

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Art in the Wilds Triumphs over Mother Nature**

Rain, rain and more rain--along with cool weather--greeted artists, volunteers and visitors at the Ninth Annual Art in the Wilds show on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28, but it failed to dampen their spirits as patrons of the arts came out in boots, raincoats, ponchos, umbrellas and even plastic garbage bags to browse and buy art.

Director Marilyn Blackmore said, "With less than half (44%) of the attendance of last year, the artists' sales were very good. In 2014 artists' total reported sales were \$51,072 and this year they were \$35,500, 70% of last year's sales. People who wanted to buy art came out in spite of the nasty weather!"

The quality of the art keeps getting better every year but still remains affordable. Eleven new artists provided interesting new types of works including: fused and stained glass, stone-framed photography, fine patterns of geometric shapes on porcelain clay, precious metal with gemstones and beaded jewelry and large wooden pieces of art.

Returning artists work to improve their skills and creativity to provide new products for their new and returning customers. All artists are juried into the show."

Although people come literally from all over the country, due to the Kane high school alumni weekend, the Kane area--including Warren, Bradford, St. Marys, Ridgway and Mt. Jewett--continues to be the strongest buying community with 57% of total sales. Sales were also recorded from Canada, Australia and Beijing, China.

Kane continues to be the strongest buying community with 29% of total sales reported in the 16735 zip code area.

Artist awards, consisting of large colorful ribbons and monetary prizes, were presented at the show. Jurors visited each booth and reviewed each artist's body of work and booth presentation.