

**NEWS
RELEASE**

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CITY OF PADUCAH, KY



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**Paducah School of Art and LowerTown Arts and Music Festival Featured on
Quality of Life**

PADUCAH, KY—Talking about Paducah, Paducah School of Art Director Harvey Sadow says, “I had been watching for six or seven years the growth of the arts community.” With Paducah’s well-established arts community, Harvey decided in 2007 to move from Florida to Paducah to direct the art school. That same year Stefanie Graves moved to Paducah to open an art studio, Cowango. This year Graves was the co-director of the LowerTown Arts and Music Festival. On this episode of *Quality of Life*, Mayor Bill Paxton interviews Sadow and Graves about the art school and the festival.

The Paducah School of Art opened in Fall 2008, and within a year, it had an enrollment of more than 300. Sadow says, “Word of it is spreading nationally.” With nationally known faculty and a diverse curriculum, the Paducah School of Art continues to make a positive impression. Students are able to take courses such as ceramics, digital photography, print-making, drawing, painting, sculpture, two-dimensional and three-dimensional design, and art history. This fall the Paducah School of Art will begin offering an Associate in Fine Arts degree, the first for Kentucky. Sadow says, “It really allows students who are serious in the arts to be immersed right away in the arts.”

In May 2010, artists Stefanie Graves and Michael Terra co-directed the LowerTown Arts and Music Festival, which had previously been organized by the Paducah Renaissance Alliance. This year’s highly successful festival attracted approximately 13,000 people. Graves says, “I see this as a way for artists outside the community to be part of the community for a weekend.” Graves already is making plans for next year’s festival.

Quality of Life: Paducah Arts can be viewed on Government Channel 11 starting Monday, July 12 at 9:00 a.m. It also can be viewed on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.; Friday at 8:00 p.m., and Saturday at 9:30 p.m. A low-resolution version of the episode and programming schedules are available on the City’s website www.paducahky.gov. For more information about *Quality of Life* or other programming on Government 11, call West Kentucky Community and Technical College Television Coordinator Tom Butler at 534-3208 or Pam Spencer at 444-8669.

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