

Arts in Strongsville
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An artsy day of family fun

STRONGSVILLE, Ohio (August 6, 2010) - Arts in Strongsville will host a free festival of family fun at its annual A Day at the Chalet, on Sunday, September 19, 2010, from noon to 5:00 p.m. at The Chalet, in the Cleveland Metroparks Mill Stream Run Reservation, in Strongsville.

The event features arts and crafts, music, entertainment and kid's activities that focus on the arts, such as painting, beading, cupcake decorating and drama. Pat Catan's Craft Centers, a sponsor of the event, will host a tent for painting and other hands-on activities.

More than 20 crafters will display their work and live stage entertainment will range from swing bands to ethnic dancers. And for those who feel lucky, a gift basket raffle will be held.

Last year's event drew more than 3,000 people of all ages.

"There are not many opportunities like this where a family can spend time together for free and everyone can enjoy themselves," says Linda Plain, president of Arts in Strongsville.

This year's featured entertainment will include the Cleveland TOPS Swing Band, a group made up mainly of retired professional all-star musicians; Vincente, a Michael Jackson impersonator; Motor City

Gold, a rhythm and blues band; the Strongsville Community Band, directed by Ken Mehalko; and the St. Paul Hellenic Dancers of the St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church. On the back patio, where free popcorn and cotton candy are served all day, Island Jeff Cavallo will perform steel pan music from the Caribbean.

All activities and entertainment at A Day at the Chalet are free – but a donation of canned goods or non-perishable items for the Strongsville Food Bank is appreciated. Burgers, hot dogs, pizza and beverages are available at a nominal cost throughout the day.

The event is organized by the Arts in Strongsville, a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of residents through the promotion and preservation of the arts. The organization provides opportunities for arts education and encourages broad-based community interest in the arts.

This year's major sponsors include Pat Catan's Craft Centers, Boosters for Perciak and Mimi Vanderhaven. For the second straight year, Kohl's employees will volunteer their time to help to make the event fun for everybody. Arts in Strongsville also is supported by the Ohio Arts Council and Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

"A Day at the Chalet is a fun time for family and friends," says Strongsville Mayor Tom Perciak. "Please join me as we welcome the fall season in the beautiful Metroparks."

You can get the most current information about A Day at the Chalet and Arts in Strongsville by logging onto www.artsinstrongsville.com, or visiting Arts in Strongsville on Facebook. You also can call 440-846-1914.

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