



Presenting the Automobile as Art Since 2007

2015 ART OF THE CAR CONCOURS® JUNE 28

By Michael T. Lynch

ART
— of the —
CAR
CONCOURS

The Ninth Edition of the *Art of the Car Concours®* will take place on the grounds of the Kansas City Art Institute on June 28th. Tickets are available online at www.artofthecarconcours.com at \$20. Children 16 and under are admitted at no charge.

The event draws cars from local and national collectors, museums, and manufacturers, and is known for its diversity of 200 classics, vintage race cars, trucks, motorcycles, hot rods, muscle cars, high performance supercars, pedal cars and, this year, a special display of mid-Century concept/

dream cars. The *Art of the Car Concours* is now one of the biggest one-day art events on the Kansas City calendar. On display are some of the finest examples of automotive design and engineering throughout history, all regarded as fine art.

Mid-Century Concept/Dream cars

The special display of concept/dream cars will be seen along with the rest of the exhibitor vehicles on Sunday June 28. Both Ford and General Motors Museums in Detroit are sending vehicles that will be on display. As a result, the Ford KC Assembly Plant, founded in 1912, and the GM KC Assembly Plant, founded in 1923, are supporting special employee promotions to attend the *Concours* and

McLaren and Mercedes worked together to produce three Grand Prix World Championships in the late 1990s. In 2003, the two companies decided to build a McLaren Mercedes road car and the result was the SLR. The supercharged V-8 had 625 horsepower and many of the car magazines reported that it was the fastest production car they had ever tested. The gull wing doors are an homage to the Mercedes 300 SL of the 1950s. Darren Abbott has entered his SLS at the Art of the Car Concours.



In the early 1930s, with some exceptions, the French and Italians had dominated Grand Prix racing since its beginnings at the turn of the Century. In the mid-30s, Hitler encouraged German manufacturers to participate for propaganda reasons and they were soon successful. France offered a million franc prize for a French company that could build a car that would beat the time of the fastest French Grand Prix run at Montlhéry, outside Paris. This Delahaye won that prize.

view the Mid-Century GM and Ford vehicles on display. On Saturday, there will be a 'Meet the Legends' panel discussion about the concept cars. Those taking part will include Wayne Carini of Velocity TV's *Chasing Classic Cars*, Matt Anderson, Curator of Transportation at the Henry Ford Museum, Chuck Snow with the GM Futurliner, and Ralph Marano, a noted Packard collector who will bring five Packard dream cars to the Concours. Tickets are available online at www.artofthecarconcours.com

Benefit for the Kansas City Art Institute

The Kansas City Art Institute Scholarship Fund is our sole charity partner. For those wanting to make

a special contribution, a new Scholarship Patron ticket can be purchased for \$120. Our sponsors and underwriters provide the majority of funds for the *Concours* and we welcome newcomers to this category. See www.artofthecarconcours.com/ sponsors. For those wishing to advertise in our event program please contact Jennifer DeLuca jenniferd@townsendkc.com or Leon Toon leont@townsendkc.com.

KC First Friday

In keeping with our connections with the Kansas City arts community, the *Art of the Car Concours* will sponsor First Friday at ArtsKC in the Crossroads District. Join them at 106 Southwest



The Ford Ghia Barchetta was a bare bones sports car created by Ford Europe in 1983 from Ford Fiesta parts. Ford Executive Vice President Bob Lutz wanted to see it built in both Europe and America, but American consumer polls didn't arouse much interest. Since they were primarily done by questioning housewives in supermarket parking lots, that was no surprise. The car was never produced, but Fiat built something very similar that stayed in production for ten years.

Blvd. on June 5th from 5:30 - 9 pm to preview some of the cars on display at this year's Concoours and witness the unveiling of the City of Kansas City, Missouri's "Art of Data" exhibition. Along with fine arts on the wall, there will be fine arts on the floor as a small collection of classic cars will be on display.

Weld Wheels Student Program

Another creative endeavor that is part of the *Art of the Car Concoours* involves Kansas City Art Institute students. Kansas City-based Weld Wheels, a leader in performance and racing wheel design and construction is having a wheel design contest for the students. It includes workshops on the latest in computer-aided design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM) and Finite Element Analysis (FEA). The students will design their wheels and the winner will be awarded a grant of \$2000. The wheels will be put into production in time to be displayed at the *Art of the Car Concoours*.

Hagerty Youth Judges

An important initiative for the education of young people is the Hagerty Insurance Youth Judging Program. This is meant to encourage a new generation of connoisseurs and collectors. The young judges are guided through the show field as a group to pre-selected show cars and encouraged to interact with owners, allowing the young judges to learn details, history, and fun facts about each. A simplified score card highlights five basic categories and is rated on a scale of 1-to-5. This program is designed for children 9 - 16. Reservations are limited, so sign up your children, grandchildren, and friends today. Free applications are available at www.artofthecarconcoours.com Places in this program fill up quickly, so requests will be taken in the order in which they are received.

Social Media

The *Art of the Car Concoours* is active on social media and you can use it to tell your friends about

the latest developments about interesting vehicles and celebrity guests. Like us on our Facebook Page or follow us on Twitter and Instagram to preview cars and other aspects of the show. RSVP to this year's event and invite your friends: Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/events/782092098533894> / Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ArtOfTheCar> / Instagram - <https://instagram.com/ArtOfTheCar>.

Please use our official hashtag #ArtOfTheCar when adding posts about us on social media. We look forward to seeing you on June 28 at the *Art of the Car Concours*.



Cooper Weeks' 1897 De Dion Bouton will be one of the oldest vehicles presented at the Art of the Car Concours when it is exhibited at the Art of the Car Concours on June 28. De Dion Bouton was at one time the largest manufacturer of automobiles in the world and also built these motorized trikes. These were among the first mass produced internal combustion powered vehicles. Over 15,000 were built and one set a speed record of 65 mph in 1902.



The law office of Clayton S. Harper, LLC, is a proud sponsor of the Art of the Car Concours and the Kansas City Art Institute Scholarship Fund.

Clayton S. Harper
Attorney at Law

105 E. 5th St., Suite 505
Kansas City, MO 64106
816.421.1477

Business planning ♦ Estate planning