

CAPITAL CONNECTIONS

News and updates from
the Greater Concord
Chamber of Commerce

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MEMBER SPONSORED CONTENT



NEWS YOU WANT TO KNOW



New Hampshire artist James Chase, assisted by students and recent graduates of New England College, plans to complete a colorful mural near North Main Street by Memorial Day Weekend. Courtesy

New sculptures, murals coming to city

The Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce's Creative Concord committee has been hard at work. Originally established to analyze the impact of cultural institutions on the local economy, this group of dedicated volunteers has taken on multiple projects that have beautified the city and connected our community through the arts. Immediately following the 2018 Main Street renovation, this committee partnered with the City of Concord to establish Art on Main — an annual outdoor sculpture exhibit in the downtown. The Chamber is proud to announce new additions to this community exhibit, along with other exciting arts projects that are taking place this spring.

Art on Main will add several new sculptures to Main Street, but keep some local favorites on display as well. The committee is also hoping to place some new pieces in locations outside of the downtown, such as the Heights and Penacook. All works have been created by professional New England artists and are designed to withstand all kinds of weather, making this arts initiative a year-round experience that is free for all to enjoy. Keep your eye out for a brilliant yellow "Cotyledon" sculpture by David Boyagian — a dynamic abstract metal piece, inspired by nature — along with other eye-catching artworks.

In late May, a bright new mural will also be added to Concord's downtown landscape. New Hampshire artist,

James Chase, who is well-known for creating colorful geometric murals throughout New England, is creating a similar piece in Concord. This new mural is located in a stairwell that connects North Main and Storrs streets, adjacent to Loudon Road. With the help of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and many generous sponsors — Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Concord Antiques, The Duprey Companies, NH Community Development Finance Authority, The Rowley Agency, Inc. and Company C — this project adds life to a plain concrete wall that serves as a key pedestrian walkway.

Another vibrant mural, coming to Keach Park in June, will add beauty and a message of inclusivity to another area of the city. On Saturday, June 25, Overcomers Refugee Services — a Concord nonprofit that empowers refugees to become successful, contributing members of NH society — is hosting a special event called Umuganda. Umuganda means "coming together in common purpose to achieve an outcome" in Kinyarwanda, and is a monthly practice for Rwandans to come together and beautify their communities. This event includes the painting of a mural, pollinator garden planting, park cleanup and dancing, music and food that celebrates Concord's New American communities. All are invited to participate in this fun community event and help paint a dynamic mural designed by New Hampshire

artist, Jozimar Matimano with the help of New Americans from the Heights community. Concord art-lovers may be familiar with Matimano's powerful work, which was recently on display at Kimball Jenkins, Inc. during an exhibit titled "Finding Home, Portraits Memories & Art of Immigrants." The mural, which will be painted on the side of a park storage building, will depict imagery of plants from around the world, sports and music symbols, and portraits of diverse children within an outline of the U.S.

The Greater Concord community is also invited to celebrate the arts later this summer at Capital Arts Fest. Hosted by the League of NH Craftsmen, Capitol Center for the Arts, Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, and Intown Concord, this annual event includes a juried craft fair and live music in downtown Concord on Saturday, Sept. 24, through Sunday, Sept. 25. Arts organizations throughout the city are invited to participate in this massive celebration of art, music, theatre and community in the Capital City. For more information, go to visitconcord-nh.com/capital-arts-fest. If your organization is interested in participating in the event, contact Emily Marsh at emarsh@concordnhchamber.com.

In recent years, Concord's arts community has blossomed and brought new venues, public art, and vibrant festivals to the Capital City. The Chamber is excited to see these initiatives grow through the hard work of Cre-

Business Showcase

Monday, June 6 from 3-6 p.m.

\$5 for Chamber members, \$8 for public
The Chamber's annual trade show features outstanding networking opportunities, a wide variety of dynamic exhibitors, free workshops, door prizes, and mouth-watering food samples from Catering By Design, The Common Man Concord, Kona Ice of NH, True Confections Candies & Gifts, Twelve 31 Events and a special Culinary Entrepreneur! Enjoy the energetic, friendly atmosphere that this popular event is known for. Thank you to presenting sponsors Merrimack County Savings Bank and Unital. Additional support is provided by Binnie Media; Christine Louise Publications; Concord Monitor; NH Business Review; New Hampshire Public Radio, Inc.; Duprey Hospitality, LLC; Taylor True Value Rental. [Learn more and sign up at concordnhchamber.com](http://concordnhchamber.com).

ative Concord volunteers and countless organizations that work tirelessly to highlight the art and culture of our community. Visitors and residents alike are invited to support this momentum by attending arts performances, volunteering at community events, purchasing from local artists and telling others about the beauty of NH's Capital City.

Look for *News You Want to Know* here in The Concord Monitor once a month.

Incorporated in 1919, New Hampshire's state capital chamber of commerce — the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce — develops economic opportunities, strengthens the business climate and enhances quality of life in the Capital region.

Welcome New Members!

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