

Contact: Jasmine Bigelow Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce <u>jasmine@madrivervalley.com</u> 802-496-3466

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VERMONT BARNS & BRIDGES FESTIVAL New Fall Event in the Mad River Valley Announced

March 21, 2018 (Mad River Valley, Vermont) – Valley Arts and the Mad River Valley community announce the first annual <u>Vermont Barns & Bridges Festival</u> will take place September 14 – 16, 2018.

The event stems from the interest in—and success—of Valley Arts' annual Barns & Bridges Tour, traditionally a one-day self-guided tour that's been immensely popular with both local residents and visitors to the Valley. The Festival will include tours, art exhibits, specialty foods, workshops, music, and all kinds of activities at venues all over the Mad River Valley.

"The Festival is a community-wide celebration of the history and creative culture of the Valley," says Barbara Greene, executive director of Valley Arts. "It will kick off fall foliage season, and with all kinds of businesses and organizations involved and hosting special events, the weekend will be filled with plenty for everyone to enjoy!"

Learn more at <u>vtbarnsandbridgesfestival.com</u>, where the Festival schedule and details will be posted and updated throughout the coming months.

Valley Arts is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the multiple interests of the Mad River Valley by encouraging and promoting participation in the arts. The organization produces a wide variety of events, including outstanding exhibits in its Festival Gallery in Waitsfield and other venues, workshops conducted by nationally recognized artists, lectures, demos and handson creative programs, as well as the annual Festival of the Arts, a month-long celebration of all the arts, held in August and now in its $21^{\rm st}$ exciting year. More information is available at $\underline{\text{info@valleyartsvt.com}}$ and $\underline{\text{valleyartsvt.com}}$.

The Mad River Valley is a four-season destination located on scenic Route 100 in the center of Vermont. A unique multi-town community, the Mad River Valley offers a fun, authentic Vermont experience including arts, recreation, farms, foods, craft beverages, beautiful vistas, quaint villages, historic barns and bridges, cool shops, and warm hospitality. Home to both Sugarbush Resort and Mad River Glen, visitors to the Valley in the winter enjoy Vermont's best alpine, Nordic, and backcountry skiing. In the summer and fall, visitors experience vibrant events, hiking, biking, paddling, and refreshing swimming holes on the Mad River. More information is available at madrivervalley.com.