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## MPAartfest Returns to Central Park on October 1 with Art, Music, Food and Fun

Now in its eleventh year, MPAartfest returns to McLean Central Park on October 1, 2017 from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. Recently selected by *Suzanne* into *Magazine* as one of the Top 100 Fine Art and Design Shows in the USA, this year's MPAartfest promises to be better than ever, featuring the work of nearly 40 selected artists, creative interactive experiences for guests of all ages, new food vendors, expanded musical offerings and more.

A one-day juried fine art show and sale, MPAartfest features the work of visual artists showcasing a wide variety of media and styles. During MPAartfest, McLean Central Park is transformed into a lively landscape of more art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of acclaimed artists from the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond. This annual celebration of the visual arts attracts 5,000 – 6,000 visitors. Along with the artists' tents, live music and food from local restaurants in the park, MPAartfest offers a variety of arts and STEAM (STEAM-Arts) activities to engage creative minds and capture art-lovers of all ages.



Building artists in attendance can practice their techniques in the well-loved Hands-On Art Studio sponsored by TTR Suterley's International Realty, while teens and adults try their hand at designing live models in MPA's Open-Air Art Studio.

"Every MPAartfest is a new opportunity for MPA to bring our community together for a wonderful art-filled day," said MPA Executive Director Lari Carbonneau. "We hope all attendees will return year after year for the aspects they love and find new and creative surprises to enjoy."

Recognizing the importance of adding new activities and artists to keep the event fresh, while also honoring the obstacles they have worked hard over the years, requires a delicate balance. Building on the success of the last few years, the MPA STEAM Career offers visitors of all ages a variety of STEAM (STEAM-Arts) based learning stations. This year's tents include ArtBotanics, Art+Math,

Art+Architecture, Art+Science and Art+Sound. Other art-inspired aspects include the Children's