## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Amazing line-up planned for Loring Park Art Festival, July 29 and 30 in Minneapolis

Festival leaders, Pat Parnow and Cindy Jacobson, to retire September 1; Stone Arch Bridge Festival management to organize the 2024 and future Loring Park Art Festivals

(Minneapolis, Minn.) July 18, 2023—The 23rd annual Loring Park Art Festival is set to welcome visitors on Saturday and Sunday, July 29 and 30, with an amazing line-up of 140 juried artists, family-friendly activities and entertainment, delicious foods, and the Fulton Beer Garden.

This year's festival will feature newcomers, as well as popular artists from past years, presenting a rich variety of styles and art forms. Festival goers will enjoy experiencing and shopping for jewelry, printmaking, glass, textiles, photography, clay, painting, drawing, sculpture, wood working, ceramics, mixed media and more. Artwork will be available at a wide range of prices, making it possible for art lovers to take home one-of-a-kind treasures.

Starting in 2000, the Loring Park Art Festival helped to change the face of Minneapolis art festivals with its central location, family-friendly activities, and juried artists selected from applicants nationwide. Missing one year, due to Covid, the festival came back to record attendance in 2021 demonstrating a spirit of community, following a time of unrest. The festival is now in its 23rd year, with a bright future ahead.

"It has been my honor to bring our festival, with its incredible artists, to the people of Minneapolis," said founder Pat Parnow. "We've been delighted to watch the festival grow through the years, as more people have come to the city as an annual destination to enjoy the beauty of Loring Park. The art festival has contributed to the vibrancy and economic stability of our downtown area."

With the upcoming planned retirement of festival directors, Pat Parnow and Cindy Jacobson on September 1, future Loring Park Art Festivals will be managed by the Stone Arch Bridge Festival's capable leadership team. Parnow and Jacobson will serve as consultants for the 2024 event.

"The Loring Park Art Festival is in good hands with the Stone Arch Bridge Festival and their competent, creative, enthusiastic team of professionals," said Jacobson. "We know that the mission of our beloved festival will continue in exciting ways. We send our sincere thanks to the many artists we've worked with

throughout the years, as well as to our staff, volunteers, and for the support of the Minneapolis Park Board. We welcome the Stone Arch Bridge Festival team to the Loring Park Art Festival."

Sara Collins, director of the Stone Arch Bridge Festival, shared her team's enthusiasm about managing both of the well-established art festivals for Minneapolis in 2024. "It's a perfect fit," she said. "The two festivals have their own personalities and we look forward to continuing both, expanding on their success. Our congratulations go out to everyone at the Loring Park Art Festival for building a ground-breaking, successful event. We are honored to begin leading the festival next year and will take good care of it moving forward."

## 2023 Loring Park Art Festival Quick Details:

Dates: Saturday, July 29, 10 am to 6 pm / Sunday, June 30, 10 am to 5 pm

Location: Loring Park, 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis, 55403, at Oak Grove and Hennepin.

Fee: Festival is free of charge to all.

<u>Featured Artists:</u> Six featured artists are available for interviews, representing art in the following categories: fiber, photography, glass, painting and printmaking.

<u>Activities:</u> Offerings include free art projects for kids and adults, in addition to the WOW Metal Lab in a refurbished MTC bus.

<u>Entertainment:</u> Enjoy a variety of local musicians on the Victorian Building Back Porch and the Westminster Stage, as well as roving in the park.

<u>Parking and Directions</u>: Parking options are numerous. Taking the bus is a great option. Download a free bus pass.

<u>Food and Beverage:</u> The food areas will feature a variety of delicious offerings, including local favorites and ethnic foods. The Fulton Beer Garden, new to the festival, will provide a great selection of refreshing beverages.

<u>Photos:</u> Choose from a wide selection of photos from past festivals.

## **About the Loring Park Art Festival**

The Loring Park Art Festival was founded in 1999 by Pat Parnow, Mary Ann Wunderlin and Carol Haubner. Cindy Jacobson joined Pat as artist partners in 2014 when Mary Ann and Carol retired. Since 2000, the festival has combined creative expression and community connectedness to surprise and delight all who attend. With beautiful ponds and formal gardens, Loring Park makes an idyllic spot to celebrate art, music, food and entertainment for two days each summer in downtown Minneapolis. This is the festival's 23rd year.

MEDIA CONTACT: Lory Sutton, 612-875-0774, <a href="mailto:lorylsutton@gmail.com">lorylsutton@gmail.com</a>

###