

The Charlevoix Circle of Arts is taking a group of patrons to Grand Rapids on Tuesday October 3rd to explore the wonder of ArtPrize. From the *Experience Grand Rapids* website, it is described as, “ArtPrize began nearly nine years ago as an experiment - a totally new event, unlike anything the world had ever seen. For 19 days each fall, three square miles of downtown Grand Rapids become an open playing field where anyone can find a voice in the conversation about what is art and why it matters. Art from around the world pops up in every inch of downtown, and it’s all free and open to the public”.

The trip to Grand Rapids will be a one-day event when the bus rolls out of the Circle’s parking lot at 109 Clinton Street in the early morning and travels for a day filled with culture and creation. There will be a behind the scenes tour at the Grand Rapids Art Museum beginning at 11 am where you can see work in the galleries before the museum is open to the public. After the tour, participants can stroll through the multitude on venues at their own pace.

In the early evening, the bus will bring you back to Charlevoix with the comfort of a movie, a light food offering and a relaxing journey home. “ArtPrize can be a pretty daunting experience for one that has not had the opportunity to see it first hand,” tells Gail DeMeyere, Executive Director of the Circle of Arts. “In this timeframe, there is no way you will be able to see all of the 1,346 entries on display. The concept of this excursion is to give people the opportunity to see the scope of this phenomenal art experience so that if they are interested, they can return with the understanding of what ArtPrize is all about.”

There is limited space available to join in the trip to Grand Rapids but there is still time to register online at: www.charlevoixcircle.com or call at (231) 547-3554. The Charlevoix Circle of Arts is located at 109 Clinton Street in the heart of downtown Charlevoix.