

St. John Medical Center 2013 Festival of the Arts

For Immediate Release

ST. JOHN MEDICAL CENTER FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS 2013:

Popular Westlake Art Festival to celebrate 20th anniversary and expects more than 15,000 to attend

Westlake, Ohio . . . Now twenty years strong, the St. John Medical Center Festival of the Arts will bring more than 200 fine artists and craftpersons from across the country to Westlake. The 2013 Festival of the Arts will welcome the community on the following dates and times: Friday, July 12 from 6 - 9 pm; Saturday, July 13 from 10 am – 7 pm and Sunday, July 14, from 10 am – 5 pm. To assist with parking issues, a shuttle bus service will drop off and pick up festival-goers at the Church on the Rise (directly across the street from the hospital on Crocker Road). There will be ample parking, close to the event, and a small fee for parking.

As in the past, admission to the **Festival is free and open to the public**. Visitors are encouraged to bring along nonperishable food items which will be donated to local food banks. Also St. John Medical Center's Community Outreach will offer free health screenings from 11 am -- 3 pm on Saturday and Sunday only. The free screenings include blood pressure, cholesterol, skin, and glucose.

"It's amazing how the event has grown over the years," says William A. Young, St. John Medical Center President and CEO. "The weekend would not be possible without the tremendous support received by our sponsors, the community as well as wonderful artists and their creative spirit," he adds.

The 2013 Festival of the Arts also features live musical entertainment, a food court, children's crafts and bounce houses, and family fun. Situated in an idyllic setting along a one-half-mile walking track, a diverse representation of mixed media will include jewelry, wearable art, stained glass, basketry, ceramics, watercolors, oils, photography and more. The Festival of the Arts is a juried show and prize money is awarded to winners in several categories.

The caliber of artists has grown over the years and the bar was set high twenty years ago when Judy Burke and Ruth Hopkins organized the first event. And since that time, the Festival has grown into one of the premier arts and crafts events in northeastern Ohio. People travel from east, west and south to attend the very popular show. For the past several years, Ardis Radak and Camille Anter have taken the event reigns and the weekend has reached new heights in its offerings and family fun.

"As a Catholic Hospital, we have made it a tradition to offer a public Outdoor Mass on Sunday, July 14, at 9 am," says Young. "We have had several hundred area residents attend the Mass and each year attendance grows."

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Add One

Festival 2013

The LifeShare Community Blood Services will be on campus for those wishing to donate blood. Live musical entertainment is also part of the Festival of the Arts tradition. From jazz, country, and rock the weekend celebrates all varieties of musical tastes and festival-goers are encourage to bring a blanket and enjoy the entertainment.

“St. John Medical Center is a perfect location to host this type of venue,” adds Young. “This event affords us an opportunity in which to thank the community for its ongoing support.”

Each year the event grows in number of vendors and festival-goers and this year promises to be the best ever. New vendors are selected and different media is showcased. “We never want the show to become routine or standard,” says Patrick J. Garmone, Director of St. John Medical Center Marketing and Public Relations. “Those in charge make it a point to rotate vendors to keep it fresh and new. Of course, some of the most popular artisans will be back to share their works of art.”

The Festival of the Arts is easily accessible via two major highways (I-90 and I-480). St. John Medical Center Festival of the Arts is located at 29000 Center Ridge Road in Westlake, Ohio (20 minutes west of downtown Cleveland). Festival directions, as well as additional information can be found at www.stjohnmedicalcenter.net.

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For further information, please contact Patrick J. Garmone, Director, Marketing and Public Relations, St. John Medical Center at 440.827.5002.