



## News Release

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### All-City People's Parade: Waking Up Milwaukee

What does it take to make a parade? Creative thinking, long hours, and a whole lot of paper, paste and paint.



Giant puppets, masks and floats are being hand-built by artists and community volunteers in preparation for the **All-City People's Parade**, scheduled for Labor Day, September 6. A warehouse on Clybourn Street is the scene of organized chaos as dozens of individual pieces begin to take shape around the theme of "Waking Up!"



Most of the materials used are recycled--paper bags, cardboard, fabric, odds and ends. Several floats use bicycles for power, including a massive Ferris Wheel. Giant puppets and masks tower up to 20' in height. Marchers will be enveloped in coffee cups, a recliner and a canoe with jumping fish. Colorful spirit sticks created by children's groups complement more sophisticated sculptures by professional artists.



All this creative frenzy will result in the **second annual All-City People's Parade** at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 6, as part of Milwaukee's Labor Day Parade on Wisconsin Avenue. A review of the parade will be presented at Laborfest in front of the Miller Stage at approximately noon. Admission to the event at Meier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds) is free.



Milwaukee Public Theatre and Milwaukee Mask and Puppet Theatre led community artists and organizations in creating a public art event around a theme developed through city-wide brainstorming sessions. "Waking Up!" became the recurring motif for this positive and affirming parade with music, dance, and powerful images which express our community's fears while celebrating its hopes and dreams.

Individuals and groups are still being sought to march, dance, wear masks and handle floats, and may visit [www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org/parade](http://www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org/parade) or call Milwaukee Public Theatre at 414-347-1685 for more information. Photos from the current construction process and a 10-minute video of the 2009 parade are posted at the website as well.



The 2010 Parade projects are partially funded by the Wisconsin Arts Board and National Endowment for the Arts, Milwaukee Arts Board, Milwaukee County CAMPAC, United Performing Arts Fund, Greater Milwaukee Foundation/Abert Fund and Mary Nohl Fund, Helen Bader Foundation, Norma and Robert Ragir Foundation, Max Fund, Gardner Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Realtors Youth Foundation, Merrill Lynch, International Molded Fibre Association, MPS Partnership for the Arts, Jewish Community Foundation/Jack & Lucy Rosenberg Fund, Action Recyclers, Heartland Funds, Morgan Stanley-Smith Barney, Ogden and Co./Clybourn Partners, and many individuals. Media sponsors are Shepherd Express and 88.9 Radio Milwaukee.

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Pick up the pull-out insert in the August 26 Shepherd Express which previews the Parade.

Parade participation details, workshop slideshow, 2009 video: [www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org/parade](http://www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org/parade)

Workshop/parade building photos: [www.flickr.com/photos/milwaukeepublictheatre/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/milwaukeepublictheatre/)

To request high resolution copies of photos: email [lbdesign@wi.rr.com](mailto:lbdesign@wi.rr.com)

General info on Milwaukee Public Theatre: [www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org](http://www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org)

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