

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ART EXPLOSION TOLEDO TO HOST FREE OPENING RECEPTION FEATURING AREA ARTISTS**

(Toledo, OH), Jan 10, 2013—Art Explosion Toledo, an organization that unites local visual artists with alternative venues for displaying their work, will host an Opening Reception for the public to celebrate its inaugural Artists Showcase on Saturday, February 9, 2013.

The event will take place at Ukazoo Books, located at 830 N. Westwood Avenue, from 4-9pm. The public is invited to meet the Art Explosion Toledo collective of artists and view the featured artwork, while also enjoying refreshments, music, door prizes and a silent auction.

The Opening Reception is the first of future Art Explosion Toledo community events. On a regular basis throughout the year, the organization will promote a new Artists Showcase at a new venue. Each will feature a select compilation of local artists' works. An Opening Reception will provide a relaxed opportunity for the public to view the select works and meet the artists.

Artists participating in the February Opening Reception include Klair Russell, Amy Hernandez-Bullano, Dani Herrera, Chris McAnall, Vicki Lee, Greg Justus, Jeff Weisner, Jeannine Dailey, Jace Ryan, Chris Eicchenberg, Janet Ritter Davis. Additional artists to be announced.

Art Explosion Toledo founder, Michael Palmer, said the events are designed to generate excitement around the Showcases and recognize the scope of talent within the Toledo arts community. They also give the public access to artwork they may not otherwise have an opportunity enjoy.

"There are many local artists without representation, and that means there's a lot of amazing work just sitting in studios," Palmer said. "Likewise, there are area businesses with empty wall space that could benefit from a fresh, dynamic means of generating excitement and foot traffic. My thought was, let's join these two opportunities."

Palmer is a local fine artist whose paintings were featured in the 2011 *Art in Public Places* program in Perrysburg. His works have also appeared in galleries nationwide and the book, *An Artist's View - New York*. Palmer will be among the artists displaying work in the inaugural Artists' Showcase.

For more information about Art Explosion Toledo visit

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtExplosionToledo>

For more information about the upcoming event visit

<https://www.facebook.com/events/402641773144158/>

For more information about becoming a contributing artist visit

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/458329174221446/>

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