Fourth Friday Art Walk  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
Ste. Genevieve County

Ste. Genevieve’s artistic heritage is highlighted during its Fourth Friday Art Walks...a monthly demonstration of the truth of our slogan, "Art happens here." The event is held the fourth Friday of each month from March to November. Visitors are invited to be a part of the festive atmosphere provided to view artwork and creativity.

Fourth Friday Art Walk is an invitation to experience a small town with a BIG art presence. Take a leisurely stroll along historic district downtown streets lit by colonial-period-inspired lamp-posts, among brick buildings made rosy with age, to more than a dozen galleries and art spaces. There you'll find an impressive range of high-quality original art and a chance to meet and chat with artists and other art-lovers. Boasting over a dozen art spaces, Ste. Genevieve allows enthusiasts to enjoy a Fourth Friday Art Walk every month!

On Fourth Friday local studios and galleries, other art spaces, the Sainte Genevieve Art Guild Art Center & Museum, and the Welcome Center extend their hours into the evening (6pm to 9pm) for the event. Many of the locations offer complimentary refreshments or special exhibits, and the evenings sometimes include activities such as art demonstrations or musical performances. A variety of other stores and downtown restaurants also remain open.

Many styles of art are found here during Fourth Friday Art Walk. Discover classic oils, expressive watercolor, warm pastels, vibrant acrylics, and quick sketch cartooning as well as pottery and much, much more! Come one and all to drink in the beauty as well as to laugh with old and new friends. Perhaps you will find the perfect work of art to adorn your home as well. Rest assured there will be ample opportunity to chat with artists and other art lovers as well.

Fourth Friday also is a great time to check out some spots on Ste. Genevieve's Art History Trail, which guides visitors through some 1,900 years of local art history with exhibits in various locations. The exhibits range from art created here by Native Americans during the Woodland and Mississippian periods, the story of the brief tenure of naturalist-artist John James Audubon in Ste. Genevieve, French influences on 18th Century local artisans, and the town's role as a center for the development of the Regionalism and Social Realism art movements in the 1930s. At that time the Ste. Genevieve Art Colony and Summer School of Art operated here and included art world luminaries such as Thomas Hart Benton and Joe Jones. (Free copies of the Trail map are available in various art venues as well as at the Ste. Genevieve Welcome Center.)
Fourth Friday also often coincides with the staging of other art events that are offered year-round, such as the Sainte Genevieve Art Guild's annual Fall plein air painting competition, an annual youth art show, and other art-related projects sponsored by various community entities. In all, the Fourth Friday Art Walk is a monthly celebration of art, artists and patrons. It serves as a reminder of our rich history as an art community...and our present as an active and art-friendly town. Plus, it's a great time to explore, relax, engage, be inspired, and even make an art purchase. Consider this our special invitation to you to come and enjoy.

Local artist and then-gallery-owner Mike Devaney founded the Fourth Friday Art Walk in the summer of 2008 with Sainte Genevieve Art Guild Past President James Wooldridge. The event has continued on a monthly basis under various leadership. In 2018 Devaney and Wooldridge teamed up again to help mount a 10-year anniversary celebration. Last year, with their leadership, a new Gallery Association was created to oversee the event.

Art happens here, and you are invited to be a part of it by attending a Fourth Friday Art Walk! When you think of Ste. Genevieve’s Fourth Friday Art Walk envision “Small Town – BIG Art!”

Bibliography:


Figure 1 - Art Walk Logo.

Figure 2 - Milly paintings by Ali Cavanaugh at Merchant St Gallery.
Figure 3 - Bed Post Art at Rhinehart & Rhinehart Gallery.

Figure 4 - Larry Braun Art with Birdhouse examples at Ste. Genevieve Welcome Center.
Figure 5 - Life is Art Exhibit at Galleria Ste. Genevieve.

Figure 6 - Miniature Art Exhibit at Ste, Genevieve Welcome Center.
Figure 7 - Silver Sycamore art with canoe at Silver Sycamore Gallery of Fine Art.
Figure 8 - Musician on North Main Street in Ste. Genevieve.