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FLORIDA'S BEST SMALL ART TOWN IS HOME

TO HUNDREDS OF CREATIVE ARTISTS

New Smyrna Beach, Fla. (Date) – Named one of the "100 Best Small Art Towns in America," New Smyrna Beach is home to a collaborative artistic community and a wide variety of impressive museums, art galleries and theaters. Many of the artists in Florida's second oldest city are inspired by the surrounding natural beauty and create incredible works of art that pay homage to the area.

One of the most popular destinations in NSB for art lovers is <u>The Hub on Canal</u>, a unique communal space that is a central hub where artists make, showcase and teach art. It is open to the public, allowing visitors the opportunity to admire not only beautiful art and sculpture but also to interact with the creative minds behind it. It's a great spot to soak in beautiful paintings and creations, learn a few tricks of the trade and pick up oneof-a-kind souvenirs for the trip home. Some of the area's most popular artists who display their works at The Hub on Canal are highlighted below:

- Frank Ferrante is a seasoned oil painter who focuses on bold images of life on or near the sea. He may be found most days painting or teaching in his studio near the entrance of The Hub on Canal.
- Joannie Fusella has worked in art galleries and as an art teacher and interior designer. Her true passion is creating art through abstract paintings and mixed media.
- Wildlife photographer **Shelley Lynch** receives her inspiration from wildlife in the intercoastal waterway and ocean. She spends a lot of her time in the water interacting with and photographing dolphins and birds in their natural habitat.

- Eliza Midgett is known for her colorful and vibrant beach scenes. She was one of five local artists selected to paint decorative shark statues that are on display throughout New Smyrna Beach; hers is entitled "Sam the Shark" and was named in honor of her late brother. Eliza also painted the colorful mural on display at the entrance of The Hub on Canal. (Richard, if that statement accurate?)
- The paintings of **Sheri Zanosky** can be found in galleries throughout the state of Florida. The seasoned watercolor artist focuses on nature and animals, with much of her vision stemming from wolf conservations throughout the world.

The Hub on Canal also regularly hosts live events that celebrate its artistic roots and encourage creatives to come together and enjoy community.

Another New Smyrna Beach destination for artists and art lovers is The Atlantic Center for the Arts (ACA), a Florida-based artist-in-residence program designed to bring together internationally acclaimed artists from different disciplines with talented artists who are selected by the masters. Founded in 1977 by Doris Leeper, ACA has often been the starting point for new works which are later shown at national museums and performance centers. Over the years, artists have attended residencies of varying lengths, with sessions that include master classes, individual critiques, opportunities for collaboration and private studio time. The space routinely opens its galleries to the public so all can see the beautiful work created through this program.

Visitors and residents also immerse themselves in the local culture scene found in New Smyrna Beach through the many live events and productions hosted throughout the area. live theatre performances at <u>The Little Theatre</u>, which features a lineup of musical and play performances that span multiple genres, like the much loved "Dial M for Murder" and "A Christmas Carol."

There are a multitude of ways to soak in the creativity and artistic beauty brimming in New Smyrna Beach. Whether looking for a relaxing stroll through spacious galleries or wanting to roll up those sleeves and learn a new skill, there is something sure to spark everyone's inner artist on these sparkling shores. For more information, and to start planning that next vacation, visit <u>https://visitnsbfl.com/</u>.

About the New Smyrna Beach Area

The New Smyrna Beach area includes the communities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, Oak Hill, Osteen and Port Orange in east Central Florida. New Smyrna Beach is an eclectic mix of old and new; of subtle sophistication and bohemian soul that is as "real" as Florida gets. It occupies a notable place in history as the second oldest city in Florida, site of the largest single attempt at British colonization in the new world. The city's barrier island is recognized worldwide for its incredible surf with Surfer magazine recently touting it one of the "Best Surf Towns in America" and National Geographic magazine including it in its "World's Top 20 Surf Towns." Accommodations range from charming bed and breakfast inns to family-size condominium units and oceanfront hotels. Natural attractions include 17 miles of sandy beaches from Ponce de Leon Inlet to Canaveral National Seashore and North America's most diverse estuary – the Indian River Lagoon.

Two distinct downtowns along Flagler Avenue and Canal Street and connected via the Waterfront Loop welcome visitors with independent restaurants, unique shops, artisanal coffee shops and art galleries.

For more information, please visit <u>www.VisitNSBfl.com</u> or call 386-428-1600. Follow <u>@NewSmyrnaBeach1</u> on Twitter, <u>Facebook.com/VisitNewSmyrnaBeach</u> or <u>@visitnewsmyrnabeach</u> on Instagram for the latest news. Download the free New Smyrna Beach Mobile App for iPhone and Android to receive this information on-the-go.

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