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Artisphere exhibit showcases



Soaring Orchids, acrylic on board, by Frances Woodside

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Artisphere, Greenville's Arts Weekend, gets under way Friday, with everything an award-winning festival is capable of offering to its visitors.

Friday through May 10, 100 booths will line Main Street to display and sell fine visual arts and crafts. The Culinary Arts Cafe will tempt the strollers with chefs' bests, while street and stage performers vie for visitors' attention.

But not all the fun is out in the open.

A gallery exhibit at

Greenville artists' work

Metropolitan Arts Council headquarters, 16 Augusta St., will highlight the work of some of Greenville's finest visual artists during the festival and beyond, says MAC executive director Alan Ethridge.

The exhibit, "One-Stop Open Studios," is a retrospective featuring works of artists who've participated in MAC's Open Studios tour over the past seven years.

The exhibit offers "a quality complementary enhancement to the Artisphere visitor," Ethridge says, by providing an indoor, one-stop exhibit of works by Open Studios artists.

To aficionados of the November Open Studios tour, a two-day trek to various Greenville-area artists' studios, the "One-Stop" exhibit means reacquaintance with some of their favorite artists.

For the newcomer, the May 8-June 26 show offers an introduction to Greenville's top visual artists and an opportunity to sample their works, all in one spot.

Ethridge says the show is an excellent opportunity to both learn about and purchase art from professional artists living and working in the Greenville community.

A catalog of artist statements, samples of artists' work and contact information will be available at the MAC and office gallery beginning Thursday.

YOU CAN GO

What: "One-Stop Open Studios"
When: Opening reception 7-10 p.m. Thursday; exhibit open Friday-Sunday during the Artisphere festival; also, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through June 26.
Where: MAC office and gallery, 16 Augusta St.
Admission: Free
Information: 467-3132