

# Media Alert

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## Youthville to host Chalk ART Festival, June 12

(Wichita, Kan., June 1, 2010) Sidewalks will inspire attendees on Saturday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Youthville's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chalk ART Festival, an event presented by Youthville's Expressive Arts Center. The Chalk ART Festival is an opportunity for people of all ages to experience a day of expressive arts in downtown Newton, Kan. In case of rain, the festival will be moved to June 19.

This free event will feature artist demonstrations from more than 25 artists around Kansas. Everyone will have the opportunity to create their own sidewalk chalk art and enjoy free live music and ice cream.

"For the children of Youthville, participation in chalk art may be a way to create lasting childhood memories, and for adults, it may be a way to reminisce about their past and better connect with and understand the children in Youthville's care," said Gingrich-Gaylord.

The featured artists' completed pieces will then be on display at the Carriage Factory Art Gallery in downtown Newton for a silent auction. The auction will finalize on June 17 at a special reception from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Also, on display at the Carriage Factory Art Gallery is Youthville's Walk A Mile exhibit, a project serving disadvantaged youth in Youthville's care through artistic expression.



Newton Medical Center and Hutchinson Credit Union are key sponsors for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chalk ART Festival. In addition, the Newton Public Library is partnering with Youthville during their 2010 Flower & Garden Tour also on June 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and June 13, 1-5 p.m.

Youthville's Expressive Arts Center on the Newton campus was established to give disadvantaged youth a creative place to express their experiences through art. It offers a comprehensive array of programs, including: incentives for improved behaviors, outings, recreation and opportunities for service within the community. These programs allow the children to reframe their difficult life experience to help them create new tools for coping.

Youthville's vision is to provide the best sources of help to children who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected with its mission of *Giving Children Back Their Childhood*. Over 3,000 children are cared for annually by Youthville. To learn more or to get involved with Youthville, visit [www.youthville.org](http://www.youthville.org).



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