

Press Release

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New Art Design for the 2011 Taste of Lake Murray

Columbia, SC (January 13, 2011) - "Celebration," an acrylic painting by Chapin resident, Karen Larrabee, will be the artwork for the 2011 Taste of Lake Murray publicity campaign. Capital City/Lake Murray Country (CCLMC) Regional Tourism Board held its annual Artwork Contest for the Taste of Lake Murray in the fall of 2010.

"The Taste of Lake Murray has become an event that our local community looks forward to and the artwork that goes along with that event has become equally as popular," said Amy Roof Hoffman, Special Events Manager with CCLMC.

"Karen is a gifted artist and her painting depicts exactly what she sees from her backyard when CCLMC launches the fireworks at the 4th of July from Dreher Island State Park, one of our two launch sites. It's fitting that her painting really embodies the true purpose of the Taste of Lake Murray, without this event, there would not be fireworks to enjoy," added Hoffman.

The Taste of Lake Murray is set for Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Radisson Hotel Columbia and Conference Center. The event is the sole fundraiser for the Annual 4th of July Celebration on Lake Murray. Tickets are on sell now (\$45/person) and are available for purchase at the Capital City/Lake Murray Country Visitor Center (2184 North Lake Drive, Columbia) and online at www.tasteoflakemurray.com. The 4th of July Celebration on Lake Murray is scheduled for Saturday, July 2, 2011.

More about the Artist...

Karen Larrabee was born and raised in northern New Jersey and has enjoyed drawing and painting for as long as she can remember. She has a B.A. in art and education and a Master's of Liberal Learning with concentrations in studio art, art history and art education from Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio. She raised a family and taught art for 30 years in Ohio until her retirement in 2004. Karen and her husband, David fell in love with the Columbia area and Lake Murray while visiting their daughter when she as a student at USC and eventually moved here. Larrabee has received many awards for her artistic talents over the span of her career, in the midlands she has been juried into the Greenwood Art Festival and the SC State Fair competition all 3 years she has entered, receiving a Patron Purchase Award at the Fair this past year. She has also won 4 awards from the Crooked Creek Art League's Juried Exhibitions. Karen is also the immediate past-president of the Crooked Creek Art League.

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