

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 13, 2018 Lauren Kistner, Director of Marketing & Communications 314.615.5277 / <u>lkistner@laumeier.org</u>

Laumeier Sculpture Park Hosts 31st Annual Art Fair, presented by Emerson, on Mother's Day Weekend

(ST. LOUIS, MO)—Laumeier Sculpture Park hosts the 31st Annual Art Fair, presented by Emerson, May 11– 13, 2018. More than 15,000 patrons attend this annual three-day event on Mother's Day weekend, featuring local food and beverage vendors, hands-on activities for kids, live music and up to 150 juried artists from across the country exhibiting work in ten media categories: ceramics, fiber/textiles, glass, jewelry, mixed media, painting, photography/digital, printmaking/drawing, sculpture and wood. The Annual Art Fair is produced in partnership with <u>St. Louis County Parks</u>; event proceeds support the nonprofit's mission of engaging the community through art and nature.

Highlights of the weekend include the City of Sunset Hills Music Festival, free with event admission on Saturday, May 12, and the Edward Jones Creation Location, free with event admission on Saturday and Sunday, offering activities and entertainment for kids and families. Main stage entertainment includes Sean Canan's Voodoo Players, Grace Basement, Dave Black, The Big Rigs, The Kasimu-tet, Naked Rock Fight and Trixie Delight, among others. Concessions vendors include 4 Hands Brewing Co., Beer Outside, Blues Fired Pizza, Capitalist Pig BBQ, Essentially Fries, Mission Taco Joint, Narwhal's Crafted Urban Ice and Schlafly Beer, among others.

Laumeier received more than 400 artist applications for this year's event—an increase of 50 applications from last year. All artists ages 18 and up who exhibit work of original concept, design and execution are eligible to apply; total participation is limited to 150 artists. Cash and prizes totaling \$5,000 are awarded to those artists judged the best overall, regardless of media category, on Saturday, May 12.

The 2018 jury panel included Jessica Baran, Poet, Curator and Associate Director of Curatorial & Program Development, Barrett Barrera Projects and projects+gallery; Sandra Marchewa, Artist and Former Co-Director, PSTL Gallery; and Adam Watkins, Artist, Curator, Musician and Coordinator of Fine & Performing Art, East Central College. The 2018 judges panel includes Robert Bullivant, Director, Bullivant Gallery; Patricia Fribis, Mayor of Sunset Hills; and Gina Grafos, Artist, Curator and Photography Education Specialist, Washington University in St. Louis, Maryville University and the Dark Room.

What:	31st Annual Art Fair, presented by Emerson Produced in partnership with St. Louis County Parks
Where:	Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63127
When:	Friday, May 11, 6:00–10:00 p.m. Saturday, May 12, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Sunday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Admission:	\$10; Laumeier Members and ages 10 and under are FREE Admission can be purchased on site or in advance at <u>www.laumeier.org/shop</u> . No physical tickets.
Sponsors:	Emerson, Edward Jones, City of Sunset Hills, Renewal by Andersen, Ameren, UMB Bank
Media Partners:	Call Newspapers, GO! Magazine, KDHX, 103.3 KLOU, Riverfront Times, Sauce Magazine, St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles, St. Louis Public Radio, Y98 FM
In-Kind Donors:	Kaldi's Coffee, Mediterranean Foods, Pearl Pro Audio, Schlafly Beer, Whole Foods Market

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Laumeier Sculpture Park: Engaging the community through art and nature / Laumeier Sculpture Park is one of the first and largest dedicated sculpture parks in the country. Laumeier is an internationally recognized, nonprofit arts organization that is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks. Laumeier presents 60 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture in a 105-acre park located in the heart of St. Louis County. Free and open daily, Laumeier serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year through sculpture conservation, education programs, temporary exhibitions and public events.