



150 W Lincolnway, Ste 1006
Valparaiso, IN 46383
219.464.8332
valparaisoevents.com

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Katie Abel

**EXECUTIVE EVENT & MARKETING
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PRESS RELEASE–FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

**VALPARAISO EVENTS PRESENTS FUNDRAISING PROCEEDS OF
OVER \$17K TO SELF SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

April 5, 2022
VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Valparaiso Events hosted the First Annual LepreCON event on Sunday, March 13, 2022, where hundreds of attendees donned green and enjoyed St. Paddy's Day festivities while supporting an excellent cause—the Special Education Learning Facility (SELF) School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

Between ticket sales, sponsorships, generous donations, and a silent auction and raffle, the LepreCON event raised \$17,350 and collected an abundance of classroom supplies and school necessities for SELF PTO and teachers at the school.

Serving seven school districts, SELF School provides comprehensive special education services for children in Porter County. Their dedicated staff, teachers, and administrators work with students from age three to age twenty-two.

“We were thrilled to partner with Valpo Events and those on the planning committee to raise awareness about SELF School and are overwhelmed by the generosity of our community” says Trisha Field, one of the eight members of SELF PTO. The donated classroom items will go into a new “Classroom Supply Closet” for teachers and staff, and the monies raised will help fund their teacher appreciation week, Field Day celebration and activities, and an Earth Day effort to beautify the outside of the school with new plants that bloom during the schoolyear.

Participating establishments included Lincoln Flats, Aftermath Cidery & Winery and Stacks Bar and Grill in downtown Valparaiso. Valparaiso Events would like to thank these restaurants and their staff; the following LepreCON planning committee members—Trisha Field, Sarah Budgin, Dr. Steve Buck, Mark Kolar, Matt Whaling, Dena Whaling, Kim Oswald, Nicole Caylor, Steve Siler, Susan Siler; and the many SELF PTO members, teachers, and Valparaiso Events volunteers that made LepreCON 2022 a success.

Photo (L to R): Dr. Vida Choucalas, Jill Buck, Steve Siler, Susan Siler, Dena Whaling, Dr. Steve Buck, Tom Clifford, Trisha Field, Carmen Rojas, Leslie Nuss, Stephanie Cooper, Matt Whaling, Katie Abel, Sandy Bodnar, Jenny Dimitroff [PTO members, VE staff & LepreCON Planning Committee members]



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PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

VALPARAISO EVENTS KICKS OFF THEIR FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES NEXT THURSDAY IN DOWNTOWN VALPO

**July 8, 2022
VALPARAISO, INDIANA**

Valparaiso Events' Summer Concert Series begins Thursday, July 14th with a performance by Small Town—"A John Mellencamp Experience." Located in downtown Valpo at Central Park Plaza, home to Northwest Health Amphitheater, this free live music series runs every Thursday evening throughout the summer until Thursday, September 1st. Bands will take the stage at 7:00 pm for a 90-minute set.

From rock to country and oldies to current hits, the series' band lineup offers something for everyone to enjoy!

July 14th: Small Town—"A John Mellencamp Experience"

July 21st: Together Band—"Exciting, Versatile 12-Piece Band"

July 28th: Nawty—"Music from Motown on up"

August 4th: The Head Honchos Band—"American Music From It's Heart and Soul"

August 11th: Visions of Santana—"Premier Regional Santana Tribute Band"

August 18th: Steel Country—"Chicagoland's best Modern Country Music"

August 25th: Mr. Funnyman—"Ultimate Variety Band in Northwest Indiana"

September 1st: The Indigos—"Alternative Funk Rock Band"

Concert goers are encouraged to order takeout from or dine at one of our amazing downtown restaurants and to bring a blanket and/or chairs for the lawn. In Central Park Plaza, refreshing brews will be available for purchase from Four Fathers Brewing, and food and treats will be available for purchase from Valpo Velvet, Chick-fil-A, and Opportunity Enterprises' Simply Amazing Market.

Valparaiso Events would like to thank the generous sponsors who have made the Summer Concert Series possible— Platinum Partner TCU; Gold Partners Grieger's Motor Sales, M&S Collision, NIPSCO, NIPSCO Energy Efficiency, Purdue Northwest; Silver Partners Chick-fil-A, Indiana Army National Guard, Valparaiso Democratic Committee; and Bronze Partners AM Stabilizers, Centier, Meijer, Northern Indiana Federal Credit Union, Northwestern Mutual—Doug Mogck, Opportunity Enterprises, Stevenson Fairchild & Surber, and Valpo Velvet.

For more information visit www.valparaisoevents.com or @ValparaisoEvents on Facebook or Instagram.



PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

VALPARAISO EVENTS KICKS OFF THEIR SUMMER OUTDOOR MOVIES SERIES ON TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH WITH SHREK

May 25, 2022

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

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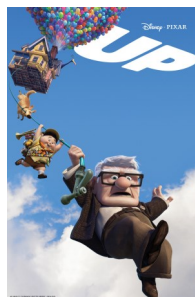
Valparaiso Events' Summer Outdoor Movies series will begin Tuesday, June 7th with a showing of *Shrek* at Central Park Plaza, home to Northwest Health Amphitheater, in downtown Valpo. The series runs every Tuesday evening in June and showcases other family-friendly favorites including *Up*, *Encanto*, and *Wizard of Oz*. The movies will begin at dusk with pre-movie activities starting at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 7th (*Shrek*) will feature movie characters and free face painting. *Up*, showing on Flag Day (June 14th), will spotlight a patriotic performance by the South Shore Brass Band as well as balloon features and free balloon twisting. June 21st (*Encanto*) will be a magical evening with movie characters and free face painting. Dorothy, the Wicked Witch, and the Cowardly Lion will make an appearance on June 28th for *Wizard of Oz*. Costumes are encouraged this evening to celebrate the movie's 80th anniversary, and the Wicked Witch herself will emcee a costume strut across the stage before the movie begins.

And what's a movie without popcorn!? Free popcorn, courtesy of Valparaiso Baptist Church, will be available at 7 p.m. until supplies last. Additional treats will be available for purchase from Valpo Velvet, and attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket and chairs for the lawn.

Valparaiso Events would like to thank the generous sponsors who have made the Summer Outdoor Movies possible— Valparaiso University, Hilltop Neighborhood House, Currie Motors Ford of Valpo, Valparaiso Democratic Committee, Purdue Northwest, NIPSCO, Indiana Army National Guard, AM Stabilizers, Centier, Valpo Velvet, Meijer, HealthLinc, Orangetheory Fitness Valparaiso, Associated Pediatricians, and Steve Siler with State Farm.

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PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

THE VALPARAISO ART FESTIVAL, HELD IN DOWNTOWN VALPO ON JUNE 25 & 26, WILL FEATURE MORE THAN 60 ARTISANS, INCLUDING ARTISTS LOCAL TO NORTHWEST INDIANA

**June 9, 2022
VALPARAISO, INDIANA**

Hosted by Valparaiso Events and produced by Amdur Productions – a nationally acclaimed arts festival production company – the Valparaiso Art Festival will take place Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26 from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. The festival will feature over 60 juried artists who specialize in various mediums, including photography, painting, pottery, metalworking, stained glass, wood working, jewelry-making, fiber arts, and more.

The festival will take place just south of Central Park Plaza on Indiana Avenue and Lafayette Street, and the Valparaiso Market, located in the park, will run concurrently throughout the weekend. Festival goers will delight in live artist demos, a graffiti wall, and live entertainment throughout the weekend. The Kids' Art Tent will feature face painting, spin art, sand art, and Art Fest bingo. The Valparaiso Creative Council will be handing out kids' art bags at their booth, and *Birds of Paradise* coloring books will be available at the Valparaiso Events booth. *Birds of Paradise* is a new downtown sculpture scavenger hunt from the City of Valparaiso that's fun for the whole family and highlights local artists and birds indigenous to Northwest Indiana.

Five talented artists local to Valparaiso and Northwest Indiana will be showcasing their work at the festival. Maria Overlay is a photographer who specializes in nature and wildlife shots. Bryan Lee and Dave Lee, renown glass blowers, are the owners of Hot Shop Valpo. Jason Gast specializes in oil paintings of animals and monochromatic portraits of actors and musicians. Debbie Van Gorp, owner of All Tied Up Boutique, creates exquisite necktie scarves. And Jackie "Jax" Kalin, a painter whose custom interior wall designs and paintings span the United States, was recently named the Art Comes Alive "Wildlife Artist of the Year."

[Photos of the local artists' work and contact information is available upon request.]

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