



## **New Regional Arts Fair to Debut in Frankfort in 2012**

A major new regional arts fair, “Art in the Gardens at Liberty Hall,” is set to debut in Frankfort in 2012. The inaugural fair will be held on Labor Day weekend, September 1-2, 2012, and is sponsored by Liberty Hall Historic Site.

Several recognized artists from the local community are already at work with the organizing committee to plan the fair. This event is expected to draw the top visual and fine artists and crafts people from Central Kentucky and throughout the region. Fair-goers will be able to view and purchase the best paintings, sculpture, pottery, photography, jewelry, fine crafts, and other artworks to be found. “We would be very happy if this fair becomes one of the top five events in the state,” said organizer and Frankfort sculptor Melanie VanHouten.

“Art in the Gardens at Liberty Hall” will be held on the four and a half acres of Liberty Hall Historic Site in downtown Frankfort, with booths meandering through the lush gardens. In addition to arts booths and an opportunity to meet the artists, the fair will feature local and regional musicians, children’s arts activities, and local foods. Visitors will also be encouraged to tour the two historic homes on the site, Liberty Hall, a National Historic Landmark and the 1796 home of Kentucky’s first senator, John Brown, and the 1835 home of his son, Orlando.

According to LHHS director Karla Nicholson, “the Brown family members were always strong supporters of local and contemporary artists. Frequent visitors to the homes included artists such as Paul Sawyer and Robert Burns Wilson, so we believe that hosting this fair is very much in keeping with the site’s history and the Brown family’s values.”

Frankfort’s reputation as an arts community has grown over the last few years and now draws visitors from throughout the state and surrounding areas seeking the beauty and creativity produced by Kentucky’s artists. “Art in the Gardens at Liberty Hall” will add to the city’s reputation as a place where the best in the state and region’s contemporary art can be found.

For more information about the event, contact Liberty Hall Historic Site at 502-227-2560 or at [www.artinthegardensatlibertyhall.org](http://www.artinthegardensatlibertyhall.org).