# John Michael Kohler Arts Center



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# JMKAC Receives 2023 Governor's Tourism Award for Arts, Culture & Heritage

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center (<u>JMKAC</u>) in Sheboygan is the recipient of the 2023 Governor's Tourism Award for Arts, Culture & Heritage. The award is presented annually to a business or destination that showcases the arts, culture or heritage for the enhancement of the tourism experience and economic well-being of a community.

The <u>Governor's Tourism Awards</u> recognize individuals and businesses that turn big dreams into exceptional results leaving a lasting impact on Wisconsin's tourism industry. Winners were announced at the Governor's Dinner during the <u>Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Tourism</u> hosted by Travel Wisconsin.

"The team at JMKAC is humbled to be recognized by Governor Tony Evers and the Travel Wisconsin team for this distinguished award," said JMKAC Director of Marketing Ann Deuser.

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center has two art venues in Sheboygan, the Arts Center at 608 New York Ave. and the Art Preserve at 3636 Lower Falls Rd.

The Arts Center offers eight galleries featuring contemporary art exhibitions, two performance spaces, a café, a museum shop, and a dropin art-making studio. Among its program offerings are community arts projects; artist residencies; presentations of dance, film, and music; classes



and workshops; and an onsite arts-based preschool. Free annual events include Midsummer Festival of the Arts and a series of live outdoor concerts.

The Art Preserve, which opened in 2021, is the world's first and only museum to focus entirely on work from art environments. The three-level building holds more than 25,000 works in JMKAC's world-renowned collection, which includes complete and partial environments by more than thirty vernacular, self-taught, and academically trained artists. Visitors experience unprecedented access and insight into the display, preservation, conservation, and interpretation of the collection through immersive instillations as well as a unique system of curated, visible storage of the works of art.

In 2023, a record-breaking seventy-three organizations were nominated for the Governor's Tourism Awards in six categories: Legacy; Rising Star; Innovation; Service Excellence Award; Arts, Culture &

Heritage; and Diversity, Equity, Accessibility & Inclusion. Twenty organizations vied for the Arts, Culture & Heritage category. Nominees are submitted by industry peers.

Admission and parking at both the Arts Center and the Art Preserve are free. For more information, call 920-458-6144, or visit <u>imkac.org</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>Instagram</u>.

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center is supported by corporate and foundation donors, government grants, and its many members. The Arts Center is not an entity of Kohler Co. or its subsidiaries.

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# About the John Michael Kohler Arts Center

Founded in 1967, the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (JMKAC) is dedicated to generating creative exchanges between an international community of artists and a diverse public. Central to its mission is promoting understanding and appreciation of the work of self-taught and contemporary artists through original exhibitions, commissioned works of art, performing arts, community arts initiatives, and publications.

The Arts Center's collection focuses primarily on works by artist-environment builders, self-taught and folk artists, and works created in the Arts/Industry residency program. JMKAC is the world's leading center for research and presentation of artist-built environments.

In June 2021, the Arts Center opened the Art Preserve, a satellite campus highlighting its collection of 25,000 individual works of art by more than 30 art-environment builders. The Art Preserve features immersive displays of art environments and curated visible storage of environment components. It also serves as a resource for research on art environments and the artists who create them.

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center is located at 608 New York Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The Art Preserve is located at 3636 Lower Falls Road, Sheboygan. Admission to both is free. For more information, call 920-458-6144, or visit <u>imkac.org</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>Instagram</u>.

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## Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Saturday, Sunday: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

## Location

John Michael Kohler Arts Center: 608 New York Avenue, Sheboygan, WI Art Preserve: 3636 Lower Falls Road, Sheboygan, WI