



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AMA CHALKFEST IS SEEKING YOUNG AND ADULT COMMUNITY ARTISTS**

Adults, Students, and Children Can Participate for Free at Nov 13 Art Festival

**[For Release Oct 11, 2021 – Albany, GA]** — Albany Museum of Art *ChalkFest* on Saturday, Nov 13, 2021 will be a communitywide event, and the call is out for community artists of all ages to participate in five amateur chalk artist categories.

“The big news this year is there are absolutely no fees to participate,” AMA Director of Education and Public Programming Annie Vanoteghem said. “Thanks to our Amateur and School Chalk Blocks sponsor Smile Doctors, there is no cost to enter any of the five amateur categories—Adult, Adult Students, Teens, Youth, and School Teams.”

*AMA ChalkFest*, which was conducted on a virtual basis last year because of the COVID pandemic, will return to the 100 block of Pine Avenue from 10 am until 5 pm on Saturday, Nov 13. The festival, which has the theme *Masterpieces* this year, includes chalk works by professional artists, live music and entertainment, craft beer tastings, food trucks, and vendors.

The 100 block of Pine Avenue will be closed off while professional and amateur chalk artists create works of chalk art directly on the pavement. The last in-person *AMA ChalkFest* in 2019 drew a crowd of more than 4,000 people. For the first time, there will be no gate charge for admission to the festival.

“The deadline to apply for one of the community art spaces is 5 pm on Monday, Nov 1, provided there is still space available,” Vanoteghem said. “Applications may be found at [www.amachalkfest.com/community-artists](http://www.amachalkfest.com/community-artists). There also is a link to that webpage from the AMA website, [www.albanymuseum.com](http://www.albanymuseum.com). Space is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis and we have a limited number of blocks available, so get your application in as soon as possible!”

Completed applications should be emailed to [annie.vanoteghem@albanymuseum.com](mailto:annie.vanoteghem@albanymuseum.com).

AMA Executive Director Andrew J. Wulf, Ph.D., said the local artists who participate each year ensure that *AMA ChalkFest* is always a community rich event.

"The Albany Museum of Art lives to serve the Albany community and its visitors. We are over the moon to be able to return to downtown and host this special event, open for all to enjoy," Wulf said. "This creative event also serves as a reminder that the AMA is making progress in our future move to Broad Avenue in the downtown area in the next few years. We love Albany and this *ChalkFest* is a big thank you to all its residents who continue to stay creative, courageous, and caring."

Those participating in the Adult, Adult Student and School Team categories will work on 5-foot-by-5-foot squares. The individual participants will each receive a 24-color pack of chalk, while each team will receive a 48-color pack.

Teens (ages 13-17) will each have a 4-foot-by-4-foot chalking space, and Youth (ages 6-12) will work on spaces that are 3 feet by 3 feet. Those participating in these two categories will each receive a 24-color chalk pack.

A first-place winner will be selected in each of the five categories.

The professional chalk artists are being asked to recreate masterpieces from the Renaissance and Baroque periods in connection with *European Splendors: Old Master Paintings from the Kress Collection*, which is currently on exhibition in the Haley Gallery at the Albany Museum of Art. The exhibition of 29 paintings is organized by the Columbia Museum of Art in South Carolina with support from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. The exhibition at the AMA was made possible through the support of the Walter and Frances Bunzl Family Foundation. The exhibition continues through Dec 23, 2021.

While amateur artists are strongly encouraged to incorporate the *Masterpieces* theme in their artwork, it is not required.

"Every year we have remarkable work created by members of our community," Vanoteghem said. "We can't wait to see what they create this year at *AMA ChalkFest!*"

## **CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS**

- *European Splendors: Old Master Paintings from the Kress Collection* is in the Haley Gallery Aug 26-Dec 23, 2021.
- *Horse Power: Works by Cedric Smith* is in the East Gallery July 10-Dec 23, 2021.
- *Essay Topic: Write Down the Word WOMAN One Hundred Times, New works by Sanaz Haghani* is in the McCormack Gallery July 10-Dec 23, 2021
- *Escape Plan*, installation by Elinor Saragoussi, is in the West Gallery.

## **ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART**

The Albany Museum of Art is located at 311 Meadowlark Drive in Albany, Ga., adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open to the public 10 am-5 pm Tuesdays through Saturdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, [www.albanymuseum.com](http://www.albanymuseum.com) or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum on Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

For more information about AMA ChalkFest, visit our website [www.amachalkfest.com](http://www.amachalkfest.com) or call the museum at 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow @amachalkfest on Twitter, and amachalkfest on Facebook and Instagram.

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