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Berkshires Arts Festival Celebrates Ten Years in July

200 artists and artisans to exhibit works for sale in annual juried show, held on July 2, 3 and 4 at Ski Butternut in Great Barrington, Mass.

**Great Barrington, Mass.** – The Berkshires Arts Festival, one of the most anticipated summer events in the Berkshires, will be held July 2, 3 and 4 at Ski Butternut on Route 23 in Great Barrington, Mass. Now in its tenth year, the juried show features 200 artists and artisans from across the country and offers outstanding original works in ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography for display and sale. The three-day festival includes a robust schedule of musical performances, workshops, demonstrations, talks, performance artists, including magicians and fire-dancers, daily activities for children, and a delicious selection of food prepared by chefs from The Inn at Yellow Springs in Chester, Pa.

Festival hours are Saturday, July 2, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, July 3, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Monday, July 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$11 for adults; \$9 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival may be purchased for \$13. The show will be held, rain or shine, under tents, outdoors, and in the air-conditioned lodge at Ski Butternut. Ample free parking is available. For more information visit berkshiresartsfestival.com

The producers of Berkshires Arts Festival are Richard and Joanna Rothbard, artistic directors of American Art Marketing and owners of An American Craftsman galleries with locations in New York City, Savannah, Ga., and Stockbridge, Mass.

"We carefully select our exhibitors to present the best American artists and craftspeople working today. This year we have a range of tremendously talented exhibitors: from artists who live and work in the Berkshires to those coming from as far as Oregon. The works for sale range from beautiful and affordable handcrafted items to spectacular artworks that represent exceptional opportunities for collectors," said Festival Director Richard Rothbard, the creator of Boxology (boxology.com), his unique hand-crafted jewelry, music, story and puzzle boxes, and one-of-a-kind boxes made from natural burls.

Berkshires Arts Festival highlights include the works of David Bryce, who creates delightful figurative sculpture and narrative incised panels drawn in clay. His pieces express simple, everyday activities from the serene to the playful; each is suspended in an eternal moment of joy or contemplation. Bryce's Fly Creek Studio (flycreekstudio.com) is in North Egremont, Mass.

Also exhibiting at Berkshires Arts Festival is Jennifer Jordan Park of Wear Ever Custom Jewelry (weareverjewelry.com), based in Budd Lake, New Jersey. Park is an award-winning jewelry designer who creates distinctive gemstone jewelry in enamel, gold and silver. Her work employs a variety of techniques, including cloisonné and basse taille enameling, granulation, filigree, and chain making. Each of Park's lovely abstract designs is created to evoke a particular feeling or the suggestion of an animal or natural object.

One-of-a-kind wearables available at the show include stunning, handcrafted Native American and American western-inspired outerwear and accessories created by Rusty Dorr (rustydorr.com). Crafted from American deerskin, Spanish lamb, sheared beaver/nutria and a limited number of wild furs, all of Dorr's leathers are cut, punched, and laced by hand. Her work has been featured in many publications, such as *Vogue*, *Town and Country* and *GQ*.

For more information about the festival, including a full list of exhibitors and works for sale, go to berkshiresartsfestival.com