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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Kankakee Chamber of Commerce

199 S. East Ave.

Kankakee, IL 60901

**Kankakee Chamber Presents Panel on Public Art**

Join us **Thursday, February 14 at Noon at the Community Resource Center** for “A Case Study in Public Art” presented by the Kankakee Chamber of Commerce. This is a panel discussion on how community art has captured the uniqueness of Joliet. The three panelists include: Tom Manley, an artist and educator actively involved in the Friends of Public Art in Joliet; Kendall Jackson, Joliet city planner who has seen the impact art has made in Joliet; and Jeff Huebner, an art critic from Chicago and author of *Murals: The Great Walls of Joliet* in 2001.

“This art has made our whole downtown come alive. We now have upwards of 50 pieces of public art – murals and sculptures. Joliet is certainly more of a tourist attraction now,” says Tom Manley of the Friends of Public Art in Joliet.

This panel discussion is the first in the Kankakee Forums series, presented by the newly formed Kankakee Chamber of Commerce. The public forum series is designed to share success stories from our area and learn what others are doing to improve their communities.

“The whole idea for this event and future events in this series is to build cooperation and learn from other communities,” says Bill Yohnka, Executive Director of the Kankakee Chamber of Commerce.

Box lunches will be available for purchase on site. Admission to this event is free and open to the public, but those who are planning on attending should RSVP to Bill Yohnka at the Kankakee Chamber of Commerce by calling 815.933.0462 or email him at [KankakeeChamber@gmail.com](mailto:KankakeeChamber@gmail.com).

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