



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM EXPANDS FRIDAY NIGHT OUTDOOR SUMMER SERIES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE**

*GRAM on the Green/DowntownGR Bazaar Presented Every Friday Night from June 11- August 27 at Rosa Parks Circle, Wege Plaza and Art Museum Terrace*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., June 7, 2010 – The Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) continues the popular summer outdoor series *GRAM on the Green* for a second season beginning June 11, 2010. The Friday Nights at GRAM live music series is sponsored by Steelcase, Inc. New this year is a collaboration with the Downtown Alliance, sponsor of the *DowntownGR Bazaar*. *GRAM on the Green/DowntownGR Bazaar* will include special themed activities in the park, merchant tables, giant games, and prize giveaways announced by the MC of the GR Bazaar.

*GRAM on the Green/DowntownGR Bazaar* begins at 5:00pm every Friday June 11 through August 27, 2010. From 5:00 to 7:00 pm, the MC will spin music from Rosa Parks Circle stage in between the special events and other all ages activities. Merchant tables will also be available beginning at 5:00pm. Outdoor sketching on the Wege Plaza is offered 5:00 to 9:00pm. Live music can be enjoyed from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Museum Terrace Stage, with a cash bar available. Guests may use the tables and chairs provided or bring their own comfortable folding chair. Access to the Museum Terrace is free of charge. After 9:00pm, other activities are planned, including ballroom dancing or movies in the park. Check the weekly schedule for details and updates.

The series kicks off with a theme inspired by the collaborative nature and community focus of *GRAM on the Green/DowntownGR Bazaar*: June 11 is themed around the idea of family: The family of West Michigan residents as an active, involved community. The families that enjoy Friday Nights together in beautiful downtown Grand Rapids. The familiarity and inclusiveness that is formed when experiences in arts and culture are shared, enjoyed and discussed among people of diverse backgrounds. And of course, the musical group *La Famiglia*, who take the stage at 7:00pm and invite us all to join in the fun. Guests should be sure to stop by the games table and create their own handprint to add to the "Family Trees" line winding through Rosa Parks Circle, and enter to win great prizes good for the whole family to enjoy.

***GRAM on the Green/DowntownGR Bazaar*  
Schedule of events June 11 through August 27, 2010**

Grand Rapids Art Museum Galleries are open until 9:00pm every Friday Night. Admission to galleries is only \$5.00 after 5:00 pm.

**FREE OUTDOOR SKETCHING ON WEGE PLAZA FROM**

## 5:00 to 9:00 PM

Peter M. Wege Plaza, situated between the Museum entrance and Maya Lin Ecliptic Park, will have easels and materials available for outdoor sketching – back by popular demand and with extended hours.

## FREE LIVE MUSIC FROM THE MUSEUM TERRACE STAGE FROM 7:00 TO 9:00 PM, CASH BAR AVAILABLE

June 11	La Famiglia
June 18	DJ Brandon Hill
June 25	Groove Merchant
July 2	End of Times Orchestra
July 9	Chosen
July 16	Pangea
July 23	Side Pocket
July 30	Big Organ
August 6	David Hardin
August 13	Fainting Generals
August 20	Bill Sears
August 27	An Dro

## FRIDAY NIGHT CONVERSATIONS CONTINUE

June Conversations: 2D & 3D Art  
July Conversations: Dance and Movement  
August Conversations: Cinema

Each month features a different mode of expression. Check the conversation schedule and meeting location within the museum at [artmuseumgr.org](http://artmuseumgr.org)

## GAMES IN THE PARK

Have big-time fun with a Giant Jenga Set, Giant Pictionary and Giant Chess Set. Regular sized games available too. Free to check out with ID.

## MERCHANT KIOSKS

Check out the specials offered from downtown merchants. For more information on merchant participation, please contact Nicole at the Downtown Alliance at 616-771-0346.

Watch the Grand Rapids Art Museum schedule at [www.artmuseumgr.org](http://www.artmuseumgr.org) for additional information on weekly themes and other information.

## About the Grand Rapids Art Museum

The mission of the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) is to provide a gathering place where people of all ages and backgrounds can enrich their lives through interaction with works of art in a thought-provoking and creative way. Established in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, the new art museum is internationally known for its distinguished design and gold LEED certified status.

Established in 1910 as the Grand Rapids Art Association, GRAM has grown to include more than 5,000 works of art, including American and European 19th and 20th century painting and sculpture and over 3,000 works on paper. Embracing the city's legacy as a leading center of

design and manufacturing, GRAM has a growing collection in the area of design and modern craft.