

Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation Fact Sheet for Friends Groups—Art in the Park

Art—like beauty—is in the eye of the beholder and *Art in the Park* events can take as many forms as there are eyes to behold them! Whatever its form, *Art in the Park* is a great way to connect art, people of all ages, and nature!

For purposes of this fact sheet, *Art in the Park* refers specifically to sponsoring a step by step painting class. The event can be offered several times during the year in different seasons. The Friends group would purchase the easels, brushes, paint, and canvas. The participant brings their own chair. The original outlay of money for supplies will be recouped by a fee paid to participate. The easels and brushes will be reused each time you hold the event.

A “painting party” shop may be in your town or nearby. And enterprises usually involve a party atmosphere, we think nature can be liberating participants’ creativity!



A lakeside is the perfect setting for an art class
Photo: Friends of Cowans Gap

have opened recently in although these commercial adding a little wine to the that just being outside in enough to unleash your

Instructor: Ask local artists if they are interested in providing their expertise. To find interested people you can ask on Facebook, contact art teachers and local artists. See if you can offer free camp site for the weekend of the class to the instructor as a thank you.

Location: Any beautiful setting in your state park or forest! Nature is the inspiration! Be sure there is a large enough spot to set up easels and chairs for your artists. Having a pavilion or pop-ups to use in case of rain would be helpful.



The finished product
Photo: Friends of Cowans Gap

Promotion: Use Facebook and local papers to advertise the date, time and how to sign up. Also flyers in the park office and on bulletin boards.

Sponsorship: Ask at local craft stores to see if they are willing to donate paint, brushes, canvas, and easels.

Price: \$25 per person for the instruction and they get to take home their art work.

Friends Group Resources:

The Friends of Cowans Gap were the source for much of the information in this fact sheet.

Friends of Cowans Gap: 717.552.9752



The entries go on display
Photo: Friends of Nolde Forest

The Friends of Nolde Forest sponsor an art competition for their local schools and have information to share on their version of *Art in the Park*. Russell Slocum, owner of the art gallery where the works appear, helps to organize.

Friends of Nolde Forest: 610.375.9122

For the Friends of Ridley Creek, art always takes the form of photography, with an annual photo contest to salute submissions taken in the park.

Friends of Ridley Creek: 610.764.8978

The Friends of Shawnee sponsor an art show and gallery with works from local artists, photographers, and craftspeople on display at the Shawnee Beachhouse throughout much of the summer. If you have a good, high-traffic location (and the ability to watch over the art works at specific times), you might consider this version of the event.

Friends of Shawnee: 814.977.5193



Talent comes in many sizes
Photo: Friends of Ridley Creek



An art show is a great time for a gala opening/party
Photo: Friends of Shawnee