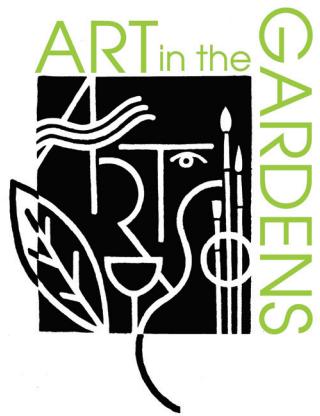




MENDOCINO COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS



ART IN THE GARDENS 2017 — CALL FOR ARTISTS

August 5th will be the 25th anniversary of the premier fine art event on the coast

FORT BRAGG, CA—May 8, 2017—Set amidst the spectacular background of summer floral displays at Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens, the 25th anniversary of Art in the Gardens (AIG) is fast approaching. The day-long juried fine art event will be held on Saturday, August 5 from 11:00am to 5:00pm. This celebration of creative expression, gorgeous gardens, music, beer, wine, and food attracts more than 1,500 guests each year.

Are you a creative soul? Help fill the Gardens with masterpieces of all media types making this year—the silver anniversary celebration—the best yet! Applications for artists wishing to participate in the 2017 Art in the Gardens are being accepted now through May 22nd. Gardens' Executive Director, Molly Barker remarks, "The Mendocino Coast, and the region in general is known as a diverse and creative community. We hope to have a major representation of local artists this year." Over the past quarter of a century, AIG has showcased extraordinary creations such as ceramics, glass, paintings, sculpture, textiles, and woodworking. This year's event will include a special focus on art in action giving everyone a chance to witness the creative process involved in several mediums. "I look forward to experiencing Art in the Gardens, great art and artists" exclaimed Barker.

Selected artists will have the rare opportunity to display their finest work at this breathtaking 47 acres by the sea, voted fifth best botanical garden in the nation by USA Today. Gardens staff and volunteers will be available to assist selected artists in display set-up and take-down as well as provide relief for artists in need of a break. Additionally, Friends of the Gardens provides an ample complimentary breakfast for all participating artists the morning of the event. While there is a non-refundable jury fee of \$20, there is no booth fee. The event functions on a cashiering system freeing artists from having to handle cash and compute tax. A 30% commission will be taken from all artists' sales. The commission and all proceeds from this spectacular event will directly benefit the non-profit Botanical Gardens and their mission to engage and enrich lives by displaying and conserving plants in harmony with our Northern California Coastal ecosystems. This year's featured artist, John Fisher has participated in this beloved event for seven years. Fisher believes "AIG is a delightful opportunity to share your process and work, meet other artists and your community and enjoy the splendor of gardens in full bloom.... and it fun!"

To be considered in the jury process artists must complete an application available at www.gardenbythesea.org/AIG2017. Applications are being accepted now through May 22, 2017.