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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bikes, Bees & Butterflies Public Art and Urban Sustainability Project
Creating Pollinator Habitats in Cleveland

This summer, Ann Cicarella Landscape Design will introduce a new and creative public art and urban sustainability project to the regional Cleveland area. *Bikes, Bees & Butterflies* engages local artists to design upcycled bicycles that will become a framework nurturing urban sustainability through encouraging biking and creating urban habitats for pollinators.

16 artist-designed recycled bicycles provide the framework for increasing awareness about the need for specific plants to develop urban pollinator habitats. Pop-up pollinator habitats will inform the community about the importance of pollinators in our food, economy and ecosystem. Our goal is to promote urban sustainability to increase the cultural, social, and economic value in Cleveland.

Community leaders have fallen in love with the concept and are jumping on board to bring awareness about the importance of pollinators in urban environments. Nancy Heaton, Executive Director BAYarts comments, "It is our responsibility as artists to inspire and educate. This project brings together these elements through the most inspiring art of all...nature"

Every third bite of food you eat comes from plants that require pollination. Due to habitat loss and pesticide use, pollinators have been declining. We believe that healthy ecosystems are the foundation of daily life and any area, regardless of size, holds the potential to improve the natural benefits provided by plants and pollinators.

Throughout June and July, the *Bikes, Bees & Butterflies* project will be at community events and will present educational programs ~ including:

- **June 7th** 11 am to 4 pm - Farm and Garden Day at the Garfield Park Reservation of the Cleveland Metro Parks.
- **June 13th** 7:30 pm to Midnight - Hip 2B Square: Fear No Art event at the Cleveland Public Theater
- **June 14th**- 12:00 pm pARTy in Gordon Square
- **June 28th**- 12:00 pm - 7:00 pm – Waterloo Arts Fest at the Arts Alive tent
- **July 10th** – 7:30 pm Gardening for Pollinators presented by Denise Ellsworth at The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes (free to the public)
- **July 11th** - 10:00 am Project Launch Event at the Greater Cleveland RTA E. 55th Station
- **July 20th**- 2:00 pm - Pollinator Program presented by Cynthia Druckenbrod at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens (cost of admission to non-members)
- **August 3rd**-12:00 pm Warehouse District Street Festival
- **August 14th**-
- **This Fall**- Educational Program with the Soil & Water Conservation District
- More programs and events to be announced this summer.

We appreciate the collaboration and generous support from the following partners:

Donna and Stewart Kohl, The Greater Cleveland RTA, Bremec on the Heights, Brickman, Shaker Square, Case Western Reserve University, Heights Arts, Bay Arts, Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District, Eddy's Bike Shop, Bike Authority, Bike Cleveland, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland Metroparks, the Children's Museum of Cleveland, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, LAND studio, Art House, the Galleria, SPACES, Gordon Square Arts District, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, Sustainability 2019, City Rising Farm, Ohio City Inc., Forest City Enterprises, Spice Kitchen & Bar, Rustbelt Welding

Bikes will be placed at the following locations:

BAYarts, Spice Kitchen & Bar, J. Pistone Market, Tower City, Galleria at Erie View, Greater Cleveland RTA E. 55th Station, Slavic Village Learning Farm, Cleveland Botanical Garden, The Children's museum of Cleveland, Heights Arts Mini Park, Shaker Square and The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

For more information, visit <https://tackk.com/board/@BikesBeesButterflies> or find us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/bikesbeesandbutterflies?ref=hl>.

About Ann Cicarella Landscape Design

Ann Cicarella, principal of Ann Cicarella Landscape Design LLC, is a nationally recognized landscape designer with 25 years' experience in the field. Ann's passion for urban sustainability, fostering healthy habitats for pollinators and people, creating beautiful gardens; and bicycling inspired the Bikes, Bees and Butterflies initiative.

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