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Artist studios tour now expanded to three Florida counties

The popular *Off the Beaten Path Florida Arts Tour* has expanded this year to be held in Volusia County, Lake County and now, Seminole County. The annual self-guided Tour invites the curious to follow three different maps and go behind the scenes at dozens of professional artist studios in North Central Florida.



Lake County Tour Stop #5, Brenda Heim Studio

Various genres of artwork range from unique ceramics to large-scale paintings and metal sculptures.

During the Tour every year, artists open their doors to the public providing guided walkthroughs while some studios offer informative demonstrations and light refreshments. Most works are available for sale.

The annual *Off the Beaten Path Florida Arts Tour* draws families, tourists, curators, collectors and commissioners of art from near and far, and the event is now being called "a cultural adventure." Writer for *Visit Florida*

New this year, the Tour is also to be held on two different weekends: December 3-4 in Lake and Seminole Counties, and February 25-26 in the greater DeLand area of Volusia County. Studios and cultural institutions will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Unlike the usual arts and crafts festival events, the *Off the Beaten Path Tours* feature esteemed artists' studios whose public artworks are seen in government buildings, hospital lobbies, resorts, and banks, as well as in parks and tourist destinations.



DeLand Tour Stop #5, John Wilton Studio

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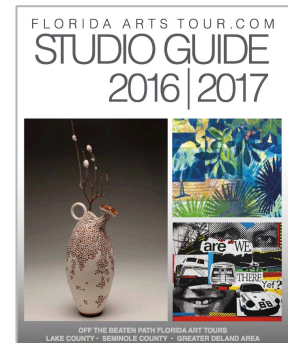
Lake County Tour 2014, Janice Roan Studio

and author for *National Geographic*, Gary McKechnie, wrote about the annual tour in an article he entitled, "Florida's Artistic Treasure Hunt." The article is available under "News & Media" on the event website,

FloridaArtsTour.com.

Another new addition with this year's expansion is a full-color *Studio Arts Guide* with the maps of studio locations and listings of every

participating artist with images of signature works. The 36-page guide is free and available at supporting museums and organizations and can also be downloaded as a PDF file from the website: FloridaArtsTour.com.



The Off the Path Florida Arts Tour is sponsored in part by the DeLand Fall Festival of the Arts, the City of Casselberry, the Charles B. and Mary M. McLin Foundation, and the First National Bank of Mount Dora.

For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact by email:

Patrick Shannon ~ Patrick@A7.net

Brenda Heim ~ Brenda@HeimArt.com

High-resolution images: FloridaArtsTour.com/Media

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