

Hornell Arts Council Brings Broadway Arts Festival Up-To-Date

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Hornell, NY - The 2009 Hornell Summer Arts Festival, will showcase up to 30 local artists on Broadway Mall, Saturday, Aug. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Summer Arts Festival, sponsored by the re-vamped Hornell Area Arts Council (HAAC), gives local artists an opportunity to promote and sell their art work in their local community. This year's festival hosts a broad spectrum of creative talent, offering works in ceramic, wood, fiberglass, paint, stone, photography and print mediums. "We are trying to create an environment which responds to local artists' needs," said HAAC board member David J. Glover. "There are a lot of talented artists in the Hornell area. It is the Arts Council's goal to bring the creative energy of these artists together, to share information and generate opportunities to display and sell art works." The event will kick off at 10 a.m. with music from popular local duo The Bard Brothers. In the afternoon, guests can enjoy the multi-instrumental rhythms of The Sound Foundation; soloist Ralph Berardi will round off the event. Local artist and HAAC board member Doug Sciorra said "It would be great if these talented local musicians were able to jam together during the event. That's the kind of interaction between artists we want to promote." Hornell Summer Arts Festival is not as elaborate as some other arts festivals in the area. "We're starting again from scratch after more than ten years," points out Teresa Van Etten, AU class of 1998 and president of the HAAC since its re-inception in April 2008. Glover, who intends to stand for election as the next Arts Council president, acknowledges the hard work Van Etten has put into the project saying "we need to build up interest from both artists and the local community. If we can cultivate the help and support necessary, the Hornell Summer Arts Festival can become a financially lucrative opportunity for local artists and retailers and, at the same time, be an event that people look forward to attending every year." After the event the Arts Council intends to apply for grants and research alternative funding sources, allowing the group to put on more events and work towards the Hornell Arts Center proposed by Mayor Shawn Hogan. There are only a few booth spaces left, artists interested in having a booth at the festival should contact Van Etten at 607.968.0896 or at HAAC2008@gmail.com.