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Village of Orland Park to Host State of the Village Address at Carl Sandburg High School



The start of a new year in Orland Park brings Mayor Dan McLaughlin's annual State of the Village Address. Hosted by the Village of Orland Park, the event is free and open to all residents and businesses.

This year's address will be held on Tuesday, February 9 at the Carl Sandburg High School Performing Arts Center, 13300 South LaGrange Road. Doors open at 6 p.m. with an art exhibit and reception with the mayor's address beginning at 7 p.m.

"We invite everyone to come hear about Orland Park's progress over the past year," McLaughlin said. "We are especially excited to have a number of Carl Sandburg High School students involved with the event. It's been great to have the young adults of the community be a part of local government."

The theme of this year's address is "Orland Park Has Heart" with the winners of the village's volunteer of the year contests being announced along with an art exhibit of the same name. The village's arts commission sponsored the contest inviting village residents to submit art pieces that reflect how the community has heart. The works of finalists under 18 and over 18 will be on display at the event.

The last day to submit artwork illustrating how Orland Park has heart is Friday, January 15, 2016. Art pieces must be delivered to the Village Hall at 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top winner in each of the two categories. There is no cost to participate and details can be found at orlandpark.org.

The grand prize winner for each category will receive \$300 with second place earning \$150 and third place winning \$50 in each category.

The village's volunteers of the year contest invited residents to nominate a village youth, village adult and local business to be recognized for going above and beyond in service to the community.

"This year's theme of 'Orland Park Has Heart' is perfect because we all know what a great village we have," McLaughlin said. "We're excited to display the works of art and to be able to publicly recognize and thank some local people who do a lot for the community."

In addition to the art exhibit, the event includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and live music performed by Sandburg musicians.

"We chose to host this year's address at Sandburg in the evening for no cost so that more people are able to attend," McLaughlin said. Past addresses were held during the business day with attendees paying for the accompanying meal.

Local residents and business people wanting to attend the free State of the Village Address are asked to make reservations by calling 708/403-6399 or on the village's website at orlandpark.org/rsvp.

Those unable to attend will be able to view the address on the village's cable television channels on Comcast and U-Verse. It will also be uploaded to the village's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/villageoforlandpark.