



Hamilton, OH, City of Sculpture, Inc.  
One High Street, Hamilton, OH 45011  
513-895-3934 or [www.cityofsculpture.org](http://www.cityofsculpture.org)

## “Animal Kingdom in Ice”

### Join the City of Sculpture as IceFest transforms downtown Hamilton into the Ice Capital of the Midwest!

Hamilton's 6th IceFest is presented by the City of Sculpture. **LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS IN ICE!** View ice creatures great and small under the lights on Friday evening. See ice carving competitions, demonstrations & more! IceFest creates an exciting atmosphere and provides a schedule of activities for everyone including spectacular ice sculptures created by Olympic, International and local carvers. IceFest is a free and fun family-oriented winter celebration that attracts visitors young and old while also highlighting the many sculptures located in Hamilton, OH, City of Sculpture. Located on High Street, beginning at the Government Services Center and ending just across the High-Main Street Street Bridge. **Hundreds of ice sculptures - over 200 blocks - 40 tons of ice will again be on display!**

### Fire & Ice "Safari"

#### Unique Community Gala - Friday Evening 6:00 - 11:00 PM - Cash Bar in a Casual Atmosphere – Tickets \$30 each

You won't want to miss the *First Financial Bank* 2008 Fire and Ice "Safari" kick off, Friday evening, February 1, 2008 from 6:00-11:00 PM at *Fitton Center for Creative Arts*, 101 South Monument Avenue in downtown Hamilton. Join Olympic-caliber ice carvers, the IceFest committee, sponsors and friends. Top the night off with the *City of Hamilton* Live Fire and Ice Demonstrations on the Great Miami Riverbank.

With a themed "Animal Kingdom in Ice" atmosphere, this *First Financial Bank* Fire and Ice affair held at *Fitton Center for Creative Arts* offers an opportunity to mingle throughout the evening. Luminaries light the way between Fire & Ice and the Courthouse to view the spectacular light-enhanced ice sculptures sponsored by local businesses.

#### See Live Fire and Ice Demonstrations behind the Fitton Center on the Banks of The Great Miami River!

Witness two professional ice carvers create a 10-block/3,000 ice sculpture and then set it on fire to illuminate the night. Beginning at 8PM, it will take approximately 30 minutes to create the "Full Moon" - A Wolf Howling at the Moon - tying in the Animal Kingdom theme for the Fire and Ice Celebration.

*Fire & Ice Major Event Sponsor is First Financial Bank. Live Fire and Ice Riverbank Demonstration Major Event Sponsor is the City of Hamilton. Fire and Ice Site Glacier Event Sponsor is Fitton Center for Creative Arts.*

### SPEED CARVING and 2008 PEOPLE'S CHOICE is new!

On Friday at 6PM, witness the **Ohio Casualty / Wilks Insurance Agency** 10-minute speed carving heat eliminations at the Government Service Center, 345 High Street.

The **Mercy Health Partners** Ice Carving Competition Alley consistently brings 12 of the best ice carvers in the world. Competition Alley takes place Saturday 10AM-3PM. Vote for your favorite ice sculpture as often as you like in the **Bridgewater Falls** People's Choice Award. Winners will be announced at 4PM on Saturday.

Also on Friday evening, free and open to all, is the "Technicolor Ice Walk" at Butler County Courthouse Square and other areas in downtown Hamilton! Technicolor Ice Walk showcases the ice sculptures that

are sponsored by area businesses, organizations and individuals. Sculptures are brilliantly illuminated with colored lights, beginning at dusk. Don't miss the dazzling Technicolor Ice Walk, which has grown in popularity over the years as more and more people brave the cold weather at night to see this beautiful scenic view of ice. Lights remain lit all evening and then weather permitting (cold) will light up the sculptures again on Saturday and Sunday evenings.

*People's Choice Event Sponsor is Bridgewater Falls. Ice Carving Competition Alley Event Sponsor is Mercy Health Partners. Speed Carving Heat Eliminations Sponsors are Ohio Casualty / Wilks Insurance Agency.*

## Family-Fun Activities

"Talk to the Animals" in the **Journal News/The Lane Libraries** Icefest Children's Area on Saturday beginning at 10AM. Play ring toss with an ice sculpture seal or throw bean bags in a lion's mouth. Have fun with miniature golf at the Zookeeper's Ice Sculpture Putt-Putt, or see Bob the Builder. Take a photo while sitting on the **Rose Chevrolet** Royal Throne! Mascot Frosty the Snowman attends and distributes treats for all ages. Visit from 12:30-1:00 p.m. for The Lane Libraries Puppet Show!

**New in 2008: While visiting the Children's Area, watch as your name is carved into a block of ice AND carry it with you!**

*Children's Area Glacier Event Partners are the Journal News and The Lane Libraries. The Children's Throne Iceberg Event Sponsor is Rose Chevrolet.*

## Polar Bear Express Sled Race

Teams consisting of at least 4 members – 2 "dogs" human pullers, 1 rider and 1 "musher" driver – travel in creative sleds through the **First Financial Bank** Polar Bear Express Sled Race course set in downtown Hamilton. Each team makes several mandatory stops and performs certain tasks at each stop such as eating gold fish crackers, drinking tropical punch or taking a rest stop that did not begin until all "dogs" are still. Join team members from local business, schools and more in what has become a favorite IceFest activity! **Expect to see 10 to 12 sleds including teams from First Financial Bank, Hamilton City Police and Fire Departments, Butler County Sheriff's Department, YMCA, Colonial Senior Services and more. Awards to be given include the Spirit Award and Best Dressed Team!**

*Polar Bear Express Sled Race Glacier Event Sponsor is First Financial Bank.*

## Art Fest at IceFest is a new activity in 2008!

Art Fest at IceFest invites artists in all mediums. Apply online to this juried show. Booth space is \$50 for a 10x10 space. Please submit resume with three quality images to [ArtOnSymmes@aol.com](mailto:ArtOnSymmes@aol.com) by November 30, 2007. This is an indoor Art Show expecting 50 or more high caliber Artisans. Art Fest hours will be Friday 2PM-7PM and Saturday 3PM-8PM in the Butler County Government Services Building located at 345 High Street in downtown Hamilton.

*The Artist Exposition Iceberg Event Sponsor is Art on Symmes.*

## Stay Overnight at Marriott Cincinnati North!

Located just off I-75 and minutes from Hamilton, Ohio, City of Sculpture, The Marriott Cincinnati North is the premier location to enjoy the IceFest Celebration. For more information, visit [www.cityofsculpture.org/icefest/stay.html](http://www.cityofsculpture.org/icefest/stay.html)

## Artic Diamond, Inc.

Jeff Stahl, award-winning ice carver and owner of Artic Diamond, Inc., is the mastermind behind the Hamilton, OH IceFest event. Jeff approached the Hamilton Convention & Visitors Bureau several years ago looking for a venue for an ice sculpting event. It was soon agreed that Jeff would work not only as consultant for the City of Sculpture organization, presenter of IceFest, but would also act as creator for

the many unique ice sculptures found at each year's IceFest. Artic Diamond is Southern OH's premier ice sculpting company, with 30+ years of experience.

## IceFest is presented by Hamilton, OH, City of Sculpture

Hamilton, Ohio, City of Sculpture brought IceFest to Hamilton in 2001, the year after Governor Bob Taft formally recognized Hamilton as the "City of Sculpture". According to Debbie Cisle, chair of IceFest 2008, "The mission of IceFest is to raise funds to continue our quest to make Hamilton known worldwide as the City of Sculpture and to create economic impact through promoting awareness of the arts in Hamilton." Sue Samoviski, President of City of Sculpture, adds "We have already installed or collaborated with others to install more than 20 permanent sculptures in Hamilton since our beginning in 2000, bringing the total to almost 40. Community members and other organizations have become increasingly energized through this vision." IceFest supports the mission of City of Sculpture, and all sponsors are greatly appreciated. **The IceFest extravaganza in ice is now one of southwest Ohio's premiere outdoor winter events.**

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### DIRECTIONS

Hamilton OH is located off Interstate 75 between Dayton and Cincinnati. Take I-75 to Exit 24, which is State Route 129. At the end of the highway, continue straight onto High Street approximately 10 blocks.

### SPONSORS OF ICEFEST 2008

*Major Sponsors:* First Financial Bank; City of Hamilton; Downtown Hamilton SID.

*Glacier Sponsors:* Artic Diamond, Inc.; Bridgewater Falls; Don S. Cisle Contractors; First Financial Bank; Fitton Center for Creative Arts; Greater Hamilton Convention & Visitors Bureau; Journal News; The Lane Libraries; Marriott Cincinnati North; Mercy Health Partners, Miami University Hamilton; Schmidt's Signery.

*Iceberg Sponsors:* All Things Catered; Art on Symmes; Barnhouse & Cornett CPA's, LTD; Currito Burritos Without Borders; Chaco Credit Union, Inc.; Los Cinco Amigos; Elder Beerman; Fifth Third Bank; Ohio Casualty; Rose Chevrolet; Wilks Insurance Agency.

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### CONTACTS:

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Jeff Stahl, Artic Diamond, Inc.: 513-742-4921 or [articdiamond@fuse.net](mailto:articdiamond@fuse.net)

Sue Samoviski, City of Sculpture President: 513-895-3934 or [hamiltonohiocityofsculpture@fuse.net](mailto:hamiltonohiocityofsculpture@fuse.net)

Sled Race: Woody Fitton, 513-887-0001 or [wfitton@gmvymca.org](mailto:wfitton@gmvymca.org)

Amateur Photo Contest: Bill Hartford, 513-863-3385 [momanddad@fuse.net](mailto:momanddad@fuse.net) or Jack Moser 513-868-6575 [jmoser515@fuse.net](mailto:jmoser515@fuse.net)

Soap Carving Competition: Sue Samoviski, 513-887-1873 or [sjsamoviski@fuse.net](mailto:sjsamoviski@fuse.net)

Art Expo: Sherry Armstead, 513-844-2787 or [artonsymmes@aol.com](mailto:artonsymmes@aol.com)

Children's Area: Amy Tichler, 513-894-1772 or [atichler@cinci.rr.com](mailto:atichler@cinci.rr.com)

Fire and Ice: Sara Davis, 513-642-5223 or [sedavis@cinci.rr.com](mailto:sedavis@cinci.rr.com)

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#### **Media Release Prepared By:**

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