



FPAA Newsletter

FALL 2023

A “picture” from the President

We are celebrating the Arts Alliance 6th anniversary on October 21 at the Members’ Only Party and we are stronger than ever. Membership is growing and we are finding new friends at each event we schedule. See **Events** below and [join us](#).

One of our board members once said to me that she is amazed at what people are creating in their basements. She found that neighbors she had known for years are artists and she never knew until she related to them through their art. That is the mission of the Arts Alliance – to be the connection – to bring artists, artisans and residents together through their love of art.

Is it an “Art” OR is it a “Craft”? Many things can be considered a “craft” when done well, whether it is wood carving, pottery, writing, storytelling or playing music. But is it “ART”? We believe that any beautiful thing that is created is art – a painting, a statue, a vase, jewelry, a song, a story, a mosaic, a mural, a photograph or even a quilt! Keep reading to find out more about Forest Park’s fiber artists.

Karen

NEW FIBER FLASH EVENT AND ART STOPS AT FALL WINE WALK

On Saturday, November 4th visit Constitution Court (7426 Madison Street) to be wowed by the work of Forest Park fiber artists. Trees, streetlights, bollards, and benches will be clothed in handmade scarves, hats, mittens, socks, afghan panels, banners and quilts. The fiber art will be on exhibit for a week and then the items will be cleaned and donated to the Library’s comfort box to provide winter warmth for the needy. Make Saturday a full day on Madison Street by joining the Chamber of Commerce Fall Wine Walk with Art Stops. Buy a ticket to taste the wine at [Forest Park Fall Wine Walk - Forest Park Chamber of Commerce & Development](#) or grab an Art Stop map at the Fiber Flash.

FOREST PARK THEATRE READING SERIES

Forest Park Theatre’s Reading Series 2023 - 2024: Plays by Women is a chance to discover six exceptional plays by American and British playwrights. Our readings are rehearsed performances read by professional actors without a set or costumes – just words, ideas and passion.

Reading Series 2023 - 2024: Plays by Women gives you – the community of Forest Park and beyond – an opportunity to hear plays we hope to produce in the coming years, and to dialogue with us as we explore what a theatre in our community should be. Join us!

All performances are from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Forest Park American Legion - 500 Circle Ave. with the exception of the October 20th performance at the Grove.

Doors open at 6:30 pm. There will be a cash bar as well as snacks for sale.

[Tickets](#) - Available online or at the door. General admission \$20, FPAA Members \$15

- Performance **October 19th** - *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, adapted by Rona Munro
- **October 20th** at *the Grove* - *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, adapted by Rona Munro
- Performances **November 30th & Dec 3rd** - *Actually* by Anna Ziegler
- Performances **January 25th & 28th** - *Spay* by Madison Fiedler
- Performances **February 22nd & 25th** - *Rachel* by Angelina Weld Grimke
- Performances **March 7th & 10th** - *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte, adapted by Polly Teale

Artist Spotlight

Rick Wagner, a twenty-year resident of Forest Park, has been a FP Arts Alliance member since the Circle Avenue painting of the "Bridge Project" in 2017. After a few years as a Middle School art teacher Rick began a long career as a retail buyer for Montgomery Wards, Linens Plus and Marshall Fields. Career path, family, traveling and gardening took precedence over art.

Rick began painting in the nineteen sixties and then took a leave of absence. Once again picking up the canvas and paint brush in early 2022. After taking a couple of classes at Studio of Art, Rick brought in one of his paintings from the late 1960's which was then hung in the Gallery and sold for \$400.00. Rick participated in Garage Galleries in 2022 and 2023, as well as several pop-up art shows. Working with contrasting colors, forms, shapes in abstract paintings has been challenging and rewarding. Rick says "Forest Park has so many creative people, it is great to see their talents showcased to make our community a more vibrant place".

FPAA members are invited to submit 3 to 4 paragraphs about their work which may be used in a future "Artist Spotlight" newsletter article. Send your information to forestparkarts@gmail.com with "Artist Spotlight" in the Subject line.

Volunteer Opportunities

Your support means everything to us. If you'd like to volunteer to help at an event (a little time) or work on a project (a little more time), please let us know your interests. Email forestparkarts@gmail.com with "Volunteer" in the Subject line.

EVENTS

Tuesday, October 10 – Tellers' Night, 7 pm

Tuesday, November 14 – Tellers' Night, 7 pm

Tuesday, December 12 – Tellers' Night, 7 pm

NOTE: Tellers' Nights are at Exit Strategy Brewing Co. 7700 Madison Street
Doors open at 6:30. Tickets \$15 / \$10 for FPAA members

Saturday, November 4 – Makers’ Market (Various locations on Madison Street)
Fiber Flash (Constitution Court) during the Chamber’s Wine Walk
Friday, December 1 – Strike A Pose, Holiday photo booth
Saturday, December 9 – Holiday Makers’ Market

SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday, April 20 – 48-Hour Film Festival Gala
Watch for more 2024 events such as StoopSessions, GarageGalleries,
Tellers’ Nights, Makers’ Markets, Fiber Flash and
Shakespeare in the Park.

Visit www.forestparkarts.org for more information.