

## **For immediate release**

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## **BLUFFS ARTS COUNCIL PLANNING 2ND ANNUAL STUDIO AND VINE**

The Bluffs Arts Council will highlight local artists during Autumn in the Bluffs 2008 with the Second Annual Studio and Vine: A Fall Art and Wine Event. Studio and Vine will consist of three programs designed to showcase southwest Iowa visual art and promote the art of winemaking.

The Creative Spirits exhibit will be held at The Center, 714 S. Main in Council Bluffs, from Friday, October 3rd through Sunday, October 19th. 38 artists will exhibit their art for sale and six wineries will present wine tasting opportunities. The opening party, free and open to the public, will be Friday, October 3rd, starting at 6:00 p.m. and will feature the music of the Tommy Kaye Band, dance group Denim and Lace and food donated by Ted's Nebraska Grille.

There will be raffles of artwork and wine-related items. The exhibit will be open during the Center's regular hours throughout the two-week period.

A new addition this year will be Meet the Artist Day - a two-day event at Hitchcock Nature Center on Saturday, October 11th and Sunday, October 12th, from 1:00 - 7:30 p.m., which will feature art and wine demonstrations, displays and sales, food, live music and guided nature hikes, etc. Entertainment for the whole family will be presented by Bob Everhart, Jerry Jacoby and Penelope & Arthur. There is no cost for admission but there may be a small fee to enter the park.

Studio and Vine will expand its Bus Tours this year to three weekend dates: October 5th, 12th and 19th - all Sunday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. The tours will explore several artist studios as well as southwest Iowa wineries. Bus tour patrons will be able to experience "behind the scenes" workings of both the vintners as well as the visual artists.

Sack lunches are provided. The cost of the bus tour is \$25; Bluffs Arts Council members will receive a free raffle ticket. Each Sunday is a different tour; reservations are necessary by calling the Bluffs Arts Council at 328-4992 or by going online at [www.studioandvine.com](http://www.studioandvine.com).

The closing of the exhibit at The Center will also be cause for celebration with food

provided by Harrah's Casino Hotel, wine-tasting, and entertainment by the popular variety group Kate and the Big Boys. The public is encouraged to attend and admission is free.

"We are excited to once again showcase southwest Iowa artists and wineries," said Tom Hamilton, visual artist and chairperson of the Studio and Vine committee. "It is our hope that people will enjoy all that the event has to offer."

Presenting sponsors for Studio and Vine are Dickinson Investment Advisors and The Daily Nonpareil. Event sponsors are The Center and Hitchcock Nature Center.

For more information, call 328-4992 or e-mail [info@bluffsarts.org](mailto:info@bluffsarts.org).

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