

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



# 34th Annual Chalk Festival, September 16-17, at the Cleveland Museum of Art

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Todd Mesek

The Cleveland Museum of Art  
[tmesek@clevelandart.org](mailto:tmesek@clevelandart.org)  
 216-707-2261

*Two family-friendly days to enjoy sidewalk art inspired by Italian Renaissance tradition*

[PRESS KIT](#)


**Cleveland (September 7, 2023)**—Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to participate in the [2023 Chalk Festival](#) at the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) on **Saturday, September 16, and Sunday, September 17, noon to 5:00 p.m.**, rain or shine. This annual event, started in 1990, features sidewalk artistry by professional chalk artists and local community groups, families, and individuals, making the CMA's south plaza and walkways through the Fine Arts Garden and Wade Lagoon come alive with color.

The Chalk Festival is a modern expression of a Renaissance tradition from 16th-century Italy in which artists copied paintings of the Madonna by Raphael and his contemporaries using chalk on the plazas outside cathedrals. This year's Chalk Festival features artists Sequoia Bostick, Bruno Casiano, Debra Sue Solecki, and students from Cleveland Institute of Art.

Everyone can participate in the Chalk Festival! To chalk your own creation, visit the registration tent in the Fine Arts Garden to purchase your pavement square. Chalk pastels suitable for the museum's pavement are included in the purchase.

- \$10 small square (includes a 12-count box of chalk pastels)
- \$20 large square (includes a 24-count box of chalk pastels)

No reservations will be taken. The Chalk Festival is **free** to visitors wishing to enjoy the artists' work and listen to live outdoor music provided by Ropa Vieja. Food trucks are available at the bottom of the Fine Arts Garden, and the museum café is open during the festival.

The [Community Arts Center \(CAC\)](#) is also offering a [Mini Chalk Festival](#) on **Sunday, September 10, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The CAC is located at 2937 West 25th Street in Cleveland. Free parking is available in the adjacent lot on Castle Avenue. No reservations are needed. Chalk your own art alongside Chalk Festival artist Sequoia Bostick as she creates a large-scale chalk drawing for all to enjoy. All art supplies, instructions, music, and popsicles are provided free of charge.

# # #

## About the Cleveland Museum of Art

The Cleveland Museum of Art is renowned for the quality and breadth of its collection, which includes more than 63,000 artworks and spans 6,000 years of achievement in the arts. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and performing arts and is a leader in digital innovations. One of the top comprehensive art museums in the nation, recognized for its award-winning Open Access program and free of charge to all, the Cleveland Museum of Art is located in the University Circle neighborhood.

The museum is supported in part by residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and made possible in part by the Ohio Arts Council (OAC), which receives support from the State of Ohio and the National Endowment for the Arts. The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally and economically. For more information about the museum and its holdings, programs and events, call 888-CMA-0033 or visit [cma.org](http://cma.org).

## Press

[Press Announcements](#)