



BRISTOL
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Diversity Reigns, Tradition Thrives

Bristol Marketplace Offers Departure from the Norm

KENOSHA, Wis. (Summer 2010) ó This summer's 23rd annual Bristol Renaissance Faire invites guests to enjoy an ever-expanding Merchant Marketplace presenting a wide array of uncommon and original wares.

õThe resurgence of interest in hand-crafting and DIY (do-it-yourself) makes our Marketplace more relevant and exciting now, perhaps, than ever before,õ said Julia Romanski, Bristol's Marketplace Director. õNot only can our patrons expect to see hundreds of handmade items, they can often see the artisans create them before their eyes.õ Patrons interested in watching demonstrations by Bristol artisans will want to keep an eye out for flames this season, as a glassblower, a torch worker and a blacksmith will neighbor one another on Shoplatch Lane.

Among the new merchants joining this summer's Faire are several regional artists, including Teresa Wooden, of Burlington, Wis., whose Stone Forest Pottery offers beautiful creations for home and garden, and Joshua Diliberto, of Madison, Wis., who displays a stunning array of titanium chain maille pieces in his shop, The Mythril Weaver. Barbara Bettag, of Wheaton, Ill., applies themes of discovery and archeology to jewelry in her shop, Elemental Voyages, while Bill Shorts, of Waukegan, Ill., weaves baskets throughout the day as The Wicker Man.

New merchants traveling to Bristol's Marketplace from afar include Florida's Garlic Festival Shoppe, which offers garlic-based cooking essentials, and Lady Artisan, Ltd., where Minnesota artist Barbara Mundschau showcases original works cast in bronze and pewter.

(more)

MARKETPLACE ó ADD ONE

The increasingly popular annual Bristol Marketplace Weekend returns on the fifth weekend of the Faire, Aug. 7-8. Shoppers spending \$200 in one day can show their receipts at the Guest Services Gazebo and receive two free tickets to return to the Faire another weekend this summer.

Nearly 175 artisans and crafters offering wares ranging from soaps and leatherworks to ironwork and sculpture are expected to be browsed by more than 200,000 patrons at this summer's Bristol Renaissance Faire. Located just west of I-94's Russell Road exit, near Kenosha, Wisconsin, the Bristol Renaissance Faire will open rain or shine, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., every Saturday and Sunday, July 10 through Sep. 5, and on Labor Day, Sep. 6. Tickets purchased at the gate are \$18.95 for adults and \$9.50 for children age 5 to 12. Advance ticket discounts are available online at www.renfaire.com or by phone, (847) 395-7773.