

BULLDOGS



UNLEASHED

Press Release

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Bulldogs Unleashed to Return to Batavia for 2018 Encore

Batavia, Illinois: The Batavia Library Foundation, the Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence, and the Batavia Parks Foundation are back in the dog house together to bring the beloved painted bulldog statues back to the streets of Batavia next summer. “Bulldogs Unleashed II”, is a public art-based effort to raise community spirit as well as funds and awareness for the the founding organizations. Teaming up with the foundations are new community partners: Batavia MainStreet, Water Street Studios, City of Batavia and the Batavia Chamber of Commerce to help with celebrations and promotions all year long. The kick-off event is scheduled for next **Friday August 11, 2017 at 6:00** p.m. at Water Street Studios as part of downtown Batavia’s “Second Friday.” Volunteers are hosting a kick off receptions with refreshments, selected bulldogs statues from 2011, a new litter of Bulldog puppy statues and information at the Dock, by Water Street Studios from 6-9 p.m. (160 S. Water Street, Batavia).

Event chairman, Steven McKenna remarks, “The original effort in 2011 was such a great success for the community, bringing thousands of people to town to see the Bulldogs on display with \$75,000 raised for three key Batavia foundations. Our groups felt the seven year itch, so decided it’s time to do it again.” The Bulldogs will be Unleashed from Memorial Day to Labor Day 2018 with a community celebration and auction event to be held in September, 2018.

CALL FOR ARTISTS: Artist applications are available at the August 11 kickoff event at Water Street Studios. Artists may also contact George H. Scheetz, at (630)879-1393 ext. 350, or gsheetz@bataviapubliclibrary.org, for information about submitting design proposals. Application details are also available on the website, www.bulldogsunleashed.org. Design proposal review begins September 13, 2017.

SPONSORS NEEDED: Bulldog Unleashed sponsorship and outright purchase opportunities exist at all levels. Detailed information can be found on the website, or email request for information to bulldogsunleashed18@gmail.com. The deadline for sponsoring or purchasing a dog is December 15, 2017.

AUGUST 11, 2017 KICKOFF EVENT: A kickoff event is planned for August 11, 2017, 6:00-9:00pm. A short presentation is scheduled for 6:00pm at Water Street Studios in conjunction with their gallery opening and ribbon-cutting, followed by a reception at the Dock. Guests are invited to take selfies with select 2011 bulldogs and meet the new litter of bulldog puppy statues revealed for the first time. Everyone who comes to the event and follows "Bulldogs Unleashed" on a social media channel earns a free chance to win the pick of the puppy litter! There will be refreshments and a slide show from 2011 Bulldogs Unleashed at the Dock. Any business or individual that purchased a Bulldog in 2011 and wants to make it available for the kickoff event, should contact Steven McKenna at s9mckenna@gmail.com. Artists can learn more about the statues and the recommended materials to be used at the kickoff event. Volunteers from the participating foundations and community organizations will be onhand to answer questions about the event and to share time-sensitive sponsorship opportunities. The public is welcome to stop by for some doggone fun and to help get the project off to a great start

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS: Keep up with the project via Facebook (BataviaBulldogsUnleashed), Twitter(@BulldogsUn), and Instagram(BulldogsUn) as well as our website www.bulldogsunleashed.org.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATIONS:

Batavia Library Foundation

The Batavia Public Library Foundation is dedicated to supporting the Batavia Public Library as a renowned institution that meets the lifelong learning needs of residents and organizations and offers a place to gather, exchange ideas and participate in cultural events.

The Foundation's goals :

To enhance library collections through direct gifts and/or endowments.

To provide for the development and implementation of innovative cultural and educational offerings.

To provide for continual improvement of library facilities and technologies.

To enhance and enrich opportunities for library staff and services.

Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence

The Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence provides financial and other resources to the schools for enrichment programs and other projects aimed at enhancing the quality of education and educational opportunities for the students of Batavia Public Schools. Teacher grants and college scholarships are awarded on an annual basis.

Batavia Parks Foundation

The Batavia Parks Foundation exists to foster recreation and open space initiatives that enhance residents' quality of life. This is accomplished through stewardship for open space, parks, facilities, cultural activities, and recreational programs in support of the Batavia Park District.