WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE - CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2023

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WaterFire Providence Announces Additional Details about The 5th Annual Holiday ArtMart at the WaterFire Arts Center

A Small Business Saturday Holiday Marketplace Featuring 80+ Local Artists and Makers, Saturday, November 25

Providence, RI WaterFire Providence announces additional details about <u>The 5th Annual Holiday ArtMart</u> at the WaterFire Arts Center in Providence's Valley Neighborhood on Saturday, November 25, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The ArtMart will feature 82 artists,

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including some newly added, and makers from around Rhode Island and Southern New England. There will also be a special appearance by Santa. The admission fee is pay what you can.

"The Holiday ArtMart at the WaterFire Arts Center is the perfect occasion for Rhode Islanders to partake in Small Business Saturday and discover and support local artists this holiday season," says Peter A. Mello, Managing Director + coCEO of WaterFire Providence.

Meet our artists and makers:

Amber N' Crystals, Anne L Fontaine, Art by Caitlin, Art by Vesna, Astr Noir, Bechard Studios, Bit of Thunder Ceramics, Blue Dog Natural Dye House, CandlesByJudith, Carmichael Creations, Christa Jordan Jewelry, Colors of the Wynned, Cozy Capy Glass, Creations by Becki, Design What HaveYou, Ecuador To Your Door, Emma Joyce Art, Eric Sturtevant Illustrations, EveSky, Forage Studios, Forever Bloom, Gather Glass, Goatings Goblin Hands, Golden Adorns Living, Gremlin Ceramics, Hand knitted by Grace, HeffColor, Historia Naturale, Honestly Necessary, Into the Woods, Jade's Gems, James Polisky Silkscreen Art, Joseph Mushipi Visual Art, K&G Candles, Liquor Wicks, LMNO cement, Lucky Silver Company, Maeven in Me, Maggie's Healing Path, Mama Bear's Cookie Candle Co., Meza Studios LLC, Milly's Clay Studio, Moonlight Jewelry, Neon Forest Design, Nubian Violet Creations, Olim Clay Co., Original Rhode Dog Company, Parched, Paul & Sandy's Honey Shack, Plastic Nature, PLNTbaby Jewelry, Poppy Designs, Pourever Creations, Psychic Niquel, Pup-town Bakery, Queenbeams, Retablos Palomino & Jimenez, R Diel Creative Studio, Revibed Vinyl, Rezinates by Kim, Rhode Island Glassworks, RJF Custom Designs, Roses N Dragons Designs, Sacred Flame, Savory Stitch, Scrapped and Found, SecondStDesignsRI, Sparkle & Glow by Yvonne, Taft Street Studios, TaiBel Design, The Gaia Paradigm, The Roving House, Two Edges Fine Art by Sam Glevick, Vitamin Sea & Co. LLC, and Yo Soy Grechel.

Santa Claus will be at the WaterFire Arts Center from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the Holiday ArtMart for free photos, or with a \$5 donation, guests can have their picture taken with Santa and receive a 2x3 color photo in a festive ornament.

Come shop with us this Small Business Saturday and get unique, locally-made holiday gifts sure to make everyone on your list feel special. The event boasts ample free parking, outdoor seating on our patio and roof deck (weather permitting), live local music from <u>Of Lions and Giants</u> and <u>Mel</u>, and tasty bites from local food trucks like <u>Binge BBQ</u>, <u>Oatmiel Cafe</u>, and <u>One 2 Taco + More</u>.

Visitors are welcome to bring an unwrapped toy for the <u>WaterFire Holiday Toy Drive</u> benefiting The Providence Center's Anchor Recovery program as well. These toys will be wrapped and then distributed by Santa during their annual Cookies with Santa event. This event brings the

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community together and gives many a chance to experience for the first time, the joy of a holiday celebration and the spirit of giving. The Providence Center and Anchor Recovery have programs for families with kids as well as an entire program for teens; donations of toys, games, and gifts for kids of all ages are deeply appreciated.

Shoppers can also explore WaterFire's *BuyArt small works holiday show and sale* in the gallery at the WaterFire Arts Center. The *BuyArt show* encourages visitors to support local artists by giving the gift of art for the holidays. Over thirty contemporary Rhode Island-based artists are showcasing their work in this year's show. Opening on Thursday, November 16, and runs until Sunday, January 7, 2024.

A Silent Soapbox will be bringing art to life with its Lily the living statue character.

Interested shoppers are encouraged to follow the WaterFire Arts Center
-@waterfireartscenter- on Instagram to learn more about these artists and keep up to date with our event schedule.

Media Resources

<u>Downloadable Graphics</u> (Google Drive Folder)

Artist Information is available on our website and on the WaterFire Arts Center Instagram feed.

Details on WaterFire's Holiday ArtMart can be found at https://waterfire.org/artmart/

Details on WaterFire's Holiday Celebration Lighting on December 2 can be found at https://waterfire.org/holidays/

A complete calendar of events at the WaterFire Arts Center is available: https://waterfire.org/visit-waterfire-arts-center/waterfire-arts-center-event-calendar/

Gallery hours are Wednesday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. *Holiday Closure from Christmas Eve through New Year's Day.

About WaterFire Providence

WaterFire Providence® is an independent, 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization whose mission is to inspire Providence and its visitors by revitalizing the urban experience, fostering community engagement, and creatively transforming the city by presenting WaterFire for all to enjoy. Each year nearly 1 million people come to downtown Providence to experience

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WaterFire contributing over \$149,000,000 to the local economy, generating over \$9,000,000 of direct tax revenue for the State of Rhode Island and supporting 1,294 jobs for community residents and strengthening Providence's Creative Capital and Rhode Island's State for the Arts brands. For information about WaterFire Providence and the WaterFire Arts Center visit https://waterfire.org/.

About the WaterFire Arts Center

WaterFire Providence purchased the Art Center in 2012 and began rehabilitation for the vacant, historic, industrial building in the underserved Olneyville/Valley neighborhood of Providence. The 37,000 sq. ft. multi-use arts center has become WaterFire's first permanent home in the community and serves as its headquarters, production complex, and a multi-purpose arts venue as well as a social enterprise platform strengthening the organization's long-term financial sustainability. Exhibitions presented at WaterFire Arts Center will further the organization's agenda of providing arts and culture opportunities and experiences for all, regardless of social, cultural, or economic background. For more information about the WaterFire Arts Center including rental inquiries, please visit: https://waterfire.org/wfac