Average sales increase at Artisphere

NEWS STAFF

Average sales at Artisphere this year were up almost $1,000 per artist, a benchmark that organizers link to patron satisfaction, executive director Kerry Murphy said Monday.

In addition, the event pumped an estimated $1.7 million into the local economy over the May 11-13 weekend, she said. And all that came despite a soggy Sunday during the event.

In eight years, Artisphere has grown into a top U.S. art show, five times ranked a Top 50 Fine Arts Festival by Greg Lawler's Art Fair Sourcebook and three times named one of Sunshine Artists magazine's 100 Best Fine Arts Shows.

This year's festival received applications from almost 900 artists for 120 spots.