



## Arts Website Promotes Artists and Art Galleries

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Florence, Alabama (PRWEB) July 2, 2005 -- ShoalsArt.com has seen a 110 percent growth in website visitors since its launch just four months ago. The feature artist on the website is currently Tim Stevenson, renowned for his realism paintings. Additional well-known and established artists include Jean Schulman, Nancy O'Neal, and Jerry Wylie. The feature photographer on the website is Wayne Sides, recognized for his collaborative work with musicians, poets, and other performing artists and for his wide range of subject matter in his photography.

The website features a section allowing anyone in the northern Alabama and surrounding area to upload their arts related event, gallery, or for artists, their own biography and arts work images. Categories include oils, watercolors, mixed media, sculpture, film, photography, ceramics, acrylics, drawings, pencil and ink, and more. Eight art galleries are currently promoted including the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, the Tennessee Valley Art Center, and Lori Davis Gallery.

Additional benefits of the arts website include a printable calendar announcing arts related events in the area, a 'Find an Artist' and 'Find a Gallery' listings, and interactive driving maps. Shoals Art recently began promoting the Yahoo(tm) group Shoals Art Network, an online and offline group of artists and art lovers who meet regularly on Thursdays in the Shoals area. Attendance is open to any and all artists and art lovers and the meetings continue to grow in size, topic and showings. 'Show and tells' are encouraged and artists frequently bring both finished and work-in-progress pieces.

Art teachers have connected with students through the websites and art students have come from all over the state of Alabama to enjoy staying in the Florence area. With the opening of a 4 star hotel, conference center and spa, thousands have recently attended arts and crafts events in the Shoals area including the Arts Alive Festival and the Helen Keller Festival.

### About Shoals Art

The mission of Shoals Art is to promote the artists and art galleries in the Shoals area of Alabama, by specifically providing visitors with the online tools needed to answer the what, where, when, who and how questions associated with the areas' art culture resources. David Messer, president of i-Net Services Inc. and founder of [www.ShoalsArt.com](http://www.ShoalsArt.com), has a background in graphic arts, drafting and multi-media design. "I am doing my small part and giving something back to this wonderful community we live in. This area is already internationally known for its music heritage and is now quickly becoming a film and arts mecca for upcoming local artists and transplants. Art schools and teachers abound in the Muscle Shoals area and we only expect to see an upward trend of more arts festivals, artists, events and studios attracted to our area."

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### Contact Information

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