

Public invited to grand opening of SaratogaArtsFest Center and Gallery
May 25 event to offer *ARTSPASS* sales, giveaways, art exhibition

A sure sign that SaratogaArtsFest is just around the corner is the opening of the festival's Center and Gallery, housed each year at a downtown location as the festival's headquarters. The center offers sale of the festival's colorful *ARTSPASS*, ArtsFest information for the public, and an exhibition of works by featured artists.

This year's SaratogaArtsFest, scheduled for June 10-13, will hold the grand opening of its Center and Gallery on Tuesday, May 25, 4 to 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend the event in the center's spacious second-floor location in a restored firehouse, 543 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, above Stockade Imports and across from the Saratoga Hilton. Refreshments will be served.

As an incentive to visit the center, a re-usable grocery tote with the colorful ArtsFest 2010 artwork will be given away with the first 150 adult or senior *ARTSPASS* packages to be purchased or picked up. Anyone who bought an *ARTSPASS* earlier in the year or received one as a gift may bring the ceramic *ARTSPASS* or certificate to the Center to receive a tote and a full set of admission materials.

The exhibition at the Center and Gallery will include artworks by Sarah Bean, Laura Needle, Takeyce Walter, and Michelle Winnie. Bean creates mixed media collage pieces, from small, intimate work to larger wall pieces. Needle will exhibit a watercolor series of doorways based on Saratoga-area architecture. Walter's work will include both oil and watercolor pieces on paper and canvas. Winnie will exhibit new work that incorporates fabrics, textiles, and paint on canvas.

The center will have the following hours of operation in the weeks ahead:
May 26 -31, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

June 1 – 9, 11 a.m.- 6 p.m.

During the festival weekend: Thursday, June 10, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday June 11, 10 a.m.- 8 p.m.; Saturday, June 12, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; and Sunday, June 13, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

SaratogaArtsFest, now in its fourth year, presents a citywide celebration of the arts spanning music, dance, visual art, film, theatre, and literary art.

ArtsFest 2010 will offer some 75 events and activities at venues throughout Saratoga Springs.

The full festival schedule and program details are available at www.SaratogaArtsFest.org. The Center and Gallery phone number is 518-580-8010.

Purchase of the *ARTSPASS* Admission Package

The *ARTSPASS* provides access to events throughout SaratogaArtsFest, as well as discounts and perks at area shops and eateries during the festival. Adult and senior *ARTSPASS* Admission Packages also include year-round benefits at area galleries, theaters, and museums. Prices for the *ARTSPASS* Admission Package are listed below.

Adults	\$35
Seniors (65+)	\$25
Students (13+) and military	\$15
Youth (children 4 to 12)	\$5
(Free for children under 4)	
Family Four Pack	\$70 (two adults, two youth)

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