

News from the Ludington Area Arts Council

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Sweet Summer Celebration's Sandcastle Contest on Saturday, July 24 at Stearns Park in Ludington

Ludington, MI: Help make Stearns Park filled with sandcastles on Saturday, July 24, at the Sweet Summer Celebration Sandcastles Contest, sponsored by Sandcastles Children's Museum in partnership with the Ludington Area Arts Council. The contest runs from 8 to 11 a.m. with registration from 8 to 9 a.m. near the South Concession Stand at Stearns Park.

The contest, which is free to enter, offers 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize ribbons in each of the following categories: ages 8 and under; ages 9 to 15; ages 16 - adult; and families.

Participants should be original in their sandcastle design; use sand and natural materials only; work within the age categories described above; and are encouraged to incorporate lots of detail. Tools may be used to create the sandcastle entry but may not be part of the sculpture.

"Sandcastles on the beach is a natural for the Sweet Summer Celebration," said Mary Todd, organizer of the contest. "So, when the Ludington Area Arts Council approached Sandcastles Children's Museum about organizing the contest, I was excited to jump on board and hope to make this an annual event."

Mary Todd, who is on the board of the Sandcastles Childrens Museum and works on the museum's exhibits, is passionate about sandcastles. In fact, she has logged 30 years of experience building them or running contests. As co-owner of Whiskey Creek Resort, she ran a sandcastle contest. Todd and her family also participated in Pentwater's contest, winning first place in the family category for many years.

The Sandcastle Contest is part of the new Sweet Summer Celebration, a multi-day festival of arts and culture, which will be held from Wednesday, July 21 through Saturday, July 24 at venues around downtown Ludington. If you have questions about the Sandcastle Contest, email Mary Todd at mfmetodd@gmail.com. More information about the Sweet Summer Celebration is available at www.sweetludington.org.

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