



For more information, contact:

Stephanie Gurley-Thomas, Public Relations Webster Arts (314) 616-8965 pr@wcaf.org

Jeane Vogel, Executive Director Webster Arts (314) 918-2671 j.vogel@wcaf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Webster Arts Fair Ranks 77th Best Show in the Nation

Sunshine Artist Magazine Gives Fair First National Ranking

St. Louis - October 18, 2016-<u>Webster Arts</u>' premier event, the <u>Webster Arts Fair</u>, has been ranked #77 in *Sunshine Artist* magazine's top 100 art fairs in the classic and contemporary craft category for calendar year 2015. Readers of the magazine chose the top 200 best shows in two categories, classic and contemporary craft show and fine arts and design show. This is the first time the Webster Art Fair has received a national ranking.

Sunshine Artist readers are surveyed on a variety of criteria which is distributed via ballot in the magazine's April issue. The 2015 results included shows from January through December 2015. The list appeared in Sunshine Artists September 2016 issue.

"We are honored and humbled to receive this ranking," said Kathie Cahoon, Webster Arts board president. "Last year we had 450 artists compete for just 105 spots at the fair. We were able to choose the best talents and works to showcase to our community."

Executive Director Jeane Vogel added, "A strong committee, a dedicated board, generous sponsors, 105 talented artists, and more than than 250 remarkable volunteers make a fair of this caliber possible. We are thrilled for the recognition this ranking brings to Webster Arts and to the St. Louis area."

The Webster Arts Fair, presented by Webster Arts, takes place on the first full weekend in June each year. A jury of three art professionals review the submitted work and choose what they think is the best fine art and fine craft to be included in the show. Works include original art in clay, ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, 2-D and 3-D mixed media, painting, photography, and sculpture.

The 14th annual Webster Art Fair will be held June 3-5, 2017 on the grounds of Webster University/Eden Theological Seminary in the heart of the historic Webster groves. Free and open to the public, the Webster Art Fair features 105 booths, on-site food from favorite local restaurants, non-stop live performances, art demonstrations, and creative activities that draws over 30,000 visitors and buyers to the area.

About Sunshine Artist

Sunshine Artist magazine is the leading publication for art and craft show exhibitors, promoters and patrons. Since 1972, Sunshine Artist has provided its readers with comprehensive reviews of everything from fine art fairs and festivals to small craft shows around the country, focusing on all aspects of the shows from sales to artist amenities to the quality of art or craft. We also include in each issue hundreds of art and craft show listings, including contacts, booth fees, application deadlines and the type of art/craft that the event accepts. Finally, in each issue you'll find features on everything from tips to boost your business to in-depth reports on current trends on the show circuit.

About Webster Arts

<u>Webster Arts</u> is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Webster Groves, Missouri. Founded in 2003, Webster Arts bring art to life by providing opportunities for people of all ages to engage in and enjoy the arts through programs, partnerships, and collaborations. <u>www.webster-arts.org</u>