

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—

Contact: Roz Long

RGL Marketing for the Arts (630.279.0035)

Contact: Kathleen A. Hanrahan

Forest Park Chamber of Commerce & Development (708.366.2543)

Juried Arts Fest Features Over 50 Midwest Artists, Entertainment and Unique Activities for Kids

FOREST PARK, IL—At age 15, **Luisa Castellanos** (www.pocketpalz.com) who is nationally renowned for her funky, unique niche of indie fiber plush toys sold at the new premiere Whole Foods Chicago store, will be teaching fiber toy classes at the **3rd Annual Forest Park Arts Fest: A Juried Show of Fine Art and Craft. Presented by Boulevard Fine Art and Custom Framing**, the Arts Fest will be held Saturday, September 26th and Sunday, September 27th from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. along Madison Street and Constitution Court in Forest Park. Over 50 Midwest artists will be showcasing a diverse collection of art ranging from photography, ceramics and painting, to glass, jewelry, fiber and mixed media.

Forest Park, long considered one of Chicago's most artist-friendly communities, has become a mecca for creatives, **including deedee and edee's** private label clothing designer **Deb Dworman, Jeanine A. Guncheon Gallery Etcetera, Two Fish Art Glass, Boulevard Fine Art & Custom Framing** and **Chris Guillen Photography**. Unique boutiques and antique shops round out the mix. Guncheon, one of the prominent leaders behind the Forest Park arts movement, has shown her work at two prestigious museum shows -- Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show and Smithsonian Craft Show.

Activities for the weekend also include:

- Acoustic music at Constitution Court in the afternoon.
- Children's activities from 11:30-5 p.m. both days include fiber classes taught by Luisa Castellanos, a Magic Performance, Puppet Show and various craft activities.
- Pottery demonstrations by Mary Dye, glass blowing demonstrations by Prodigy Glassworks.
- Experience the 'Best in Neighborhood Dining' in Forest Park (2008 Chicago Tribune poll) and explore Madison Street's unique boutiques and specialty shops.

The Forest Park Chamber of Commerce & Development, the Village of Forest Park and RGL Marketing for the Arts, Inc. are hosts for this event. For more information on the Forest Park Arts Fest, please visit exploreforestpark.com or rglmarketingforthearts.com.