



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Participate in a Mother's Day Weekend Tradition in Kirkland
The Seventh Annual Kirkland Artist Studio Tour
Saturday, May 8 and Sunday, May 9, 2010



Kirkland, WA. The Kirkland Arts Center is pleased to present the **Seventh Annual Kirkland Artist Studio Tour (KAST)** this Mother's Day Weekend, May 8 and 9 from 10 AM to 6 PM, both days.

About Kirkland Artist Studio Tour (KAST)

Kirkland Artist Studio Tour is a free, self-guided tour of artist studios. This year 20 studios throughout the scenic neighborhoods of Kirkland will open their doors to the public. About 50 local artists will be featured on the tour this year.

KAST is fast becoming a popular annual Mother's Day Weekend tradition in Kirkland – affording everyone who attends a rare opportunity to see where and how artists work, in a variety of art styles and mediums. All KAST artists this year will be on location both days of the Tour to answer questions and talk personally with visitors about their artwork. Some studios will offer art-making demonstrations throughout the weekend. Visitors will be able to see works in various stages of completion. All finished works displayed will be available for purchase directly from the artists themselves.

During KAST weekend, Kirkland Arts Center will be open to visitors both Saturday and Sunday, offering ongoing clay demonstrations in the Ceramics Studio. On Saturday from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM, KAC presents Art For All – a fun, drop-in event for families and guests of all ages. We'll be glazing handmade pots and firing Raku style.

Studio tour participants are invited to plan their own tour route, and may preview the many participating KAST artists at www.kirklandstudiotour.com. Look for KAST street signs throughout Kirkland over Mother's Day Weekend; these will guide tour-goers to the various studios around town. Individual maps and the official KAST catalog (maps are included) may be downloaded from the website or picked up at **Kirkland Arts Center, has** (Kirkland Arts Center's store in Parkplace Center), or at various business locations in downtown Kirkland.

- What:** Kirkland Artist Studio Tour (KAST)
<http://www.kirklandstudiotour.com/>
- When:** Saturday, May 8 and Sunday, May 9, 10 AM to 5 PM
- Cost:** FREE
- Where:** Artist studio locations throughout Kirkland. For more information and for catalog/maps: visit online at <http://www.kirklandstudiotour.com/> or stop by **Kirkland Arts Center (KAC)**, 620 Market Street, Kirkland
has, KAC's Art Store at Kirkland Parkplace at 336 Parkplace, Kirkland

Generous support for KAST has been provided by 4Culture, The City of Kirkland, Kirkland Cultural Council, and the Kirkland Half Marathon.

For information about visiting Kirkland, including restaurants and lodging, visit Kirkland's tourism pages at www.explorekirkland.com.

About Kirkland Arts Center

Founded in 1962 and housed in the historic Peter Kirk Building (built in 1892), Kirkland Arts Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the visual arts through art classes, workshops, gallery exhibitions, and community-related arts programming. Kirkland Arts Center classes in ceramics, painting, drawing, and printmaking serve students of all ages and all skill levels.

Kirkland Arts Center is currently one of 25 historic Puget Sound sites competing for preservation funding through Partners In Preservation, a project of American Express and National Trust for Historic Preservation. The public is invited to go online daily at www.PartnersInPreservation.com through May 12, 2010 to place their votes for the institution they would most like to see receive preservation funding through this project.

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