



OFFICE OF TOURISM
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release: August 21, 2012
Contact: Catherine Herlocker
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Event Dates/Times: Saturday, October 27, 2012 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday, October 28, 2012 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

EVENT - “Open Studios - Botetourt”

Fincastle, VA - The Bank of Fincastle and Botetourt County’s Office of Tourism, along with partners *City Magazine* and 101.5 - The Music Place, present the 2nd annual Open Studios of Botetourt tour. This free event will take visitors around the beautiful, scenic county to explore 15 Botetourt artists’ studios. This is a rare opportunity to visit artists in their studios and homes and view their rich and varied works both completed and in progress.

The participating artists in this year’s tour are: Linda Atkinson, Lois Bittner, Edward Bordett, Jake Cress, Nancy Dahlstrom, Vera Dickerson, Magae Hartzell, Dreama Kattenbraker, Brett LaGue, Tom Lawson, Tina McConchie, Willie Simmons, Bill White, Mark Woodie and Mark Young. The new artist joining the tour this year is Mr. Brett LaGue of Fincastle, who is a great addition to the group. “You find it, you paint it, and then you get to share it with others - I love that; plus I get the bonus of being part of a great group of artists,” says LaGue.

During the tour, visitors will have a chance to purchase original artwork and learn about the tools and materials used to create it. On the day of the event, the Open Studios logo on signs throughout the County will help direct folks to each studio. Use GPS or obtain specific written directions on our website.

Open Studios Passport Cards obtained at the first stop can be stamped at the studios visited. These will be entered to win a \$150 gift certificate towards an art purchase.

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Whether you are a collector, or simply curious about art, this is an opportunity to converse one-on-one with artists while enjoying the added pleasure of the beautiful fall foliage and landscape of Botetourt County.

Visit the event website (www.openstudiosbotetourt.com) for more information about the artists, view samples of their work, and see a studio location map, or contact the Tourism Office at 540-473-1167. The printed *Open Studios - Botetourt 2012* brochure with map will available in September at Bank of Fincastle locations and at the Tourism Office.

It's the art event of the year that you won't want to miss!

Open Studios – Botetourt

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