

Bayou City Art Festival

Memorial Park

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Editor's Note: High-resolution Jpgs. of "ambience" Festival shots and art pieces from 2008 Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park artists are available on request.

Release at will

Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park: Houston's Spring Art Awakening March 27-29, 2009

Houston – Jan. 7, 2009 – Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park is Houston's spring art awakening each March. Set for Friday, March 27 through Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., the award-winning juried art event is the only festival to take place in Memorial Park, the city's premiere public park enclave.

Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park welcomes more than 300 visual and performing artists from around the corner and around the world, including featured artist Larry Stephenson, creator of the whimsical painting, "A Day at the Airport." The artists, whose works represent 19 media formats, transform the park's tree-lined, 1.1-mile loop into a canopied outdoor art gallery, bursting with fine art and multi-cultural music and dance.

Recently ranked the #3 art festival in the country by the readers of *AmericanStyle Magazine*, Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park received two 2008 International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA) Gold Pinnacle Awards and was named "Best Festival in Houston" by the 2008 Houston Press "Best of Houston" magazine.

Art Colony Association
1418 Sul Ross Street, Houston, Texas 77006
713.521.0133
www.bayoucityartfestival.com



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Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park showcases clay, drawing/pastel, fiber/textiles, furniture, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, watercolor and wood creations.

To engage budding artists, the Festival sponsors an Emerging Artists program encouraging area high school students to create and exhibit their 3-D installation and 2-D art in the park. Younger children will enjoy the on-site Capital One Bank Creative Zone, an interactive area designed for children and families to explore the fun of art such as Mardi Gras mask making, Row House magnets, enamel pins, mini art car building, ornamental rocks, spangles that dangle, wax hand sculptures and chalk designs. All proceeds of donations made in the Capital One Bank Creative Zone are divided equally among the Festival's participating non-profit partners.

Houston Arts Alliance produces the performing arts stage with ongoing multi-cultural musical and dance entertainment. With the park grounds as its stage, CORE Performance Company will conduct a world-premiere program. There also is a wide range of international food and beer and wine cafes for refreshments.

The City of Houston, Budweiser Select, Houston Parks & Recreation Department, and KTRK-TV are the Festival sponsors. The Festival is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance.

Over the past 37 years, the Art Colony Association, the 501c(3) organization that

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produces the Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park and Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, has raised more than \$2.5 million for local non-profit organizations.

Admission is \$10 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

There is no public parking in Memorial Park. The Festival provides free shuttle service 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. to and from Memorial Park on Friday from Northwest Mall on Hwy. 290; and Saturday and Sunday from Northwest Mall and Downtown: Memorial Drive at Rusk, Rusk at Smith and Smith at Capitol.

For schedules and further information check www.bayoucityartfestival.com or call (713)

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