

ELMHURST

April 2023

LIVING



FINDING HOME SWEET HOME

Meet the Sammarco Family

Inside:

Art in
Wilder Park
PAGE 10

Featured Expert
Kevin Rocio
PAGE 12

Community
Spotlight
PAGE 16

Photos Courtesy of
Kimberly Felten Photography

 Best Version Media



Superheroes in Wilder Park rendering by Robert Apolinar



ART IN WILDER PARK GETS "SUPERCHARGED"

Courtesy of John McKinnon, Executive Director, Elmhurst Art Museum

On May 6th and 7th, the free festival Art in Wilder Park will return to Elmhurst with over 125 exhibitors including one-of-a-kind art, entertainment, food, family activities, and a "super" public art installation.

In partnership with the Elmhurst Park District and consulting by RGL Marketing for the Arts, the Elmhurst Art Museum is the lead producer of the annual event in the heart of Elmhurst this spring. As the first outdoor festival in the region each year, Art in Wilder Park is a highly anticipated Spring event in the western suburbs. In 2022 the event was voted one of the Best in the West, featured in numerous press outlets, and attracted nearly half of its visitors from outside Elmhurst.

The free-to-the-public event regularly attracts over 8,000 to the museum campus and takes place May 6-7, from 10 am to 5 pm, at 175 S. Cottage Hill Ave in Elmhurst. The highly-anticipated juried festival Art in Wilder Park features a variety of artisans selling one-of-a-kind jewelry, paintings, sculptures, ceramics, prints, fiber arts, and mouthwatering treats from local food vendors. This year's festival will feature more artists, an expanded Kids Court for family activities, and a newly-commissioned public art installation.

At the 26th annual Art in Wilder Park, the Elmhurst Art Museum unveils Superheroes in Wilder Park (May 6 to July 31, 2023) featuring life-sized superhero sculptures by area artists and youth groups. The installation is a bold preview of the museum's summer blockbuster show *Marvelocity: The Art of Alex Ross* (May 28 to August 20, 2023) that features work by one of the greatest artists in the field of comic books.

Superheroes in Wilder Park features new works by Rafael Blanco, Nez Garza, Dave Pryor, and Charles Williams Jr. along with

pieces created by Robert Apolinar with Elmhurst University students, Esmeralda Bolivar with the Elmhurst Pride Collective, John Nester with Glenbard North High School students, and Gloria Rivera with B. Unity mentees.

Presenting an even larger, more inclusive, and accessible event for the whole family this year, Art in Wilder Park will host a variety of kid's activities planned with over 20 community organizations and special appearances by costumed heroes from the League of Enchantment.

"The Elmhurst Art Museum is excited to expand Art in Wilder Park with more exhibiting artists from across the Midwest and attract new audiences with a new 'super' public art installation this year," said John McKinnon, Executive Director of the Elmhurst Art Museum.

"We are excited for the 26th annual Art in Wilder Park, a renowned community event held each spring with large offerings for the entire family," said The Honorable Scott Levin, Mayor of Elmhurst. "We look forward to welcoming thousands of visitors from near and far to enjoy a day at the park, support local restaurants, artisans, and businesses, and celebrate all that the event has to offer."

Look for more details on these highly anticipated events on the museum's website, including a full list of Art in Wilder Park exhibitors and sponsors: www.elmhurstartmuseum.org

The Elmhurst Art Museum is an arts complex with three distinct areas of focus. A balance of art, education, and architecture programming is central to its efforts of inspiring and enriching our community. The museum holds public art events, as well as educational hands-on activities, related to rotating contemporary art exhibitions and the celebration of the McCormick house, a rare single-family home designed by Mies van der Rohe.



Art in Wilder Park 2022, courtesy Elmhurst Art Museum
Photo: Steven Koch



Prior Art in Wilder Park festival, courtesy the Elmhurst Art Museum and RGL Marketing for the Arts, Inc.



Art in Wilder Park 2022, courtesy Elmhurst Art Museum
Photo: Steven Koch