PRESS RELEASE

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Celebrating 57 Years of Festival of the Arts

Glen Ellyn, IL: Saving the best for last before summer comes to a close, Glen Ellyn invites you to mark your calendar for one of DuPage County's favorite fine art traditions—the **57th Annual Festival of the Arts**, returning to the picturesque **Lake Ellyn Park** on **August 22 & 23, 2026, from 10am–5pm**.

This beloved end-of-summer event features **more than 80 exceptional artists** showcasing work across a wide range of mediums including Acrylic, Fibre, Glass, Graphics, Jewelry, Mixed Media, Oil Painting, Photography, Pottery, Watercolor, and Wood. Whether you're searching for a statement piece for your home, a meaningful gift, or something special just for you, the festival offers endless inspiration.

Spend the day surrounded by natural beauty as you stroll the artist booths, enjoy live music, and savor delicious bites of local restaruants serving everything from tacos and empanadas to sliders, gelato, and sweet treats. Cool off with a cold craft beer or wine at the Lions Club Beer Tent—supporting their important community work.

Families will find plenty to enjoy with a dedicated Children's Painting Area, hands-on activities, and the nearby Lake Ellyn playground. The festival's welcoming atmosphere makes it the perfect outing for art lovers of all ages.

Introducing Summer of the Monarchs — New for 2026

This year, Festival of the Arts proudly features **Monarchs @ the Lake**, a special two-day nature and conservation experience woven into the event. Families, nature lovers, and curious minds are invited to explore:

- **Live Caterpillar & Butterfly Habitats**
- **Boathouse Garden Tours**
- **Professional Landscaping for Pollinators Workshop**
- **Butterfly Identification (Saturday only)**
- **The Extraordinary Caterpillar film screening**
- **Butterfly Storytime & LIVE Butterfly Release**
- **Hands-on activities** including monarch keychains, painting stations, sample garden designs, and a milkweed plant sale

Summer of the Monarchs is a joyful, educational celebration designed to spark curiosity, inspire conservation, and deepen our community's connection to the natural world. This collaborative program is brought to life by Downtown Glen Ellyn, Go Green Glen Ellyn, the Glen Ellyn Park District,

the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission, The Conservation Foundation, the Glen Ellyn Public Library, and Prairie Wind Native Plants.

A Beautiful Setting for a Beautiful Tradition

All festivities take place at **Lake Ellyn Park**, a 28.7-acre gem known for its scenic walking paths, historic boathouse, and serene lakeside views. Parking is available at the Glenbard West High School lot.

Presented by the Alliance of Downtown Glen Ellyn

The Festival of the Arts is brought to you by the **Alliance of Downtown Glen Ellyn**, with heartfelt thanks to the sponsors whose support makes this event possible.

To learn more, visit **www.downtownglenellyn.com** or follow Downtown Glen Ellyn on social media.

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