

SunSentinel

THE WEEKENDER



Chalk artists work on their piece during the 2020 Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival. Once again this year, Lake and Lucerne avenues in downtown Lake Worth Beach will become a canvas for artists who create works for thousands of visitors. **LEE HERSHFELD/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

Portraits on pavement

Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival to present asphalt art this weekend

By Kari Barnett
South Florida Community News

The asphalt artists who transform the streets of downtown Lake Worth Beach into a temporary outdoor art museum every February are getting ready to — literally — lean into their work.

They'll lay out their pieces of chalk in a rainbow of colors, don their floppy hats, apply a lot of sunscreen, strap on some knee pads and sketch outlines for their masterpieces on pavement. Will they choose a pet portrait, an eye-popping 3D piece, a cartoon character or a superstar athlete to showcase their street-art skills?

Visitors to this weekend's Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival will find out, as more than 600 artists have been selected to set up along Lake and Lucerne avenues, turning the downtown's main thoroughfares into makeshift canvases for onlookers who can watch the progress in real time.

COVID-19 regulations in early 2021 forced organizers to make a pandemic

pivot: The festival went virtual through hashtags and social media posts.

Then the city of Lake Worth Beach took over the festival in June 2021, when its founding members, including artist coordinator and executive director Maryanne Webber, retired after nearly three decades of volunteering to organize the event.

The 2022 festival was the first one run by the city — with Lauren Bennett, director of Leisure Services Department, at the helm.

So how was the transition? "Great," she said. "City event staff worked the event logistics with the previous event organizer, so the only new addition to learn was registering and placing the artists."

Every year, the event draws thousands of people to downtown Lake Worth Beach during its two-day run over the last weekend in February, but there were other reasons for keeping the tradition going for future generations, Bennett said.

"This event is a great way to show off just how amazing the city of Lake Worth Beach is," she said. "The event



Delray Beach artist Jeanie Burns (seen here in 2022) plans to create another colorful portrait for her 26th year participating in the Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival. **JEANIE BURNS**

is a wonderful way to bring so many members of our community together but, most importantly, it brings amazing art to life for everyone of all walks of life to appreciate and enjoy."

The artists

Many street painting festival organizers around the country attribute the origins of street-side chalk art drawings to the 16th-century Italian artists who paid tribute to the religious symbol Madonna. Called the Madon-

nari, the artists used chalk and pastels to draw depictions of the Virgin Mary onto pavement.

The Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival pays homage to that tradition. Participating artists send in an application and are selected by a committee.

"The artwork needs to be appropriate for a family friendly event," Bennett said about the selection process.

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The 'Ferris Bueller' Ferrari and GNR at Hard Rock Live



Ben Crandell
Go Guide

This is a big weekend in Palm Beach County for cars, with some of the world's most desired vehicles on display at the Boca Raton Concours d'Elegance (including a convertible once owned by Amelia Earhart), while a fundraiser in Delray Beach will celebrate one of the iconic joy rides in pop culture by hosting the Ferrari from "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." We do love our cars.

Which makes the annual Street Painting Festival in Lake Worth Beach such an irreverent delight: The city essentially bans cars from its busiest thoroughfares for a weekend so art can take place on the asphalt for block after block. No worries



"Ferris Bueller's Day Off," with Matthew Broderick, right, in the title role, featured multiple replicas of a 1961 Ferrari 250 GT, one of which was destroyed in the movie. **UNIVERSAL PICTURES**

about some Miami philistine knocking a \$42,000 artwork to the floor — it's already there!

Thursday

The champs are here: The 2022 World Series champion Houston Astros, who are getting ready to defend their title with spring training at nearby Ballpark of the Palm Beaches, will be celebrated at the weekly Clematis By Night

concert series in downtown West Palm Beach on Thursday. The 6-9 p.m. waterfront event will include baseball-themed activities, photo opportunities with the World Series Trophy, player appearances and more. The first 100 attendees will receive a free hotdog and an Astros promotional item. Entertainment will be by

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Afro Carib Festival brings reggae, Afrobeats stars to Miramar this Saturday

By Rod Stafford Hagwood
South Florida Sun Sentinel

The hottest reggae music ticket just might be in Miramar. That's where the third annual Afro Carib Festival will take place from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Miramar Regional Park Amphitheater.

The bill is an impressive list of reggae, hip-hop/rap, R&B, house, Afrobeats, compas direk, reggaeton and Latin Urbano artists, including Koffee, Tekno, J. Perry, Jacob Forever as well as South Floridians Alexander Star and Yung Wylm'.

Koffee "was really a good catch because, as you know, she's Grammy Award-winning," said Miramar City Commissioner Alexandra P. Davis. "She's also nominated this year, and so to get her would have been a real prize, and we did. We pulled out all the stops, and she's going to be on as a



Grammy Award winner Koffee, a Jamaican reggae singer, songwriter, rapper and guitarist, will perform at the Afro Carib Festival on Saturday. **AFRO CARIB FESTIVAL**

headliner?"

Davis first produced the festival in February 2020 and it celebrates both Black History Month and Reggae Month.

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baseball-friendly party dogs Spred the Dub. Visit WPB.org.

Swindle in South Florida: Just a reminder that the cheeky circus known as The Great Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium and Drink-Ory Garden will occupy its climate-controlled big-top tent in Mizner Park Thursday through Sunday, the final days on its Boca Raton stop. The 90-minute, adult-oriented show has performances at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 4 and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Prices range from \$55 to \$90. The Drink-Ory Garden is a beer garden that opens one hour before each show and offers beer, wine, cocktails, food and snacks for purchase. Visit MrSwindles.com.

Friday

Hallandale groove: The South Beach Wine & Food Festival is back this weekend and will make its lone visit to Broward County by barely stepping over the line into Hallandale Beach. On Friday at Icebox Cafe in Hallandale Beach, chef Omar Martinez will co-host a dinner with Jernard Wells, the author and chef with numerous Food Network and Cooking Channel appearances. The 7-10 p.m. event costs \$175+ at SoBeWFF.org/icebox. Your ticket to the dinner can be bundled with a complimentary ticket to Hallandale Beach Food & Groove, which takes place 7-11 p.m. Saturday at The Village at Gulfstream Park. The evening will spotlight more than 18 restaurants from the city serving food from Haiti, Jamaica, Thailand, Argentina, Colombia, Turkey, Peru and other countries. Tickets cost \$75+ at SoBeWFF.org/groove.

Cars & cigars: Hagerty Garage & Social in Delray Beach and the Red Meat Lovers Club will join forces for a night of cars, food



Guns N' Roses are on their way to Hard Rock Live in Hollywood. Tickets go on sale Friday. COURTESY

and cigars that includes an appearance by a red Ferrari seen in the classic film "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." (There were four replica 1961 Ferrari 250 GT models in the movie — one was destroyed in that iconic scene.) The gathering will take place 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday at the Hagerty Garage, a 60,000-square-foot, walk-in closet containing hundreds of collectible cars, at 777 S. Congress Ave. The Bueller theme will continue through a Chicago-oriented menu created by Sexzchef of Potions in Motion. Tickets start at \$100, with proceeds going to the nonprofit Hagerty Drivers Foundation, which celebrates "automotive culture and heritage." Visit RMLClub.com/events.

Friday laughs: A comedian and actor of unassuming depth — his recent revelatory, Emmy-nominated role on the Netflix comedy "The Kominsky Method" still lingers — Paul Reiser performs at 8 p.m. Friday at The Parker in Fort Lauderdale. Tickets start at \$27.50+ at ParkerPlayhouse.com.

Ticket window: Guns N' Roses (Axl, Slash, Duff) will bring their 2023 arena and stadium world tour to Hard Rock Live in Hollywood on Sept. 15, with tickets on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at GunsNRoses.com. ... Tickets for Depeche Mode's stop at Miami-Dade Arena on Oct. 12 go

on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at DepecheMode.com. ... Tickets to see P!NK at Miami-Dade Arena on Nov. 14, supporting her new album, "Trustfall," go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at Ticketmaster.com. ... Garbage and Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds will do a co-headlining summer tour that includes a show at iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre in West Palm Beach on June 21. Tickets start at \$22.13 each as part of a lawn four-pack at LiveNation.com.

Weekend movies: Magnolia Pictures' packages of Oscar-nominated live-action, animated and documentary short films are making the rounds of South Florida theaters in the run-up to the Academy Awards on March 12, including Friday's debut at Savor Cinema in Fort Lauderdale. Unspooling at anywhere from 8 to 40 minutes, these small films are sure to beguile, provoke and entertain. Tickets cost \$12, or \$10 for students, seniors and military. For the lineup of films, schedule and advance tickets, visit FLIFF.com/oscarshorts.

Saturday

Art at your feet: As we were saying, the 29th annual Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival takes over a pedestrian-friendly section of downtown along Lake and Lucerne avenues on Saturday from 10 a.m.



Spred the Dub will co-headline Clematis by Night in downtown West Palm Beach on Thursday with the World Champion Houston Astros. SPRED THE DUB

to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. It's free to walk and gawk as the down-to-earth, chalk-art exhibition takes shape, plus there will be top local musicians and bands performing on four stages throughout the weekend. Pro tip: Park at Palm Beach State College and take the free shuttle, running 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. Another shuttle will make loops from the LWB Tri-Rail station. Visit SPF.LakeWorthBeachFL.gov.

Day drinking: The Fort Lauderdale Beer, Wine and Spirits Fest takes over downtown's Esplanade Park on Saturday, offering a one-stop shop to reunite with favorite friends (3 Sons Brewing, Gulf Stream Brewing, Funky Buddha) and to meet new ones such as Persimmon Hollow Brewing (well-regarded beer from DeLand), Ghost Tequila (spiked with ghost pepper) and Dough Ball Whiskey (yes, cookie dough-flavored hooch). You do you. There will be two sessions, 1-4:30 p.m. and 6-9:30 p.m., with tickets at \$60+ per session (designated driver \$15+). Visit FloridaFests.com/fl-fest.

Cornhole for good: A couple of weeks after bad weather KO'd the original event, Hoppotunities beer hall in Delray Beach plans to throw its second annual Cornhole for the Kids fundraiser at 1 p.m. Saturday, a benefit for nonprofit

Achievement Centers for Children & Families. Registration costs \$65 per team and includes two beers. There will be prizes for the top two teams. Visit Facebook.com/hoppotunities.

Sunday

Walk with Rocco: One of the good guys in the South Florida hospitality industry, Rocco Mangel will again step up for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society during Walk MS in downtown West Palm Beach on Sunday morning. The founding partner of Rocco's Tacos and Tequila Bar, diagnosed with MS in 2016, is hoping Team Rocco can raise \$75,000 during the event, which includes 1- and 3-mile courses beginning at Meyer Amphitheater. The site opens at 7 a.m., with the walk at 8:30 a.m. To register or to donate, visit JoinTeamRocco.com. In addition, through the end of the month, when Rocco's Tacos patrons order a Black Diamond margarita, a Santo Blanco shot or purchase a bottle of Santo Blanco Tequila, the proceeds will be donated to the National MS Society. For more information, visit Facebook.com/RoccosTacosandTequilaBar.

Up on the woof: The third annual Fur the Love Pet Fest will take over the fifth-floor rooftop of the Las Olas Beach Garage in Fort Lauderdale on Sunday

from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with circus-themed entertainers, food, bars, vendors, games and music from DJ Ed Whitty. Hosted by the four-legged Instagram personality @TourwithTeddy, the event's admission is \$10, with proceeds supporting programs at The LOOP (Las Olas Oceanside Park), including the free Dog Days of Summer movie series and the Wonderland holiday party. Visit FTLPetFest.com.

Rare rides: After a week-end of receptions, celebrity (including Dale Earnhardt Jr.), entertainment (comedian David Spade is this year's headliner) and private hobnobbing, the 16th annual Boca Raton Concours d'Elegance will begin at 10 a.m. Sunday with more than 200 of the finest collector cars and motorcycles from around the country on the show field at The Boca Raton. Highlights include a 1937 Cord 812 Phaeton convertible (originally owned by Amelia Earhart), a 1933 Chrysler Imperial LeBaron (one of fewer than 20 still in existence) and other automotive rarities. Tickets for Sunday's car show cost \$125, and \$50 for guests age 6-17 at BocaCDE.com.

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