

# WATERFIRE SHARON

the region's newest and most creative arts event series

*Imagine...*

Over fifty sparkling bonfires on the Shenango River, the aroma of cedar and pine in the air, flickering firelight and silhouettes of firetenders passing by the flames as you stroll along the river and city streets enjoying enchanting music, ethnic food tastings and performers from around the globe. Dance to the sounds of a big band under the stars in an outdoor ballroom after participating in unique arts experiences throughout the day with the entire family. This is **WaterFire Sharon**.

Each day-long event begins at 10:00 a.m. and offers music, food and interactive arts experiences centered on a unique theme; all free of charge to the public. Actual WaterFire performances begin at dusk. Attendees can take a leisurely boat ride during lightings, experiencing the performance in a more intimate way. Fire performers and other event entertainers add to the experience on, and around, the river; all accompanied by an enchanting mix of live and recorded music. The day ends at the WaterFire Ballroom, part of the grand WaterFire installation, featuring live music, dance lessons, dance demonstrations and open dancing under the stars.

## ArtBeat – August 3, 2013

The beats of world drums accompany the August 3rd WaterFire Sharon lighting as we celebrate the art of life with *ArtBeat* and the first *WaterFire Sharon Arts Festival*. Core instruments in life and evolution, drums are the world's oldest and most ubiquitous musical instruments. Used in ritual ceremonies, communication, war, peace and celebration, drumming is at once an expression of place in any characterization of cultural identity along with a reflection of the interconnectedness of those cultures.

Begin the *ArtBeat* experience with a 5K run/walk in partnership with the Community Food Warehouse and Reyers shoe store. Literally watch the day go by as artists trace the shadows of event happenings, transforming everyday occurrences into artwork. Enjoy a diverse range of performances on the WaterFire Main Stage and throughout the city at our colorful and quirky performance dot community stages. Experience a diverse range of art and art making activities as you stroll through the city-wide WaterFire Sharon Arts Festival tents and the Homegrown Art and Craft Extravaganza at the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center.

Grab a bite to eat at one of the many ethnic food booths or city-wide dining establishments before the beats of world drums open the WaterFire lighting at dusk with a performance you will not forget. Watch the spectacle of 100 runners carrying the flames of WaterFire through the city and to the Shenango River as fire performers literally turn those flames into performance art as they run to the beats of an exhilarating drum performance.

Enjoy the aroma of cedar and pine in the air, flickering firelight and silhouettes of firetenders passing by the flames until Midnight during the *ArtBeat WaterFire* lighting as fire performers spin lighted poi and enchant you with other fire spectacles. Take a boat ride and experience the multi-sensory event in a more intimate way. Finish off the day swing dancing to the beats of Dr. Zoot at the WaterFire Ballroom.

Below is a listing of featured *ArtBeat* events. Please visit [www.waterfiresharonpa.org](http://www.waterfiresharonpa.org) for more information and events.

### **WaterFire Sharon Arts Festival**

*ArtBeat Arts Festival* is a celebration of the arts and provides artists with a venue to display and sell their work to a large, interested audience. *ArtBeat* festival artists exemplify the gifted artists in the region and showcase a diverse range of artistic mediums. Due to the size of the show, visitors have the opportunity to interact with artists, learn about their inspiration and purchase fine works of art. A boutique festival that limits participation to a certain number of artists to avoid duplication and repetition, *ArtBeat Arts Festival* ensures that attendees are exposed to only the highest quality art.

### **Homegrown Art and Craft Extravaganza**

Located in the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center, art lovers of all ages will enjoy a wide array of art and crafts for sale. For festival-goers who like to get their hands dirty, enjoy make and take projects that allow you to be a part of the art-making process. This art extravaganza also features demonstrations and a myriad of interactive experiences. Located on East State Street, the *Art and Craft Extravaganza* is open during *ArtBeat* hours from 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### **WaterFire Sharon Interactive Community Art Project**

The WaterFire Sharon Interactive Community Art Project solicits proposals from local artists to develop and implement an interactive community art installation to be showcased during the 2013 WaterFire Sharon events. Working closely with WaterFire Sharon and the Sharon Art Commission to plan and execute the installation, the project will explore the identity of Sharon as a river city and the interplay between fire and water. The installation will also complement the mission and goals of WaterFire Sharon by creating a visually spectacular artwork that celebrates the artistic evolution of Sharon as it relates to the city's history while incorporating the ability of the community to contribute to the project; representing a collective community celebration. Becoming part of the broader creative placemaking vision in Sharon, this installation will bridge economic divides, generate hope, instill pride of community and inspire the best of American small town life by bringing people together in public spaces to enjoy art.

### **5K Run/Walk**

Start your day off by entering the Community Food Warehouse 5K race and 2 mile walk to end hunger. Presented in partnership with WaterFire Sharon and Reyers Shoe Store, run the streets of Sharon and be eligible to win \$1,000. Winners of each age division can participate in the 100 runner *ArtBeat* lighting ceremony and carry a flame celebrating the art of life for the inaugural WaterFire Sharon lighting event! Participants and those just interested in a great pair of running shoes can have a shoe fitting by professionals at the world's largest shoe store, Reyers, or peruse a wide variety of shoes at the outdoor display. Applications are available at [www.waterfiresharonpa.org](http://www.waterfiresharonpa.org) or [www.foodwarehouse.org](http://www.foodwarehouse.org)

### **WaterFire Main Stage and Ballroom**

The WaterFire Sharon Main Stage and Ballroom features the swing music of Dr. Zoot from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight during *ArtBeat*. Don't know how to swing dance? Come to the ballroom from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. to learn a few steps from our featured swing dancers and enjoy swing dancing performances throughout the evening. Other performances will be showcased throughout the afternoon on our Main Stage; providing you with enjoyable entertainment as you take a break from *ArtBeat* festivities.  
*Schedules for all stages will be posted July 5<sup>th</sup>*

### **Performance Dot Community Stages**

Various street performers are featured at a series of public performance "dot" stages throughout the city. Red, Yellow, Blue and Green painted dots transform into stages during WaterFire Sharon events and showcase a wide variety of unique performers that can be enjoyed as stroll through city.  
*Schedules for all stages will be posted July 5<sup>th</sup>*

### **WaterFire Event Merchandise and Custom Artwork**

Custom artwork has been created by regional artists for each WaterFire Sharon event that represents the theme of the day. WaterFire merchandise and prints of the themed artwork can be purchased at several WaterFire store locations.

# World Fire – September 14, 2013

Spend your day exploring the countries of the world during *World Fire* as the city of Sharon is sectioned into countries exhibiting the food, art, dances and music of each culture at the *World Fire Expo*. Using a passport to enter through elaborate doorways highlighted by sidewalk chalk paintings, find yourself immersed in cultural traditions and spend the day experiencing the sights, sounds and tastes of the world.

Fire and humans have coevolved, like the bonded strands of a DNA molecule, providing social illumination and natural renewal. The two are inseparable; together they have shaped the world landscape and form the basis of the *World Fire* event. A metaphor for a society becoming more homogeneous, the melting pot represents different elements melting together into a harmonious whole with a common culture.

*World Fire* celebrates the distinct differences of the cultures blended into the American melting pot and at dusk literally extracts them from the melting pot as individual shining flames during the WaterFire lighting cultural parade featuring spectacles from around the globe. Enjoy the aroma of cedar and pine in the air, flickering firelight and silhouettes of firetenders passing by the flames until Midnight during the *World Fire WaterFire* lighting as fire performers spin lighted poi and enchant you with other fire spectacles. Take a boat ride and experience the multi-sensory event in a more intimate way.

Enjoy a diverse range of performances on the WaterFire Main Stage and throughout the city at our colorful and quirky performance dot community stages. Visit the pottery showcase at the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center where a diverse range of pottery is displayed for viewing and purchase or try your hand at decorating and glazing a pot which is then Raku fired at the outdoor demonstration area. As the day comes to a close, warm up with the hot sounds of Latin dance band Azucar at the WaterFire Ballroom and join in this salsa dancing experience or just watch the fiery moves of the featured salsa performers.

Below is a listing of featured *World Fire* events. Please visit [www.waterfiresharonpa.org](http://www.waterfiresharonpa.org) for more information and events.

## **World Fire Expo**

The *World Fire Expo* takes you on a journey of the countries of the world. Enter each country along a pathway of sidewalk chalk art that ushers you through an elaborate doorway representing the art and architecture of the culture. Once inside be sure to get your passport stamped as you immerse yourself in the cultural traditions of the land. Experience the food, music, art and dances of each country as you explore the globe. Visit other interactive exhibits and get your face painted, take home a caricature portrait or watch artwork being created. Delight all of your senses as you make your way through the *World Fire Expo*.

## **Pottery Showcase**

A diverse range of pottery is exhibited by masters at the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center during the Pottery Showcase. View and purchase an eclectic mix of work at the numerous vendor booths or try your hand at a make and take project such as the pottery decorating and glazing station. See Raku firing demonstrations an intense and fun way to fire pottery. Raku is a type of firing process inspired by traditional Japanese Raku firing and involves removing the pottery from the wood-fired kiln and placing it into containers with combustible materials which produces interesting patterns and vibrant colors. The Pottery Showcase is open from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. during *World Fire*.

### **WaterFire Main Stage and Ballroom**

The WaterFire Sharon Main Stage and Ballroom features the Latin music of Azucar from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight during *World Fire*. Don't know how to salsa? Come to the ballroom from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. to learn a few steps from our featured salsa dancers and enjoy salsa performances throughout the evening. Other performers will be showcased throughout the afternoon on our Main Stage; providing you with enjoyable entertainment as you take a break from *World Fire* festivities.

*Schedules for all stages will be posted July 5<sup>th</sup>*

### **Performance Dot Community Stages**

Various street performers are featured at a series of public performance “dot” stages throughout the city. Red, Yellow, Blue and Green painted dots transform into stages during WaterFire Sharon events and showcase a wide variety of unique performers that can be enjoyed as stroll through city.

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Custom artwork has been created by regional artists for each WaterFire Sharon event that represents the theme of the day. WaterFire merchandise and prints of the themed artwork can be purchased at several WaterFire store locations.

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## **Up and Around – October 12, 2013**

A more contemporary experience is created during *Up and Around* which challenges you to view the extraordinary in unexpected places. Art has been described as the means of union among people, joining them together in the same feelings and journey towards a collective humanity. Typically gazed upon at an individual's horizon, the expression of creative skill and imagination actually happens all around us. During *Up and Around* you will need to look up and around as stunt kites, aerial performers and windsock artwork are just some of the things you will find.

Enjoy a diverse range of performances on the WaterFire Main Stage and throughout the city at our colorful and quirky performance dot community stages and look for public art displays up, down and all around throughout the day. Continue the exploration of art in unexpected places at dusk as the WaterFire lighting ceremony and performance takes you on a synergistic journey celebrating art and humanity. Enjoy the aroma of cedar and pine in the air, flickering firelight and silhouettes of firetenders passing by the flames until Midnight during the *Up and Around WaterFire* lighting as fire performers spin lighted poi and enchant you with other fire spectacles. Take a boat ride and experience the multi-sensory event in a more intimate way.

Visit the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center where artwork from around the region is displayed in the Community Artworks Regional Art Exhibit. Also featured at the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center, is the work of Paul Chojnowski who burns and scorches wood and paper with torches to create his images. Catch demonstrations of this unique use of fire and water to create art throughout the day. Close out your *Up and Around* experience by snapping your fingers and tapping your toes to the sounds of SHOUT! at the WaterFire Ballroom located at the Theatre on 3 in the Arts & Culture Center.

### **Aglow Exhibit and Demonstrations**

Visit the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center where artwork from around the region is displayed in the Community Artworks Regional Art Exhibit. Also featured at the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center, is the work of Paul Chojnowski who uses nontraditional media and tools in his art making. Burning and scorching wood and paper with torches to create his images, Chojnowski has received a *Visual Arts Fellowship* from the *National Endowment for the Arts* and has exhibited across the country.

### **WaterFire Main Stage and Ballroom**

The WaterFire Sharon Main Stage and Ballroom will be located inside the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center during *Up and Around* and features the music of SHOUT! from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight. Other performers will be showcased throughout the afternoon on the James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Theatre on 3 stage; providing you with enjoyable entertainment and a place to relax as you take a break from *Up and Around* festivities.

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**Be a part of the region's newest and most creative arts event series!**

If you are an artist, performer or vendor who would like to participate in any of the 2013 WaterFire Sharon events outlined in the series description, please submit an application to any or all of the following categories that apply. If applying to more than one category, please fill out an application for each event and submit each separately via email to [dayna@waterfiresharonpa.org](mailto:dayna@waterfiresharonpa.org).

Individual event categories:

- ArtBeat WaterFire Sharon Arts Festival Artist (August 3<sup>rd</sup> event only)
- ArtBeat Homegrown Art and Craft Vendor (August 3<sup>rd</sup> event only)
- Arts Organizations with Make & Take projects (August 3<sup>rd</sup> event only)
- World Fire Expo Artist (September 14<sup>th</sup> event only)
- World Fire Pottery Showcase Artist (September 14<sup>th</sup> event only)
- Sidewalk Chalk Artist (September 14<sup>th</sup> event only)
- Up and Around In the Sky Performer (October 12<sup>th</sup> event only)

Event series or individual event categories:

- Caricature, Face Painters or Demonstration Artist
- Main Stage Performer
- Community Stage Performer
- Food Vendor

Application deadline for all categories is June 19, 2013. Notification of submission status will be sent via email no later than July 5, 2013. For more information email [dayna@waterfiresharonpa.org](mailto:dayna@waterfiresharonpa.org)