For Immediate Release

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Herron School of Art and Design summer campers will explore the hot topic of Creative Placemaking

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This summer, campers at Herron School of Art and Design will explore Creative Placemaking, which puts artists at the center of building vibrant communities. From imagining the perfect dwelling to bringing diverse people together to transform a public space, placemaking lifts up the unique characteristics of a variety of places and creates a sense of belonging. It's a hot topic of conversation around the nation.

“Artists build communities by investing their creativity in living spaces and public places,” said Jodie Bailey Hardy, director of Herron’s Community Learning programs. “Creative Placemaking is all about reinvention, collaboration and connectivity with the arts and one another.”

Creative Placemaking is also on the minds of Indianapolis civic leaders, artists and organizers, some of whom have earned funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and other philanthropies to bring the concept here.

Jodie is available for interviews now to explain to your media consumers why making connections to current events and other big ideas is relevant to kids’ summer camps, and to set up photography and video opportunities for you through the course of
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the summer as you cover Placemaking initiatives.

Herron’s Youth Art Camp is designed around a “Big Idea” each year, to stimulate youngsters’ understanding of culture and self-expression. Each week this summer Herron Youth Art campers will investigate placemaking themes by learning about contemporary artists engaged in related practices, art and design studio projects and outdoor activities at fabulous White River State Park. Youths in grades two through 10 will enjoy a stimulating and beautiful environment, along with the opportunity to make new friends, complete new projects and learn new ideas and innovations.

Camps are held at Herron’s Eskenazi Hall on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended care is available until 5:30 p.m. for elementary and middle school campers at an additional weekly fee. Each week’s camp culminates in a Friday Art Exhibit from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Family and friends are encouraged to attend.

A sampling of camp offerings

Week One: June 16-20
Creative Place-making: the Art of Utopia
Fantasy Worlds Come Alive
Campers will learn about other artists’ ideas of a perfect world. Then they will plan and render their own versions of utopia.

Week Two: June 23-27
Creative Place-making: the Art of Environment
Air, Water, Land and See
Landscape, bodies of water and climate are key elements in our living environments, as well as sources of inspiration for artists. Campers will learn about these artists then use the elements of nature to create art that relates to the sites and sounds of Central Indiana.

For more information about Herron’s Youth Art Camps, visit Herron’s community learning programs information on the web at http://www.herron.iupui.edu/-30-