jewelry, painting, photography, ceramics, wood, glass, mixed media, metal and fiber. All artwork is original and has been created by the exhibiting artist. In March, a panel of six art professionals and two collectors judged over 800 applications for 150 available exhibit spaces at the fair, making it one of the most competitive jury processes to date. Through an extensive rating process, 120 artists were invited to exhibit at the fair along with 30 artists who were invited to attend as past award winners. This year, 54 artists will be new to the Peoria art fair.

## KIDS ART FESTIVAL

**10:00am – 5:00pm both days**

This fun-filled area is where creativity meets quick “make ‘n take” art projects for kids of all ages. Tickets are \$1 each and will be available at the ticket booth inside the Kids Art Festival area.

The Peoria Art Guild provides visual arts education to members of our community of all ages and skill levels through our community outreach programs. Proceeds from the Kids Art Festival help us to make that happen.

**Design Your Own Tile** - Kids will have a great time transforming a blank tile into a one-of-a-kind piece masterpiece, which can be displayed as art or used as a trivet.

**Whimsical Puppets** - Everyone loves puppets! This project supplies kids will all they need to create their own hand puppet. Helpful hint: make more than one and put on your own puppet show at home!

**Clay Creations** - Googly eyes and a few pipe cleaners are all you need to transform a block of clay into an artsy character. Perfect for inspiring sculptors and animators!

**Whirly Gigs** - After personalizing the whirly gig disc with their own creative design and attaching a string, young artists will be all set to start twirling, for hours of fun. Artwork by famous Op Art artists will serve as the inspiration for this fun project.

**Face Painting** - After all of their creating, young artists can take a break and have someone else paint them a masterpiece they can wear! Kids will have the option of a small design or full face design.

**Design Your Own Tote Bag** - Using fabric markers & crayons, kids will have everything they need to turn a boring tote bag into an artistic expression they can carry all year long! Helpful hint: heat sets the colors, so parents...iron or throw the bag in the dryer when you get home.

## PROCTOR HOSPITAL COMMUNITY MURAL

The interactive community mural will be Peoria's version of the 2010 Fine Art Fair poster, *Down Under*, by featured poster artist Mary Smith. This free hands-on art project takes 384 tiles to create and anyone 10 years or older is invited to paint a 6" x 6" tile. Fairgoers can watch the mural as it comes together piece-by-piece over the Fine Art Fair weekend. After the fair, the community mural will proudly hang at Proctor Hospital.

## HOURLY MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

The Art Fair also supports the performing arts with free hourly jazz, blues and gospel performances on the music stage located in the heart of the Fair. A majority of the performers are local and are among the best in central Illinois. Daily performance schedule follows:

### Saturday, September 25

10:00-11:15 a.m.	St. Paul Baptist Church Choir
12:00-1:30 p.m.	The Wandering Henrys
2:30-4:00 p.m.	Lemon Cello

### Sunday, September 26

10:00-12:00 a.m.	Two Dudes
12:30-2:30 p.m.	Caribbean Sol
3:00- 5:00 p.m.	Harold Greene Trio

## PALATE PLEASERS

Local vendors are carefully selected to serve food and beverage at the Fair including Echo Valley Meats & Catering, Nick-n-Willy's, Hickory River Smokehouse, Spotted Cow, and A Catered Affair. A variety of beer and wine will also be available.

## PREVIEW PARTY

**Friday, September 24, 7-10 pm., Peoria Art Guild**  
**Tickets: \$75 each.**

It's not just a ticket to a really good party, but a ticket that will help the Guild to continue its community outreach programs. Fabulous hors d'oeuvres from French Toast Restaurant and great wines will be served. The original glass necklace by poster artist Mary Smith will be raffled at the Fine Art Fair Preview Party. Raffle tickets will be \$20 each or six for \$100 and can be purchased at the Peoria Art Guild or at the event. Call 309.637.2787 for Preview Party tickets or for more information.  
Co-chairs: Kathy and Lindsay Ma & Cindy and Dan Kennedy.

**The Peoria Art Guild . 203 Harrison . Peoria, IL 61602 . [www.peoriafineartfair.com](http://www.peoriafineartfair.com)  
309-637-2787 ext 2**