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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## **City to dedicate new Central Park Main Stage with ribbon-cutting to kick off the art festival weekend**

**WINTER PARK, FL,** *an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies* (October 5, 2022) The City of Winter Park and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the city's new Central Park Main Stage located near North Park and Garfield avenues in downtown Winter Park. The celebration to be held on **Saturday, October 8,** at **8:30 a.m.,** will include remarks from city officials and project participants as a kick-off to the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Park Autumn Art Festival hosted by the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce and presented by Keller Williams Winter Park. The community is invited to attend this dedication of Winter Park's newest entertainment venue that will continue the tradition of showcasing performances and productions that will inspire all for generations to come.

The new stage will complement and enhance the existing design of Winter Park, including the charming Winter Park Train Station. The craftsman style design features tapered columns, latticework, a bead board ceiling, and a roof with standing seam metal, finials and eyebrow vents. Located where the previous stage was, it has been gently turned so the view is improved from Park Avenue, while maintaining its strong presence for performances in Central Park.

The original main stage was constructed in the 1980s with the only significant improvement made since then was a refitting of the canopy due to the 2004 hurricanes. The CRA marked this project as a priority and moved up the timeline to the 2022 fiscal year. The stage is perfectly situated within Park Avenue's bustling commercial district and will continue to serve as host to over 75 large events throughout the year including family-oriented activities, concerts, movie nights as well as yoga and fitness classes.

After the ceremony, please enjoy the Autumn Art Festival, Saturday, October 8, through Sunday, October 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The only juried fine art festival that exclusively features more than 180 Florida artists, presents quality visual art and live entertainment the whole family can enjoy. For more information about the festival, please access winterpark.org/autumn-art-festival.

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