

A person is kneeling on a paved surface, drawing a colorful chalk drawing. The drawing features vibrant, overlapping bands of color including blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. The person's hands are visible, one resting on the ground and the other holding a piece of chalk. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people's legs and feet, suggesting a public outdoor event.

Riverlife

**PITTSBURGH
RIVERWALK &
CHALK FEST**

PRESS KIT | 2023

EVENT OVERVIEW

WHEN: Saturday, May 27 & Sunday, May 28, 2023

WHERE: Isabella Street, North Shore

EVENT TIME: Saturday 1pm-6pm (Festival Day), Sunday 9am-2pm (Viewing Day)

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

Kick off your colorful summer in the 'Burgh! Art meets our riverfronts for the 2nd Annual Pittsburgh Riverwalk and Chalk Fest, Presented by Riverlife.

Join us Saturday & Sunday of Memorial Weekend to kick off the summer on Pittsburgh's riverfronts with interactive chalk art and local food & drink! Over 20 chalk artists from 13 different states will be visiting the 'Burgh to chalk up stunning interactive murals. *This year, the Festival has gone International and will also be welcoming 2 visiting artists from the Ukraine.* Public art, live entertainment, local brews, and the best mobile eats in town are being served up on the North Shore on Isabella Street — where the Pop District and Allegheny Landing intersect.

On Saturday, we celebrate! Enjoy food, drink, and fun while you meet & greet with the artists.

On Sunday, we stroll @ OpenStreetsPGH! Sunday is Chalk Fest viewing day during OpenStreetsPGH! Stroll on Isabella and enjoy the art on foot (or wheels!) while you explore the North Shore, Allegheny Landing, and The Pop District along Bike Pittsburgh's brand new event route. Riverlife's Pittsburgh Riverwalk & Chalk Fest is free & open to the public. A percentage of food and beverage sales from the festival benefits Riverlife's work to create, activate, and celebrate Pittsburgh's riverfronts.

NUMBER OF ARTISTS: 21+ chalk artists from 13 different states, and 2 countries (*2 artists will be visiting from the Ukraine*)

FOOD & DRINK: Shorty's Pins X Pints (bar) + local favorites

ENTERTAINMENT: Live music, facepainting, games/ activities



JEFF PILKINTON

📷 @jeffpilkinton

📘 facebook.com/jeff.pilkinton

📍 jeffpilkinton.com

Jeff Pilkinton is a talented street painter and chalk artist with over 5 years of experience in his craft. Jeff discovered his passion for art at a young age, and over the years, he has honed his skills through continuous practice and experimentation. His love for creating art on unconventional surfaces led him to the world of street painting and chalk art. Jeff's artistic style is bold, colorful, and heavily influenced by pop culture. He is known for his intricate designs that are a fusion of realism and fantasy, often featuring iconic characters from movies, comics, and TV shows. His work is always unique, and he has a keen eye for detail, color, and composition.



JOEL YAU

📷 @studioyau

📍 studioyau.com

Joel Yau is a successful San Francisco Bay Area artist who brings a wealth of visual knowledge and curiosity to his fine art. Joel discovered street painting in San Rafael, California in 1996 and has since taken his passion for creating street art around the world, participating as a featured artist in festivals across North America, Europe, and Asia. As a master street painter, his skilled hands, coupled with his outgoing personality and love of this ephemeral art form has won him many accolades and awards in this arena.

Joel cites traveling as boundless inspiration and gives back to the community through his various artistic pursuits. He is an Art Director and has a Fine Art degree in Visual Communication + Illustration from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. You can view more of his artwork at www.studioyau.com Instagram #StudioYau

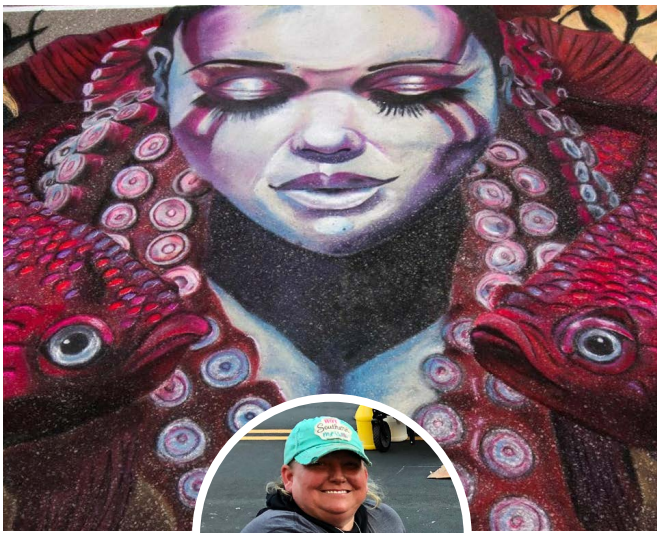


SANDY FORSETH

📷 @Chalkunity

Five years ago, Sandy found her joy as the Community Mandala Specialist. Sandy has participated in various festivals, community events, and in 4 different states.

She also creates permanent mandala installations at elementary schools, helping them "Reimagine Outdoor Play" on the playground. The mandalas she creates represent the community they are made for. Please join us for some colorFULL fun on the pavement.



BRIDGET LYONS

📷 @chalk_dirty
📍 bklyons.com

BK Lyons, a.k.a. Chalk Dirty, is best known as a street painter, muralist, and fine artist. Based in the Greater Tampa Area, Lyons began drawing before she could walk... according to her mother. Known for her use of bold, high-key colors, she has gained a reputation for her ability to adapt to any genre or brief. From master reproductions to urban graffiti, Lyons enjoys creating fun and playful images all while putting her own unique spin on the process.

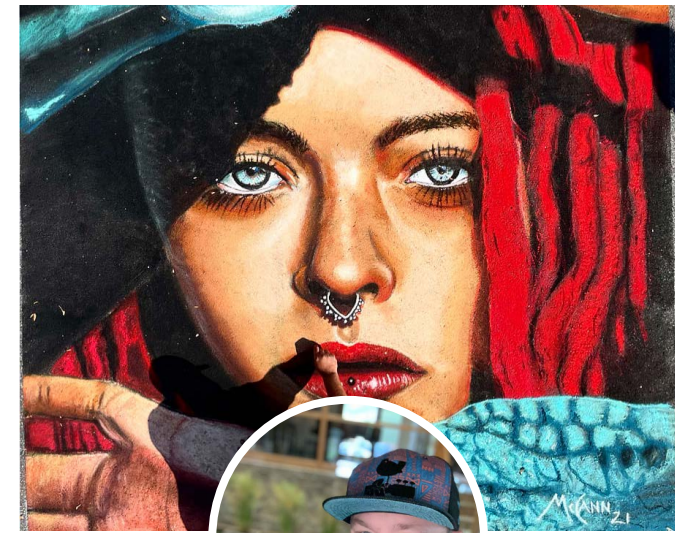
Over the course of her career, Lyons has garnered a deep appreciation for a diverse range of genres and techniques, which span the spectrum of artistic practice from Caravaggio's use of light to Keith Haring's simplicity. It is this broad familiarity with various methods and approaches to her work that allows Lyons to continue to push her limits in merging classical style with a new technique. For more examples of art, www.instagram.com/chalk_dirty



JAN RIGGINS

📍 janrigginsart.com
📷 @janrigginsart
📍 facebook.com/janrigginsart

Jan Riggins is an artist from Fort Worth, Texas. Her love of art started with watercolors, but once she discovered chalk art, her passion soon shifted and she now spends most of her free time on the ground drawing. Jan enjoys creating anamorphic (3D) chalk art pieces that are fun and interactive.



SHAWN MCCANN

📍 shawnmccann.com
📍 facebook.com/ShawnMcCannArt

As an artist, Shawn McCann is one who loves to explore the relationship of art, space, and interaction. Having graduated from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design with a BFA, Shawn has grown into a multi-media, multi-disciplinary artist whose work explores color, texture, form, and content. This approach has led to the many areas in which Shawn's work has encompassed including; 2D and 3D street painting, murals, fine art, children's books, installation art, temporary and permanent art and commercial illustration. From the creation of children's books, the installation of a temporary 4000 square foot mural at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, to a mural at IIT Bombay in Mumbai, India, each work of art is produced with a fresh set of ideas, parameters, and ways in which to enliven the space within its grasp. His work has won numerous awards and is held in private and public collections, and has also been featured twice at the LA Times Festival of Books as a featured illustrator.



KUMPA TAWORNPROM

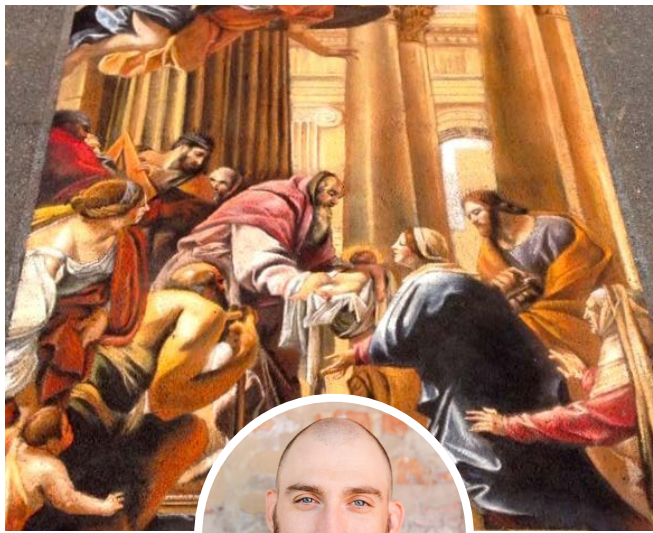
↑ fantasystudio.us

📍 facebook.com/kumpa.tawornprom

“You Dream It, I’ll Make It!”

Hello, I’m Kumpa and I make dreams come true!

If there’s something you can imagine, I can make it, No Problem! I use a variety of mediums, including styrofoam, fiberglass, epoxy, wood, acrylic, paint and even chalk! I’ve made sculptures for companies like Disney, Busch Gardens, Frenchy’s, Ringling Brothers Circus, The Green Iguana and more! I’ve also made all sorts of things for wonderful people with amazing imaginations! What Can I make for you?



NATE BARANOWSKI

↑ natebaranowski.com

📍 [@nate.baranowski](https://instagram.com/@nate.baranowski)

📍 facebook.com/baranowski.nate

Nate is a street painter, muralist, and fine artist based in South Bend, IN.

He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where his passion for street painting began. Nate is a versatile artist experienced with a range of mediums, including large chalk murals, indoor and outdoor painted murals, acrylic on canvas, and various forms of digital painting and concept art. He specializes in creating 3D artwork that looks like it pops right out of the ground or wall. From temporary installations to permanent painted murals, Nate can add a splash of creativity to any environment.



JAN P TOMBROS

↑ janptartist.com

📍 facebook.com/Janptartist

📍 [@janptartist](https://instagram.com/@janptartist)

Jan P Tombros’ art reflects the broad cross-cultural influence that comes from her extensive travel experiences. From the Brazilian tropics to the surrounding riches of Sicilian antiquity, Janet’s vivid color palette reflects these carefree cultures. As a certified “Master” Street Painter with Florida Chalk Artist Association, Janet travels extensively throughout the United States as a featured artist for Chalk Festival and as a Street Painting/Chalk instructor at Schools, Colleges, and Art Museums. “I like to pick an image that will draw comments from the spectators. This interaction keeps me energized while I am working. People are an integral part of my performance.”



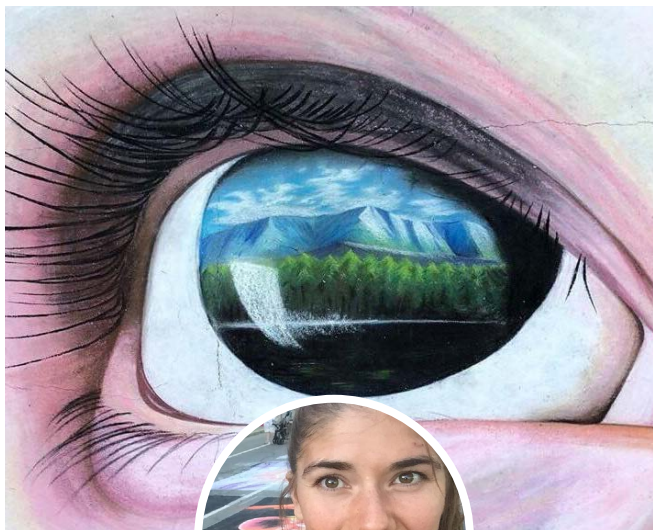
ALLISON SEVERSON

📷 @alleycreations

🔗 allisonseverson.com

Mn-based artist, Allison Severson, has been honing her chalk and mural skills over the past five years. Originally an illustrator and house painter, Allison has blended her drawing and painting skills with her new mode of expression. She enjoys all aspects of the creative process but relishes in the surprise and novelty of a large mural or colorful chalk drawing.

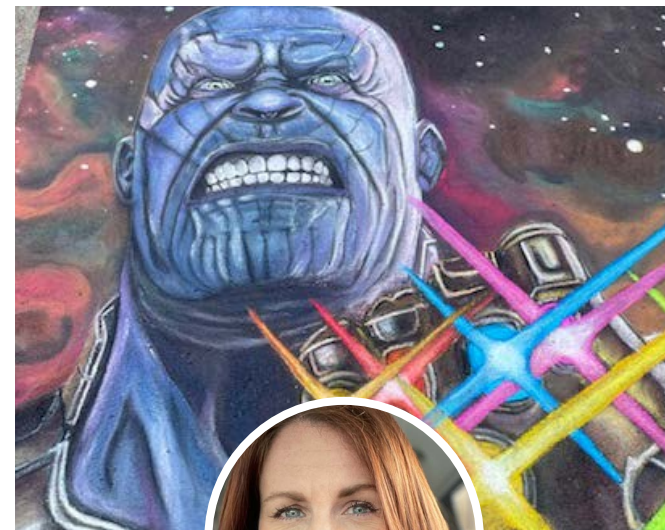
Allison has assisted with a few large-scale ceiling murals at Minnesota's Largest Candy store in Jordan, MN, designed and painted an entryway mural for the clients of PROP in Eden Prairie, MN, created a design for the Hennepin Theatre Trust's "Art Connects Us" billboard initiative and has continued to design and create Community Art in Eden Prairie for the past few years.



ERICA LUBERA

📷 @manifest_creative_studio

Erica has a bachelor's degree in psychology but has always had a passion for art and color. She has participated in chalk art festivals across the East Coast, from Florida to Maine, along with her husband Jesse. She now enjoys providing commission chalkboards for businesses, chalk murals for festivals as well as by commission, and other commissions through her business Manifest Creative Studio. Her favorite mediums are pastel chalks, colored pencils, and acrylic on canvas. She hopes her art can highlight a little bit of the color and beauty in the world around us.



LORI HUGHES

📷 @LorisFigment

🔗 facebook.com/LorisFigment

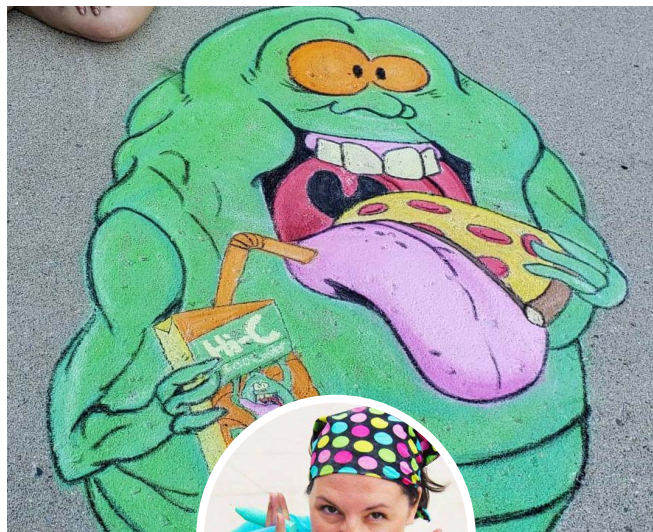
Lori Hughes (aka Lori Figment) is a 2003 art graduate of Youngstown State University who now resides in the Columbus, Ohio area. After visiting the 2005 Via Colori festival in Columbus never having done something on that scale on pavement, she knew she wanted to give it a try - so in 2006, her passion for chalk art began. Since then, Lori has participated in chalk events in OH, MI, MN, PA, GA, NY, FL, and even Canada where she travels with her wife and son. When she is not chalking, she is creating custom-painted shoes and purses.



JESSE LUBERA

📷 @jesslubera

Jesse LuBera is a professional brand illustrator and large format artist who enjoys working in all mediums of art, from oils to digital to outdoor murals. A Pennsylvania native, he has worked with chalk professionally for over 5 years, creating pieces for art festivals and private events up and down the east coast. He particularly enjoys the challenge of creating large anamorphic ("3D") street paintings and collaborating with his wife and fellow chalk artist, Erica.



TIFFANY KELLY

📷 @chalk_n_ave
📘 facebook.com/chalknawear

Tiffany Kelly is a native Steel City girl and a 1996 graduate of West Allegheny High School. She moved to Dayton Ohio in 2000 where she currently resides with her husband and three children. After taking many years off from art, Tiffany stumbled into sidewalk chalk art while her children played outside. What started as a way to play with her kids soon grew into an exciting adventure of art and travel! Since starting her journey in 2012, Tiffany has traveled to various cities in Ohio and has gone as far as Clearwater, Florida. Some of her biggest clients have been the Dayton Dragons Professional Baseball Team and the City of Kettering. Her style tends to stay on the whimsical style, bringing beloved cartoon characters to life on the pavement. When she's not chalking, Tiffany enjoys crocheting and spending time with her family. She is thrilled to be back in Pittsburgh, and thanks Riverlife for hosting this exciting event.

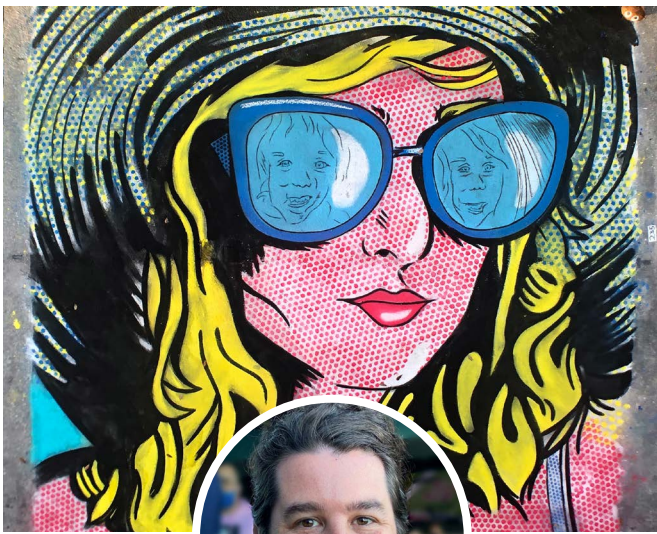


ERIK GREENAWALT

📘 facebook.com/TheChalkingDad
📌 thechalkingdad.com
📷 @thechalkingdad

Erik's passion for chalk art began more than a decade ago in the driveway of his suburban Pittsburgh home, when his then-toddler-aged daughters, Jayce and Jenna, first asked him to draw Mickey, Cinderella, Elmo, and Eeyore. Those young art directors were very demanding and wanted more and more elaborate pieces. Erik soon became known as "The Chalking Dad" among his neighbors.

Today, Erik - who in real life is a Certified Public Accountant working in corporate finance - is also a certified "master" chalk artist in the Florida Chalk Artist Association. He participates in street painting festivals around the country -- and even internationally - where he joins other artists in creating large-scale, elaborate chalk drawings over several days. Erik especially enjoys drawing portraits of celebrities and sports heroes.



ZACH HERNDON

 @zaulus

Zachary Herndon is an award-winning chalk artist.

He has a passion for making new friends and founded the GA Chalk Artists Guild with his wife Jessi Queen in 2014 to help promote street painting in GA. He is known for his pop art style and engagement with his 3D murals. His energy is contagious and he brings a smile wherever he goes. Zach has been featured in chalk art festivals from coast to coast and a few in Europe. He lives in Atlanta with Jessi, their two wild children, and a spunky dachshund.



JAYCIE GREENAWALT

Jaycie Greenawalt, of Irwin, Pa., has learned her chalking skills at the hand of her father, Erik, aka The Chalking Dad. When she was 3, Jaycie inspired The Chalking Dad by asking for "The Little Einsteins" to be drawn in her driveway. As she has gotten older, she has partnered with him on many projects and has begun creating her own masterpieces. Jaycie will be a junior this fall at Slippery Rock University, where she is majoring in dance and accounting.



MARISA ALVARADO

 [facebook.com/marisa.alvarado.716](https://www.facebook.com/marisa.alvarado.716)
 @artteach3114

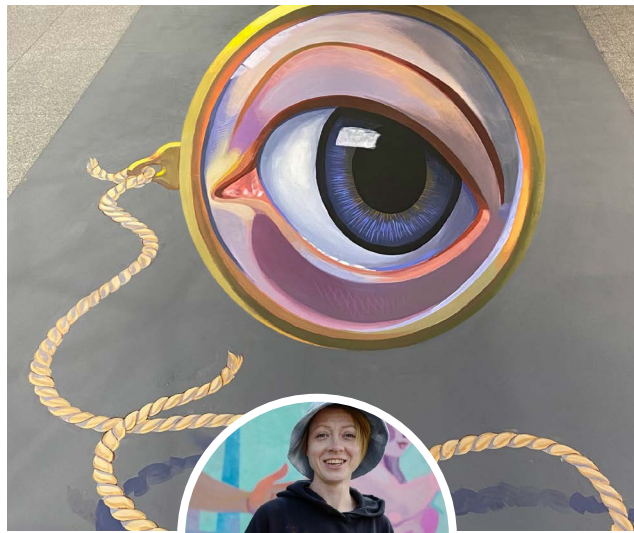
As an artist, educator, and photographer, I've always had a passion for creating, drawing, and painting. Upon witnessing a group of chalk artists at work during a festival years ago, I was immediately intrigued and wanted to give the medium a go. With a gentle push from fellow artists, their guidance, and encouragement, the doors swung open to a vibrant world of chalking. My love for the art form was ignited and has only ever grown since. I am so excited and grateful for every opportunity to chalk and am honored to create alongside such talented and renowned artists as those featured at the festival.



ALLINA MOLINARO

📷 @allinasartwork

Born and raised in the steel city, Allina has always had a passion for art. However, it wasn't until Allina attended a chalk festival in Columbus 5 years ago that she discovered a love for this unique medium. Since then, Allina has chalked her mark in several events including the Cleveland Museum of art chalk festival as a featured artist and the Ohio state fair where she received the commissioners choice award. Now based in Cleveland, Ohio, Allina is thrilled to be back to participate in a chalk festival in her hometown.



TETIANA TALANOVA

Born in Mykolaiv, Ukraine, Tetiana studied in Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts, receiving a Bachelor of Restoration and art conservation degree. Then studied in the National Academy of Fine Art and Architecture, receiving a Master of Restoration and art conservation degree. Tetiana then became a restorer of arts on wood base at the private gallery. Beginning in 2021, Tetiana became a freelance artist and icon painter, working as an assistant with Alex Maksiov. Since 2019, Tetiana has worked independently and participated in events worldwide.



ALEX MAKSIIV

📍 maksiov.com

Alex Maksiov was born in 1979. In 1991 he began to draw more seriously at the art studio and after went to study art at the Odessa Art College, Ukraine with a specialty in painting. In 2001 he continued his studies at the National Academy of Art and Architecture in Kyiv, Ukraine and received his Master's degree in Artwork Restoration of canvas oil painting in 2007. In the Academy Alex grew knowledgeable about the subject of perspective and draftsmanship. Then, in 2010 he started to make 3D paintings. He is now a prominent 3D street painter and is working on projects internationally. Alex was involved in making two Guinness Records (The longest anamorphic painting, Bangkok 2013) and The Biggest 3D Street Painting in the World, Venice USA, 2014.



ERIKA THURKINS

📍 sylphartstudios.com

📷 @sylphartstudios

📌 Sylph Art Studios

Erika first discovered her talent with chalk pastels in college, but fell into the street chalk life quite serendipitously many years later when filling in for a co-worker at a festival in New York. After several years of participating, she realized it had become her passion and learned of the wider world of professional chalking. She began traveling as a professional in 2018 and quickly grew national acclaim for her vivid and dynamic renderings.



PATRICK MCDONOUGH

Exhibiting artistic talent at an early age, Patrick was accepted into Tam O'Shanter School of Art in the 3rd grade later taking additional art classes in high school. Patrick joined the Military, serving in Vietnam. During his enlistment, he did artwork for many to send home to their sweethearts. Upon discharge, he was offered courses at CCAC. After meeting Coleman Joyce, founder of Joyce Signs, Patrick put his sights on billboard painting. He's continued his apprenticeship with him while he encouraged him to keep after his personal goal. Many years later Patrick was hired to create billboards for All-State where he got 18 years of experience doing pictorials on a large scale. Working anywhere from 20' to 200' up in the air in the tri-state area. He loved it even in the winter! Since then he has been doing portraits and various artwork for many including signs, always. Patrick started doing chalk art drawings about 3 years ago and has gone to several festivals in Pennsylvania and Florida.



PROGRAM PARTNERS



the warhol: academy



FOOD & DRINK

DRINK

Shorty's
PINS x PINTS

NORTH SHORE'S OWN
SHORTY'S PINS X PINTS

FOOD

BURGATORY

MILLIE'S

MOBILE CHEF

HUMMUS PITTSBURGH

MOMMLICIOUS

BRISKETBURGH

PGH CREPES

MCFEELY'S ARCTIC ICE

REVIVAL CHILI

1:11 JUICE BAR



ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES

MUSICAL LINEUP

DR. D AND THE EARTHTONES

ARIE COLE

BYRON NASH

PAGING DR. MOON

P.G.H. PARTY CREATIONS

FREE FACEPAINTING

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES



ABOUT RIVERLIFE

Since 1999, Riverlife has worked to create, activate, and celebrate Pittsburgh's riverfronts, connecting people through exceptional places and experiences. Riverlife has been a leader in building a community vision for over 15 miles and 1,055 acres of Downtown riverfront parks, trails, and public open space.

Learn more at riverlifepgh.org

Riverlife



THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

