



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **BEMIS FESTIVAL ADDS *CREATIVE* NEW DIMENSION TO SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL**

In an effort to expand Omaha's summer celebration of the arts to yet another venue, the Bemis 08: Creativity Festival will be presented in conjunction with the Omaha Summer Arts Festival June 26-28. Taking place in and around the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts at 12th and Leavenworth Streets, the Creativity Festival aims to explore the creative process itself as visitors engage in new ways to think about art, culture, community and creativity.

Living a life of creativity isn't just for artists; it's for each and every one of us and the internationally acclaimed Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts continues its advocacy of this philosophy by inviting all of Omaha to its premiere of Bemis08: Creativity Festival.

A collaboration with a host of nationally and internationally recognized organizations, artists and professionals across an incredible array of disciplines, the Creativity Festival will feature an eclectic blend of visual arts, theater, performance art, spoken word, lectures, panel discussions and musicians from a wide range of genres (along with a few surprises) all focused on the vital link between process and performance.

The Bemis Center will turn over 12th Street and its cavernous galleries, studios and performance spaces to a broad and disparate collection of artists in a provocative intersection of the visual arts and performance as visitors are immersed in new realms of discovery. From the experimental to the unexpected, Bemis08: Creativity Festival is a significant reaffirmation of the role of creativity as the essential spark that fires the engines of our imaginations.

**(More)**

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Compelling, contagious and even a little capricious, the festival will bring a far-flung, “big tent” flavor to the arts... and there will, of course, be a big tent at Bemis08: Creativity Festival. With more than 24 hours of programming over three days, visitors will want to pace themselves as festival evenings give way to a dance party and live music on the 12th Street Stage as Bemis08: Creativity Festival works up a sweat to rhythms that will echo off the brick-paved street and throughout the concrete canyons of the Old Market.

Free and open to the public, Bemis08: Creativity Festival promises a memorable line-up of thought-provoking programming that will be as entertaining as it is enthralling while drawing the community into a deeper examination of creativity, process and performance as being the very fiber of culture in America and beyond.

For a complete schedule of events for the Bemis08: Creativity Festival, visit **[www.bemiscreativityfestival.org](http://www.bemiscreativityfestival.org)**. For more information on the Omaha Summer Arts Festival presented by First National Bank, visit [www.SummerArts.org](http://www.SummerArts.org).

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