

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Greenbrier to host artists, authors, musicians, and performers at
Art Jam in Matthews Park on April 24th!*



DATE/TIME: April 24, 2021, 10 AM – 4 PM

LOCATION: Matthews Park in Greenbrier

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The one-day event will feature:

- Live folk, jazz and bluegrass music
- Meet and greet with local authors
- Variety of quality handcrafted items and fine art for purchase
- Art and culture exhibits
- Student art and creative writing contest exhibit
- Interactive community art project
- Hands-on art activities for kids
- Tasty treats and food by local food trucks

Art Jam will bring local visual and performing artists together in a day of festivities featuring lively music, exhibits, hands-on activities and demonstrations in beautiful Matthews Park. "The theme "together we ART" embodies the purpose of this event...to SAFELY bring the community together for a fun day of celebrating the arts and expressing ourselves creatively, effectively bringing arts and culture to the forefront in our community. All CDC and Arkansas Department of Health directives will be strictly followed. We want people to feel comfortable and feel safe above all else," says Shellie O'Quinn, Events Director for the City of Greenbrier.

The Faulkner County Museum will display a "Traveling Time Capsule," exhibiting works of local artists from the past and present. The mobile exhibit will be "on tour" for the summer and will be displayed in several public spaces after the event, including Greenbrier City Hall, Greenbrier Event Center and Greenbrier Nursing and Rehab. "The museum has been closed to visitors for many months. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring the museum to the people and further the museum's mission of educating the public on the art and history of Greenbrier, building relationships, and celebrating our community," says Lynita Langley-Ware, Director of the Faulkner County Museum.

There will be a student exhibit featuring works by Greenbrier students, a collaborative community art project, interactive projects and hands-on "make and take" activities for kids in the "Kidz Zone". The

student exhibit will include two and three-dimensional works of art selected by art teachers. It will also include the winning compositions of a creative writing contest. These will become part of the Faulkner County Museum's Traveling Time Capsule and part of the permanent archives at the museum.

Event goers can expect to "bust out" their creativity by throwing paint at a giant canvas. There will be a "reveal" at the end of the day to unveil a message underlying the layers of paint. The completed community art piece will become the first public art installation in Greenbrier and will be "on tour" with the Traveling Time Capsule over the summer before it is permanently displayed at the Greenbrier Event Center.

Artists are invited to apply to participate in this event and may request an application by emailing GBArtJam@gmail.com. Anyone specializing in handcrafted, original, high-quality works of art is encouraged to apply.

A variety of live performances are planned, including the Peterson Family and the Greenbrier High School and Junior High School Jazz Ensembles.

Local authors will be speaking about the unique history and culture of Greenbrier. One author has written about the little-known role a local doctor played in the history of professional baseball. Event goers will have an opportunity to purchase signed copies of their books and meet the authors. This portion of the event is supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Herschel Hall, a new event venue coming soon to Greenbrier, is the presenting sponsor. First Security Bank will be sponsoring the Kidz Zone. Other sponsorship opportunities are available for this event.

Food and flavor abound in Greenbrier, and some local favorites will be on site to satisfy all cravings. There will even be a surprise "kids happy hour" during the event when the kids will receive free treats.

"This will be the first public event held in Matthews Park, and we are so excited to finally be able to bring our community together to celebrate our local arts and culture. The events of the past year have helped us better appreciate opportunities to gather, and for some of us, "community" is essential to our mental and emotional well-being. Some of us have learned to use art, music or writing as a form of therapy. Art can bring so much beauty, joy and richness to our lives and often interpret emotions that we have a difficult time expressing. We look forward to hosting this colorful, festive event in our beautiful new park," says O'Quinn.

For more information, please email the event organizers at GBArtJam@gmail.com.