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Media contact:

Kate Marquez, *Executive Director*
Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance
(520) 797-3959
kate@saaca.org
www.saaca.org
www.southernazfestivals.org

Beat the heat during novel indoor art markets this summer at Tucson Mall

*Summer festival series to bring top artists, children's activities and
live music to mall last weekend of each month, May through August*

April 21, 2010 - The [Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance](http://www.saaca.org) (SAACA) and General Growth Properties this summer will partner to produce the Summer ARTmarket at Tucson Mall.

Attendees can beat the heat and browse and buy original art in a variety of media during one four weekend festivals at [Tucson Mall](http://www.tucsonmall.com), 4500 N. Oracle Road.

The festivals - to be held on the last Saturday and Sunday of the month, May through August - will feature displays by more than 120 artists scattered throughout the mall's upper- and lower-level corridors.

"This partnership with General Growth Properties/Tucson Mall allows us to offer a quality arts experience to area residents," said SAACA Executive Director Kate Marquez. "By producing festivals inside Tucson Mall, we can give artists a quality venue to display their work, an opportunity not previously available to them during the summer months."

As is the case with most SAACA events, children's activities will be provided free of charge at the Summer ARTmarket festivals. And, live music will fill the mall during these events.

The events are free to attend and will take place from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays.

The Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance produces arts and community festivals nearly every month that feature hundreds of artists and performers.

For more information about SAACA's upcoming festivals and other programs, go to www.saaca.org or www.southernazfestivals.org.

Summer ARTmarket

When: Saturdays and Sundays (May 29 and 30, June 26 and 27, July 31 and Aug. 1, and Aug. 28 and 29) - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays

Where: Tucson Mall, 4500 N. Oracle Road

Cost:Free admission

Details:Indoor juried art festivals featuring original works by more than 120 top regional artists; events will include free children's activities and live music

Online:www.southernazfestivals.org/artmarket.html

Phone:

(520) 797-3959

About the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance

The Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance (SAACA) is a not-for-profit organization that exists to ensure that, through engagement in arts and culture, our communities produce strong, inspired citizens. SAACA enlists artists, businesses, governments, and individuals to expand artistic and cultural opportunities in their respective communities. To enhance access to the arts and to promote cultural awareness in the communities it serves, SAACA presents large-scale festivals, events and other programs. The Alliance also promotes educational opportunities in the arts and culture for both the young and the old.

Organization History

The Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance (SAACA) grew out of the Greater Oro Valley Arts Council (GOVAC), an organization established in 1997 to provide artistic and cultural opportunities for residents of northwest Tucson. GOVAC eventually became one of the largest arts organizations in the region. In 2009, owing to its success, the group expanded its mission to include creation of partnerships with business, governments, and communities throughout Southern Arizona that would encourage innovative, creative cultural expression in the arts for years to come.

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