

August 27, art-A-palooza, Green. Contact: Joan Smith, Gallery 143, 4195 Massillon Rd Suite AA2, Uniontown, OH 44685. Phone: 330-6085542. Email: gallery143@neo.rr.com. Website: <http://www.greenartscouncil.org/id24.html>. Space fee: \$75 or in the community tent for \$150. Exhibitors: 70. Hours: 10-6. Admission: \$0.

By Kristina Malcolm

Ohio Reporter

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Medium: Silversmithing

Art-a-palooza is one of those good, hometown, art shows. As an artist, this is my fifth out of seven Art-a-palooza art festivals, located in my back yard in Green, Ohio. In my five years, we have seen everything from freezing temperatures to eight inches of mud but this year we were fortunate with sunny skies, warm temperatures and over 4,500 attendants. Art-a-palooza (sponsored by The Greens Arts Council and Green Parks and Recreation) is widely advertised through the radio, social media, and newspapers and attracts both art buyers and families alike. People come not only for the great art but for the great children's activity area that has many take-home art projects.

This year we also had the highest number of artists in history, totaling over 60 vendors. Each vendor is given a 10'x10' space on a path around a pond. The tents are set-up in the grass on either side of the path. This, however, makes for some complications during set-up and tear down. It is often difficult for artists to navigate to their booth spots due to the narrow spacing and hilly landscaping, not to mention the pond, right in the middle. But having set-up the day before (with over night security) avoids many issues in this regard.

The day of the show, this year, was great. The weather could not have been better and sales were good. Many artists stated sales were better than they expected. Most of the artists seemed happy although a common criticism was that there was too much jewelry. To address that issue, the committee has already decided to change the jurying process next year.

Overall, it's a good, one-day show for local artists. I look forward to participating in this show in the future and seeing this show grow as its history has, so far, proven.