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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** Lori Brooks, director of communications  
405 951 0000 | [lbrooks@okcontemp.org](mailto:lbrooks@okcontemp.org)



## **Art of Brunch Combines High-End Food and Drink with Local and Live Art**

This summer, Oklahoma Contemporary will bring a new kind of event to Oklahoma City: The Art of Brunch. The fundraising event – which will feature a chef-curated menu, bottomless mimosas, live art-making and a VIP tour of a sculpture park – will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 17, outdoors at Campbell Art Park (NW 11<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, the site of Oklahoma Contemporary’s future home).

“The Art of Brunch combines local art with high-end food and drink to create the kind of unique experience metro residents deserve,” said Jayme Phillips, event manager. “This event celebrates everything exciting from downtown and beyond: We’re collaborating with some of the city’s best chefs, the area’s top artists and Automobile Alley businesses to create something entirely new and fresh.”

The 21-and-older event, held in conjunction with Guerrilla Art Park, will take place just outside the Oklahoma Contemporary Showroom. All proceeds will help ensure art exhibitions at Oklahoma Contemporary will continue to be offered free of charge year-round.

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Three local restaurants – Stella Modern Italian Cuisine, Hatch and another to be confirmed – will provide signature dishes for the event. Itsy Bites, a gourmet mini-doughnut truck out of the Dallas metro, will offer “build your own doughnuts” with a variety of infused-sugar toppings and unique glazes. Itsy Bites is also creating a custom Art of Brunch doughnut.

The bar will include bottomless mimosas (with champagne from Waters Edge Winery), wine (from Artisan Fine Wine) and locally brewed beer. Waters Edge will sell custom, Art of Brunch-themed champagne at the event. Coffee Slingers will provide a specialty coffee bar.

“The Art of Brunch is going to be an incredible party: great food, drink and friends, fun takeaways and a celebration of art,” said committee chair Aimee Harlow. “Plus: It’s not day drinking if it’s brunch!”

Guests will also get a VIP tour of the second installment of Guerrilla Art Park, which features public works from six Oklahoma artists. This year, many of the artists chose to focus on the outdoors as seen in Liz Dueck’s ceramic stones, Kyle Golding’s industrial wheat field and Gary Batzloff’s abstracted Oklahoma landscape. Other artists found their inspiration elsewhere: Rick and Tracey Bewley’s stained-glass installations explore transparency and color, and Desmond Mason continues his flag series with his first work in metal.

Continuing the theme of local creativity, artists will create and sell live art for Art of Brunch attendees: Short Order Poets will craft poems on demand, and sketch artist Leanne Regan Fitzpatrick will draw fashion-plate illustrations of attendees. Guests can also play lawn games like giant checkers, Connect Four and Jenga. All vinyl DJ collective Carte Blanche will provide music, and MVP Photo Booth will be on hand to capture the day for guests.

Space is limited, so metro residents should move quickly: Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at [bit.ly/ArtofBrunch](http://bit.ly/ArtofBrunch). All food, drink, games and photos are included in the ticket price. Guests can also take home a free Art of Brunch parasol.

Sponsorships, which (among other benefits) include tickets to the event, start at \$500. Major sponsors include Glenna and Dick Tanenbaum, Julie and Mark Beffort, Kim and Jon Shirley, St. Anthony’s Hospital and Interior Gilt.

The Art of Brunch event committee is chaired by Aimee Harlow and Lori Burson. Members include Kirsten Griffin, Amy Richter Bankhead, Glenna Tanenbaum, Dana Garner, Brad Simons, Lauren Johnson, Rich Johnson, Tomra Russell, Brenna See, Julie Beffort and Nick O’Hara.

For more information, visit [oklahomacontemporary.org](http://oklahomacontemporary.org) or call 405-951-0000.

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Interviews with the committee and Oklahoma Contemporary staff and photos can be organized through Director of Communications Lori Brooks ([lbrooks@okcontemp.org](mailto:lbrooks@okcontemp.org)).

Past press releases and additional information are archived at [oklahomacontemporary.org/about/media](http://oklahomacontemporary.org/about/media).

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## **About Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center**

Currently located at State Fair Park, Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center aims to encourage artistic expression in all its forms through education and exhibitions. We endeavor to instill in the public a lifetime appreciation of the arts and enthusiasm for creative practice through a broad range of educational programs, exhibitions and cultural offerings, including:

- Youth art camps that help students begin a lifetime relationship with art and creativity.
- Art classes and workshops where students of all ages find the chance to learn and grow.
- Exhibitions that feature the work of emerging and mid-career artists.
- Free public lectures, artist talks and events that enrich Oklahoma City's cultural offerings.

Oklahoma Contemporary is in the midst of a capital campaign to create a spectacular new arts education and cultural resource on a 4.6-acre site at NW 11th and Broadway in Oklahoma City. The arts education campus will include:

A four-story, 50,000-square-foot building with classrooms, galleries, a dance studio and a black-box theater to promote learning about the artists of our time and educating those to come. Expanded classes in ceramics, fiber, painting, sculpture, drawing and dance, plus a new media curriculum with programs in filmmaking, animation, photography, web design and 3-D printing. A remodeled 10,000-square-foot building will house an Industrial Arts program, focusing on wood, ceramics, metal and jewelry. Grounds with space for outdoor sculpture exhibits, children's art education activities and outdoor music, movie and drama productions.

Oklahoma Contemporary is a regional 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization founded in 1989 by businessman and philanthropist Christian Keese and Kirkpatrick Foundation Director Marilyn Myers. Marfa Contemporary is the organization's first regional extension.