

## NEWS RELEASE

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### ARTPARK 37th SEASON A SIZZLER

Hot summer line-up of free concerts, family happenings, festivals and theater events!

(Lewiston, NY) Artpark & Company, Inc. is rolling out a phenomenal season schedule in the Mainstage Theater, throughout the park and at the scenic outdoor Amphitheater. The award-winning venue will extend affordable ticketed events, 13 weeks of free concerts, a summer of family festivals and creative experiences.

The most anticipated announcement of Artpark's 2011 programming is the line-up of the annual Tuesday and Wednesday concerts. For the past decade the **FIRST NIAGARA** presents **TUESDAY IN THE PARK** free outdoor concerts has grown to be the most acclaimed regional music series drawing record breaking crowds from across the state and across the border. From opening night **June 14** through **August 30** the Tuesday blockbuster lineup is full of hit makers and classic rock legends. One of the top attractions Artpark's Tuesday concerts is the spectacular location overlooking the Niagara River Gorge and the weekly **free hands-on art activities** for children and families.

**Blue Oyster Cult** will kick things off on **June 14** with their string of hits including, "(Don't Fear) The Reaper" and "Burnin' for You." In case you missed them in 2010 **Creedence Clearwater Revisited** return to the Amphitheater stage on **June 21**. Rock legend **Peter Frampton** celebrates the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his classic "*Frampton Comes Alive!*" album by performing it in its entirety along with other hits from his catalogue on **June 28**. The holiday weekend concludes with the July 5, **Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo** concert. This special night includes a patriotic tribute to the Niagara Falls Air Base with an anticipated fly over of C130s (check website for start times and information).

Don Barnes and Donnie Van Zant head guitar-driven southern rock band **38 Special**, who will perform on **July 12**. Power pop rockers **Cheap Trick** known for their hits "Surrender" and "I Want You to Want Me" take the stage on **July 19**. Making their regional free concert debut is the legendary **Lynyrd Skynyrd** topping off the month on **July 26**.

**ZZ Top** and their collection of hits such as "*Gimmie All Your Lovin'*," "*Sharp Dressed Man*," and more will echo throughout the gorge on **August 2**. Multi-instrumentalist prodigy **Edgar Winter** wows the crowd with his incredible talent on **August 9**. On August 16 rock n' roll "wildman" **Ted Nugent** blazes into **Artpark** while "**Bad to the Bone**" originators **George Thorogood & The Destroyers** return on **August 23**. **The Machine** performs **Pink Floyd** on **August 30**, closing out the whirlwind Tuesday in the Park season with mind-blowing talent and a mesmerizing **Interstellar Multimedia & Light Show** spectacle.

The **2011 'Tuesday in the Park'** events begin at **6:30pm** and are presented by **First Niagara**. Tuesday sponsors include Certo Brothers Distributing Company, Severson Environmental Services, Modern Corporation, Mark Cerrone Inc., Tim Hortons Café & Bake Shop (Niagara Falls), Maid of the Mist Corporation, Frey Electric Construction Company, Compu-Mail, John Hancock Life Insurance, DiMino's Lewiston Tops, Whirlpool Jetboat Tours, Pine Pharmacy, Simon Construction, The Reid Group, Supermarket Liquors and Wines, Uniland Development, Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, Time Warner Cable, and the Niagara Falls Air Base. Promotional support for Artpark's concerts provided by LocalEdge, 360 Professional Services Group, and Generations Music.

In an exciting move, Artpark announced an enhanced **COORS LIGHT WEDNESDAYS (JUNE - SEPTEMBER)** series featuring a schedule of five high voltage concert nights with national recording artists dominating the alternative and jam band music scenes.

Opening the series on Wednesday **June 29** will be **Umphey's McGee**, who has cultivated an impressive presence in the studio and on the live concert scene. Coming off the Canadian and U.S. holiday weekend, Canadian rockers **The Trews** return July 6. The free concert series lend their night to blues-rock duo **The Black Keys** for a ticketed **Mainstage Theater** event on **July 13**. Coors Light Wednesdays free concerts resume on **July 20** with University at Buffalo-born **moe**. Indie-rockers **The Bright Eyes** light up the amphitheater stage on **July 27**. **August 3** sets the stage for band that has been hailed "one of the best live bands on the planet," **O.A.R.** The "Coors Light Wednesday" series holds the grand finale of Artpark's 2011 season on **September 7** with southern-blues guitar hero **Gregg Allman**.

**"Coors Light Wednesdays"** are sponsored by Coors Light, Certo Brothers Distributing Company, Modern Corporation, HSBC Bank USA, Key Investment Services, the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, Harris Beach PLLC, Regional Waste Solutions, Brown & Company. Promotional support for Artpark's concerts provided by LocalEdge, 360 Professional Services Group, Sahlen's, Pepsi Bottling Group and Generations Music. **All performances begin at 6:30pm.**

2010's **"Rock the Park"** local band contest ran for the duration of the summer on the Artpark website and featured bands from WNY and Southern Ontario who were appearing as opening acts in either the Tuesday or Wednesday Series. Voted #1, **Free Henry!** will take the stage on **June 13** for a free outdoor **"Rock the Park"** concert beginning at **6:30pm**. Contest participants Aqueous and Little Mountain Band will open the show.

Artpark's outdoor Amphitheater will open to the public at **4pm on Tuesday and Wednesday concert nights**. Carry-ins and tailgating in the park are prohibited.

Special **VIP and preferred tickets** are available for all outdoor concerts. Limited VIP tickets are available for Tuesday in the Park that include best available reserved seating, free priority parking, and wait service for **\$75** each per concert date. The same package is available for the Coors Light Wednesday series for **\$50** each per concert date.

New this year, patrons will be able to access an **exclusive standing area** in the front rows of the stage and **free priority parking for \$25 a ticket per concert date**. A limited number of tickets will be available for purchase by calling the Artpark box office at **716-754-4375** or **online at [www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net)**.

Artpark & Company, Inc. begins the 37<sup>th</sup> Season with a Gala event in support of the summer programming. **The Black & White Ball** will be held **on stage** at Artpark's Mainstage Theater on **Saturday May 21**. The dazzling evening of cocktails, dinner, dancing, and an exquisite silent auction begins at **6pm**. **Tickets are \$175 per person or \$1,500 for a Corporate Table and can be reserved by calling the Artpark Box Office at 716-754-4375**. Be a star on the legendary stage and support Artpark!

Artpark proudly announced the exciting return of **FAME-THE MUSICAL (August 12-18)** back to the Mainstage Theater. The "*original high school musical*" reveals an inspirational story of a group of talented students studying at the New York School of the Performing Arts during the early 1980s. The highs and lows prove to be too much for some but determination to find greatness shines through. Loved by millions around the world, *Fame - The Musical* is "gonna live forever!" The 2011 summer production will be directed by Randall Kramer, choreographed by Lynne Kurdziel-Formato, and music directed by Jason Bravo.

*Fame- The Musical* performances are **August 12 (8PM), Saturday August 13 (8PM), Sunday August 14 (2PM & 8PM)**. **Monday August 15 and Wednesday August 17 performances are at 8PM and the final performances will be on Thursday, August 18 (2PM & 8PM)**. **Ticket prices for Adults are \$45.00, \$39.50, \$33.00, \$25.00, and for children age 12 and under are \$22.50, \$19.75, \$16.50, \$12.50.**

Artpark's Broadway Musical is proudly sponsored by M&T Bank. Sets and costumes are made possible in part by Broadway Production Sponsor Delta Sonic Car Wash Systems. Performance Night sponsorship support from Cannon Design.

Artpark & Company will present a new series that will continue the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra's presence at the theater and offer special ticket pricing and lawn seating packages for July summer evenings! **SUMMER CLASSICS WITH THE BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** is scheduled on three consecutive Thursdays in July: **July 14, 21, 28**. Matthew Kraemer conducts Mendelssohn's incidental music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Nicolai's lighthearted *Overture to the Merry Wives of Windsor*, Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 20* featuring soloist Robert Thies, and on July 14. On July 21 audiences will be treated to the Best in Italian Opera with selections from Puccini, Verdi, and Mascagni. The dramatic series finale on July 28th - JoAnn Falletta Conducts! will feature the thrilling Tchaikovsky's masterpiece Symphony No. 5, and the vivacious Festive Overture (Shostakovich). Artyom Dervoed, the winner of the 2010 JoAnn Falletta Guitar Competition is the featured soloist in Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*.

All shows in the Summer Classics with the BPO series start at 7pm and tickets range from \$25- \$45 with a special on lawn seating for just \$10. Ask the Artpark Box Office (716-754-4375) about the "See All Three" package that includes lawn tickets for all three BPO performance nights for just \$25.

Swing into summer with Artpark's two **BIG BAND** shows saluting the memorable music of the '30s and '40s. On **June 20 The Artie Shaw Orchestra**, under the direction of Matt Koza will present some of the greatest hits of the swing era. The popular **Glenn Miller Orchestra** returns with new band leader Gary Tole for their 11<sup>th</sup> summer at Artpark on **July 18**. Tickets for the performances, which take place at 2pm and 8pm, tickets start at \$24.50. Discounted rates are available for groups of 20 or more. Don't forget to bring your dancing shoes and take a swing around the giant dance floor - just a couple toe-taps from the stage.

The exquisite and increasingly popular **Niagara Wine Trail WINE AND CULINARY FESTIVAL** returns for its 3<sup>rd</sup> summer at Artpark – offering the very best in regional food, music and of course wine! The festival will be held **July 30** (Noon-8PM) and **July 31** (Noon-6PM) and will feature local wineries, cuisine from local restaurants, and live music. Tickets are \$20 presale (online at [www.niagarawinetrail.org](http://www.niagarawinetrail.org)) or \$25 the day of the festival. Admission price includes music, wine-tasting and a souvenir wine glass. Food is available for purchase. There will be an array of activities to participate in all over the park, including free art activities for families as part of Free Family Saturdays, Music is Art live bands, and a performance by Artpark's Rock Camp graduates on Saturday. Sunday afternoon's live entertainment will feature artists set to perform at this summer's Historic Lewiston Jazz Festival (August). Encounters with the Buffalo Society of Artist's Plein Air Painters will also add to the colorful excitement of this festival weekend.

The prestigious **BUFFALO SOCIETY OF ARTISTS**, celebrating their 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, will return with summer exhibitions, artists receptions, and special events at the Art Gallery located on the Mainstage Theater plaza. The gallery will have regular hours from **1-4PM Tuesdays-Fridays** and will also be open for selected Mainstage Theater performances. Admission to the gallery is free. Check [www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net) for event schedule. The gallery will host its first event on June 12 with a special artist reception and winner announcement of the Edges II Outdoor Sculpture Competition.

The Edges II Outdoor Sculpture Competition features seven spectacular works of art displayed throughout Artpark for public viewing. Regional artists' works will be installed on May 30 with the winner being announced on June 12 at the BSA Art Gallery artist reception. All seven works will remain on display until September 17.

Continuing the hot streak of summer fun, Artpark's **SPECIAL CONCERT EVENTS** offer an eclectic handful of entertainers making much anticipated stops at the Mainstage Theater. 90's hit makers **Cake** kick things off on **May 20 (8:15PM)**. The Grammy award-winning blues rock duo The Black Keys play to a sold out crowd **July 13 at (8PM)**. **The Decemberists** start things up in August (**August 1 at 8PM**) bringing their unique indie-folk sound to the Mainstage followed by breakout rap artist **Wiz Khalifa** on **August 4 (8PM)**. **A Prairie Home Companion – 'Summer Love Tour 2011' - with Garrison Keillor** rolls into town on **August 21 (7:30PM)**. The evening will feature passionate duets, hot jazz, Catchup, Guy's All-Star Shoe Band, sound effects wizard Mr. Fred Newman and the latest News from Lake Wobegon.

You won't have trouble finding something for the whole family to do this summer at Artpark. Every Saturday in July Artpark presents **FREE FAMILY SATURDAYS (JULY 9-July 30)** offering visitors the unique opportunity to enjoy delightful live performances and partake in a collection of art workshops under the guidance of professional artists. Activities, including the Costume Closet, Paint Space, the pottery wheel, still-life drawing and temporary tattooing, are tailored toward a particular theme for families to enjoy together each week.

**Make it Move (July 9)** launches the series of creative Family Saturdays workshops focusing on deconstruction and recycled art with a special performance by **Shakespeare in Delaware Park (2PM)**. **Art in Miniature** creates a tiny world of fun on **July 16** and features an exciting performance by the talented **McCarthy School of Irish Dance (2PM)**. On **July 23**, **Art Effects** workshops explore the excitement of special effects, while the **Niagara Experience Players perform (2PM)**. The finale to the Family Saturdays series on **July 30** features **Art Impressions** workshops and a performance by **Artpark's Rock Camp** in the lower park (2PM). Family Saturdays are free to the public and take place in Artpark's Upper Park from noon to 4pm.

Artpark has planted the seeds for a new family festival! The **FAIRY HOUSE FESTIVAL (June 5 Noon-5pm)** lets families connect with nature and use their imagination to create and play at Artpark. Inspired by children's book author Tracy Kane, the festival features several "make and take" art workshops, a wishing tree, and a Fairy House Tour of over 200 tiny fairy homes created by local schools, groups, and families. Visitors can meet author Tracy Kane, who will be chatting with fans and signing her books. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$5 by calling 754-4375 or online at [www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net). Tickets will also be available at the festival for \$6.

Each summer, Artpark invites all young artists, musicians, and theater buffs to enroll in one of the venue's week-long **CAMPS**, and this year a **new Advanced Art Camp** will be offered. **Advanced Art Camp (August 8-12)** is suitable for high school art students looking to complete a fine art portfolio for college. Artpark is pleased to present the highly successful **Rock Camp (July 25-30)** – an opportunity for young musicians to perfect their guitar, keyboard, and bass guitar talents under the direction of some of WNY's finest musicians. Rock Camp at Artpark is directed by Randy Andropolis, former executive director of the Music School of Niagara, and is sponsored by Generations Music.

Artpark's **"Fame-The Musical" Theater Camp (August 15-19)** is a must for any aspiring young thespian. Camp features instruction by professional actors on the set for the summer production of "Fame," the original high school musical. Campers will be guided through the principles of acting, singing, dancing, storytelling and more. As an added bonus, all Theater Camp enrollees will be treated to a matinee presentation of Artpark's production on Thursday August 18.

Artpark offers three sessions of its innovative **Art Camps (July 11-15, July 18-22, August 1-5)**. Park Programs Director Tanis Winslow has designed a well-rounded camp itinerary that integrates core artistic

endeavors such as painting, drawing and ceramics with new and exciting projects like printmaking and fashion design.

Each camp runs Monday through Friday, from 9am to 4pm and cost \$250 per session. Art and Theater Camps are suitable for children ages 9-14, Rock Camp is appropriate for ages 12-18 and high school art students age 15-17 are eligible for Advanced Art Camp. All Artpark camps include a special camper art show / performance in front of friends and family on the final afternoon.

Grab your chairs and flashlights and head to Artpark's Outdoor Amphitheater on the evening of **August 22nd** (at dusk) for the fourth annual, **FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!** This year's feature is the Academy Award-winning animated film, "**Toy Story 3.**" Bring your neighbors and friends for this unique outdoor event under the stars.

Artpark & Company, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 non-profit cultural Arts & Education organization which serves the people of Western New York & Southern Ontario. The Earl W. Brydges Artpark is being operated by Artpark & Company, Inc. for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation under a license agreement.

Tickets are available for Artpark performances by calling 1-888-223-6000 or 716-754-4375. Online at [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com) or [www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net). For more information on Artpark's 2011 Season schedule, call the Artpark Box Office at (716) 754-4375 or visit [www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net)

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