

# Amy's Festival Tips

Based on 30 years of producing festivals, here are tips on maximizing your festival experience.

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## **Spring Festival Booth Tune Up**

At a show, the way your booth looks is an important part of your ability to sell. A better presentation will assist your sales and support your pricing.

- Plan your booth well. Use graph paper or a computer layout program. Plan each wall, know the sizes of the work you intend to show. Hang pieces that stack on a vertical midline, and pieces that are side by side on a horizontal midline. Aim for symmetry.
- Hang pieces that represent a body of work together. Try
  to have harmonious framing so that the public's
  attention is on your work, not on the frames.
- Hang a large impact piece on the center of your back wall... it can help bring people into your booth and support the sales of your smaller pieces.
- Jewelers and those with small pieces should consider photo blow ups of work on the back wall and the front lower sections of your cases. If the public can easily "see" your work from a distance, they are more apt to come into your booth for a closer look.
- 3D artists can consider multiple display levels, and use pedestals to show their work.

- Signage is important. Consider signage that reflects your art, not just a generic name sign.
   Velcro backed individual letters on fabric panels are a great to display your name as well.
- Include a ground cover for a finished booth. Solid color carpet remnants bought at a home supply store are inexpensive. Duct tape down all sides at the festival for safety.
- Remember to weight down your tent and connect the weights to the upper cross bars of your tent so that your hard work does not blow away.
- The tent itself is important. A heavy, commercial grade tent with a sky light is best for most artists.
- Use a high director chair in a color that works with your booth. Web beach chairs do not belong.
- Consider that you are part of the booth. Don't wear print, patterned or "worded" clothing. Solids are best. Pick a color that works with your booth. Good luck! See you on the street.

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#### **BARRINGTON ART FESTIVAL**

May 25-26, 2013 | Barrington, Illinois

MILLENNIUM ART FESTIVAL
May 31, June 1-2, 2013 | Chicago, Illinois

#### PROMENADE OF ART

June 8-9, 2013 | Arlington Heights, Illinois

NEW BUFFALO ARTIGRAS!
June 15-16, 2013 | New Buffalo, Michigan

THE ART CENTER'S FESTIVAL OF FINE CRAFT June 22-23, 2013 | Highland Park, Illinois

GOLD COAST ART FAIR AT GRANT PARK June 29-30, 2013 | Chicago, Illinois

CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN ART FESTIVAL July 5-7, 2013 | Glencoe, Illinois

BUFFALO GROVE ART FESTIVAL
July 13-14, 2013 | Buffalo Grove, Illinois

NORTH SHORE FESTIVAL OF ART July 27-28, 2013 | Skokie, Illinois

GLENCOE FESTIVAL OF ART August 3-4, 2013 | Glencoe, Illinois

ART AT THE GLEN TOWN CENTER August 10-11, 2013 | Glenview, Illinois

LINCOLNSHIRE ART FESTIVAL
August 17-18, 2013 | Lincolnshire, Illinois

#### PORT CLINTON ART FESTIVAL

August 24-25, 2013 | Highland Park, Illinois

#### THIRD WARD ART FESTIVAL

August 31, September 1, 2013 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

### DOWNTOWN DOWNERS GROVE ART FESTIVAL

September 7-8, 2013 | Downers Grove, Illinois

HIGHWOOD LAST CALL ART FAIR September 21-22, 2013 | Highwood, Illinois

#### THE INSIDE SHOW

November 22-24, 2013 Highland Park, Illinois

#### **GULFSTREAM ART FESTIVAL**

December 14-15, 2013 Hallandale Beach, Florida

