



PRESS RELEASE
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Contact: Katie Hasler Peissig
katie@haslerpeissig.com
812-881-9248

Artists Create Site-responsive Works to Enhance Reedsburg Disc Golf Course

Opening June 12, DISCover Art Golf creates a new experience for disc golf players and nature-lovers to enjoy. Project culminates with the Battle of the Bog tournament this fall



REEDSBURG, WI—Wormfarm Institute, Reedsburg ArtsLink, and Disconsin Disc Golf Club today announced a collaborative project that uses public art to enhance the Half-Moon Lagoon Disc Golf Course near downtown Reedsburg, Wisconsin. For DISCover Art Golf, nine artists from the region—including woodworkers, painters, fiber artists, and sculptors—were invited to create a series of artworks in response to the unique and historic landscape of the course which is located in the Roger Popple Nature Area adjacent to Webb Park. The artworks will be temporarily installed along the course for visitors to enjoy.

DISCover Art Golf will be open to the public, free of charge, from **June 12 to November 7, 2021**. Artists commissioned for the project include Christopher Sweet (Reedsburg) and Lightning New Rider (Wisconsin Dells); Don Kauss (Loganville); Ellie Erickson (Madison); Laura Annis (Baraboo); Martina Patterson and George Jones (both of Milwaukee); Peter Krsko

(Wonewoc); and Steve Tourdot (Reedsburg). The artists were selected to participate because of their unique use of materials, including natural resources found throughout the course.

Wormfarm Executive Director, Donna Neuwirth states, “Wormfarm is thrilled to organize this new project that sparks creative activity in Reedsburg, bringing new audiences to both disc golf and the arts. It provides yet another platform for artists to enhance and transform public space.”

Reedsburg ArtsLink Executive Director, Joann Mundth Douglas says, “Reedsburg’s disc golf course is already exceptional with its beautiful setting along the Baraboo River. The art installations will further heighten the experience for visitors this season.”

Nick Bauer, one of Disconsin’s founding members, adds, "It's been fun to see how the artists have created a new experience at the Half-Moon Lagoon Disc Golf Course. With the growing popularity of disc golf, we hope this encourages more players to come and check it out."

The Half-Moon Lagoon Disc Golf Course was established in 2017 by Disconsin Disc Golf Club. Located at 425 N. Webb Avenue near historic downtown Reedsburg, Wisconsin, the course runs through the woods of the Roger Pople Nature Area with the majority of the 18 holes next to waters of the Half-Moon Lagoon, Hay Creek, and the Baraboo River. The 4250-ft course finishes in nearby Webb Park. The course is free and open to the public year-round, weather permitting. Parking is available in Webb Park.

To enjoy DISCover Art Golf, disc golf players and park visitors are invited to use the corresponding map—available for free at the course, Reedsburg Chamber of Commerce, and other Reedsburg-area locations—for self-guided tours. The map will provide artwork locations, as well as information provided by conservation biologist Maia Persche (Madison), about a nature walk which highlights the native plants and wildlife found along the course.

Public Events

The public is invited to celebrate the opening of the DISCover Art Golf on **Saturday, June 12 at 1:00 pm**. Project organizers will host a casual reception featuring remarks from artists, refreshments, and disc golf activities. For more details, visit wormfarminstitute.org

The collaboration will culminate in the fall with a series of public programs organized by Disconsin. Disc golf lessons will be offered by club members for those who are new to disc golf or want to perfect their techniques. On **November 6, 2021**, Disconsin will host the Battle of the Bog Tournament which is open to beginners and amateur players throughout the region and listed with the Professional Disc Golf Association. To commemorate the project, a limited-edition disc will be designed by artist Josh Hess (Reedsburg), available for sale to participants in public programs. Further details about the fall programs and registration information will be announced at a later date.

Test Plots

DISCover Art Golf is the first in a season of Test Plots—a series of experimental, outdoor programs hosted by Wormfarm Institute. Taking its name from the designated parts of a field used to trial new crops and growing techniques, Test Plots will present a variety of projects throughout Sauk County including disc golf, public art commissions, agricultural workshops, and musical performances. Test Plots will function as a means to experiment with new ideas and partnerships leading up to the next Farm/Art DTour planned for fall 2022. More information on the Test Plots series will be announced soon. Visit wormfarminstitute.org for event details and further updates.

The Test Plots series is made possible in part by the generous support of the Educational Foundation of America; the Sauk County Extension Education, Arts and Culture Committee and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts; the Reedsburg Arts Committee; and anonymous donors.

About

Wormfarm Institute

Wormfarm Institute is a nonprofit organization in Reedsburg, Wisconsin working to build a sustainable future for agriculture and the arts by fostering links between people and the land. An evolving laboratory of the arts and ecology and fertile ground for creative work, Wormfarm explores the links between rural and urban communities within and beyond the food chain, creating opportunities for cross-sector collaboration. For more information, visit wormfarminstitute.org

Reedsburg Artslink

Reedsburg ArtsLink is a multi-disciplinary arts non-profit using the arts as a platform to build community in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Working to integrate the arts into all aspects of community life, Reedsburg ArtsLink brings leadership and energy to the area's growing arts sector. For more information, visit reedsburgartslink.org

Disconsin Disc Golf Club

Established in 2015, Disconsin Disc Golf Club is a group of amateur disc golf enthusiasts. Disconsin members come together to discuss, compete, and promote the advancement of the sport of disc golf throughout Wisconsin. For more information, visit disconsin.com

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Image credit: Artist George Jones weaves buckthorn into an in-progress artwork made in collaboration with Martina Patterson, opening June 12, 2021 at the Half-Moon Lagoon Disc Golf Course. Photo courtesy: Wormfarm Institute.