



PRESS RELEASE
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MEDIA CONTACT
Andrew Wallmeyer
651-271-9805

andrew.wallmeyer@whitepinefestival.org

INTRODUCING THE WHITE PINE FESTIVAL

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION TO BE HELD SATURDAY, OCT. 7

STILLWATER, Minn. – Two years after volunteers began meeting to discuss the possibility of establishing a world-class summer arts and ideas festival in the St. Croix Valley, the White Pine Festival is ready to go public with its plans to hold its inaugural event in late June 2007.

White Pine Festival planners will host a public information session starting at 1 p.m., SATURDAY, OCT. 7 to announce their plans, answer questions and let people know how they can get involved with the festival. The session will be held at Arcola Mills, a former lumbering settlement about 15 minutes north of Stillwater that is now being renovated as a nature and history center.

Festival planners chose the site because they feel its natural beauty and unique history would make it an ideal artists' residence and small event venue, and because the Arcola Mills organization has been an important early supporter in their efforts to launch a first-rate festival in the St. Croix Valley.

After hearing a presentation detailing organizers' vision for the White Pine Festival, attendees will have the opportunity to take a guided tour of the Arcola property and enjoy hot cider and cookies while admiring a breathtaking view of the St. Croix River at peak colors from the porch of Arcola's main house.

Those interested in attending the session are asked to register for the free event, either online at <http://whitepinefestival.org> or by leaving a message for festival representatives at 651-314-4590.

Those who would like more information on the festival but are unable to attend are encouraged visit the White Pine Festival Web site, call the festival, or send an e-mail to info@whitepinefestival.org.

ABOUT THE WHITE PINE FESTIVAL

The White Pine Festival aims to present a week-long series of world-class artistic and intellectual events each summer amid the natural beauty of the St. Croix River Valley, beginning in 2007.

The festival will explore challenging ideas from a wide range of artistic and intellectual perspectives, including music, literature, visual art, history, poetry, nature, science and philosophy. Festival participants will be encouraged to view art and the world in new ways, and to approach the task with the vitality, humor, and candor one finds in conversations among close friends.

The inaugural festival will likely run about five days and use several venues in and around Stillwater and Hudson to host events focusing on classical music and the literary arts, though festival planners hope future festivals will grow in both length and artistic breadth. For more information, visit <http://whitepinefestival.org>.

ABOUT ARCOLA MILLS

Arcola Mills, a former lumbering settlement six miles north of Stillwater, Minn., is at 55 acres one of the largest undeveloped parcels of land on the shoreline of the nationally designated wild and scenic St. Croix River.

The Arcola Mills Historic Foundation is a non-profit organization that was created at the bequest of Katharine Van Meier upon her death. Great care is being given to preserve the property's natural woodland beauty and historic building. Its lumber-era Greek Revival mansion, built in 1847, is currently undergoing restoration, and the foundation plans to eventually restore the site's eight eclectic cottages, as well.

Arcola Mills provides an area where individuals and groups are invited to participate in activities that explore the arts, nature, science, history and a broad exchange of ideas. Arcola Mills is a place where respect and stewardship are valued. For more information, visit <http://arcolamills.org>.

MEDIA CONTACT

Andrew Wallmeyer
Communications Director, White Pine Festival
andrew.wallmeyer@whitepinefestival.org
651-271-9805 (mobile)

White Pine Festival
P.O. Box 928
Stillwater, Minn., 55082
651-314-4590