

The Wickford Art Association presents the annual

EST. 1962

# WICKFORD ART FESTIVAL

## ARTIST GUIDE

<b>ABOUT THE WICKFORD ART FESTIVAL</b>	P. 2
<b>GENERAL FESTIVAL INFORMATION</b> <i>Attendance, Event Site, Weather, Artist Amenities</i>	P. 2-3
<b>ELIGIBLE FINE ART/FINE FUNCTIONAL ART</b>	p. 3-5
<b>INELIGIBLE ART</b>	P. 5-6
<b>ONLINE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS &amp; JURYING</b> <i>Returning Artist, New Artist, Re-juried Artist, Artist Statement, Booth Requests, Images required, Jury Committee, Acceptance, Wait List</i>	P. 6-8
<b>CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE</b> <i>Permitted Items, Refunds/Cancellations, Booth Requirements, Tax Permits</i>	P. 8-10

## **ABOUT THE WICKFORD ART FESTIVAL**

The Wickford Art Festival is a juried fine art show. Started by local artists at a sidewalk show in the historic coastal village of Wickford in 1961, it was followed by the establishment of the Wickford Art Association in 1962 to carry on the event and to promote fine arts in the community. The annual WAF showcases the talent of 200 juried fine artists each summer, attracting dedicated art enthusiasts and buyers from all over the region. The event supports the mission of the Wickford Art Association with proceeds benefiting the Stephen A. Klein scholarship program, which awards Rhode Island high school students scholarship funds to support them in pursuing higher education in the arts field. The Wickford Art Association gallery hosts monthly exhibits, hosts lectures, demonstrations, and small concerts too. There are plenty of cutting edge and interesting classes offered, which are available to the public as well as artist-members.

Your work will be juried on originality, workmanship and professional presentation. Jurors also consider total show composition (i.e. number of exhibitors per category.)

Applications for the Wickford Art Festival are open January – March 15 each year.

This year's accepted artists will be sent additional festival information directly to the artists in an email from the Festival Director. Additional details for artists will be posted here as we get closer to the event.

## **GENERAL FESTIVAL INFORMATION FOR ARTISTS**

### ***ATTENDANCE, EVENT SITE, WEATHER***

- As a participating artist, you are expected to be present BOTH DAYS of the event. Non-compliance can result in exclusion from the festival for a minimum of 2 years.
- This event is located on a flat and well maintained soccer field - NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ON THIS FIELD. Be prepared to have help setting up and to move your equipment and materials across grass via dolly's, hand trucks, carts or wagons.
- Setup takes place Friday and Saturday morning before the start of the event. Volunteers are recruited to help artists with setup, breakdown along with extra carts - however access to the carts and availability of the volunteers that show up are not guaranteed.
  - *More details about timing of setup, logistics and more will be sent in the weeks leading up to the festival*
- The Wickford Art Festival is an outdoor art festival. The show goes on — rain or shine!
  - If a severe weather event is forecasted, festival management may delay the start of, postpone a portion of or end the event early.
  - This is for extreme weather circumstances only.
  - The hours of the show may be adjusted to compensate for any lost time due to a delay or postponement. The festival WILL NOT be rescheduled on any other day than Saturday or Sunday.

- You MUST be prepared for all weather events that may come with summer in New England - including waterproofing your tent, sides for shade or battery operated fans for cooling.
- Additional umbrellas over chairs outside your tent are permitted as well as overhangs/awnings off your tent.
- NO REFUNDS for cancellation or inclement weather.
- The Wickford Art Festival is a drug free event.
- For their safety, we advise leaving companion animals at home.

## **ARTIST AMENITIES**

- Discounted hotel rates at area hotels.
- Artist & Community Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Friday
- Robust marketing and advertising throughout the spring and summer in local media outlets, social media & regional art magazines.
- There is full overnight security on Friday and Saturday.
- Portable restrooms only are available to artists and the public.
- Weather may be hot and humid - you must be prepared with your own water, hydrating liquids and food - however, FREE bottled water is passed out to artists by volunteers.
- Booth sitters are available upon request should you need to use the restroom, take a break or grab food.

## **ELIGIBLE FINE ART & FINE FUNCTIONAL ART**

*ALL WORK MUST BE ORIGINAL AND SIGNED BY THE ARTIST. IN APPLICABLE CATEGORIES, ARCHIVAL QUALITY MATERIALS\* MUST BE USED (I.E., HIGH QUALITY MATERIALS THAT ARE MEANT TO LAST A LONG TIME). EDITIONS MUST BE LIMITED TO 300.*

## **ELIGIBLE ART**

### **CERAMICS**

Three-dimensional clay and porcelain work created by the artist. Jewelry is not included in this category. Work may not be machine-made or mass-produced.

### **DIGITAL ART**

Works may be created using digital technology or by using digital programs to significantly manipulate or alter source material(s) such as scans or digital files. Artwork must be original in conception and adhere to copyright and appropriation guidelines. Work created by or with the aid of Artificial Intelligence is not permitted. Works must be in limited editions, signed and numbered **no greater than 300 including all**

sizes, using only archival quality materials\* (see description above). Digital Art prints must be made from the artist's original digital file under the artist's supervision.

## **DRAWINGS & PASTELS**

Two-dimensional works created by the artist using dry media including chalk, charcoal, pastels, pencils, wax crayon, or from the fluid medium of inks and washes, applied by pen, brush, or other tools for mark-making. Work must be created with archival quality materials\* (see description above) and properly signed.

## **FIBERS**

Fiber art refers to fine art whose material consists of natural or synthetic fiber and other components, such as fabric or yarn. It focuses on the materials and on the manual labor on the part of the artist as part of the works' significance, and prioritizes aesthetic value over utility.

## **GLASS**

Three-dimensional work created by the artist in glass. Techniques include but are not limited to blowing, kiln-casting, fusing, slumping, or flame-working. No molds or other forms of mass production are permitted.

## **JEWELRY**

Jewelry created by the artist without the use of commercial casts, molds, kits or a production studio, regardless of medium. Jewelry created solely through the stringing of commercially available beads and similar materials on wire, string or cord, with no elements created by the artist, is not permitted. Only those artists accepted in the jewelry category may display or sell jewelry.

## **MIXED MEDIA**

Two-dimensional, one-of-a-kind works created by the artist in which the primary intent is the union of two (2) or more art mediums or materials or Three-dimensional, one-of-a-kind works created by the artist in which the primary intent is the union of two (2) or more physical materials. Artwork must be original in conception and adhere to copyright and appropriation guidelines.

## **PAINTING**

Two-dimensional work created by the artist with pigment including oils and acrylics, as well as egg tempera, casein, alkyd, encaustic (excluding watercolor). Work must be created with archival quality materials\* (see description above) and properly signed.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Two-dimensional work created by the artist that includes digital and film photography that has not been manipulated to achieve results beyond what could be produced in a traditional dark room. Hand-colored photography and emulsion transfers are accepted in this category. Only the artist's original source material is acceptable. Work must be printed by the artist or under the artist's supervision in limited

editions no greater than 300 ***inclusive of all sizes***, properly signed and numbered on archival quality materials\*(see description above). Signage of an overtly commercial nature listing the availability of numerous sizes, print surfaces and/or framing options is prohibited.

## **PRINTMAKING**

Two-dimensional printmaking is a transfer process of producing original art, usually in multiples. Printed original works are hand manipulated by the artist using etching, engraving, silk-screening, stone and plate lithography, linoleum block or woodcut, etc., which have been properly signed and numbered as a limited edition no greater than 300 using archival quality materials\*(see description above).

## **SCULPTURE**

Three-dimensional artwork primarily using a single medium, such as shaping figures in the round or in relief, chiseling marble, modeling clay, casting metal, or constructing from various materials.

Two-dimensional or three-dimensional artwork created by the artist through the forging, twisting, sculpting or fabricating of various metals. No forms of commercial, mass-produced, or enhanced items not made by the artist are permitted.

## **WATERCOLOR**

Two-dimensional work created by the artist with watercolors using archival quality materials\* (see description above).

## **WOOD**

Two-dimensional or three-dimensional work created by the artist that is hand-tooled, machine-worked, built-up, turned or carved in wood.

## **INELIGIBLE ART**

- Crafts
- Leather
- Art supplies
- Soaps, candles
- Neon signs
- Houseware appliances

# **ONLINE APPLICATION**

## **RETURNING ARTISTS**

- Artists who exhibited last year (2024) are considered “returning artists”.
- If you are a returning artist you are responsible to submit your application with a payment of the booth fee only.
- You can submit new images of your work in order to be included on social media and marketing materials.
- Once you are juried into the festival, you will be eligible as a returning artist for 3 years. If you miss a festival within those 3 years, you will still be eligible within that time frame and do not need to pay the jury fee or be re-juried.

## **NEW APPLICANTS**

- All images will be evaluated for professional presentation, including the booth.
- The jury fee is non-refundable and will not be returned if you are not accepted.
- You must submit 4 images (requirements outlined below).

## **RETURNING ARTISTS WITH EXPIRED JURY TERM MUST BE RE-JURIED**

- If you were juried in 2022 - you are up to be re-juried.
- The jury fee is non-refundable and will not be returned if you are not accepted.
- You must submit 4 images (requirements outlined below).

*If the festival administration determines there is a reason for you to be re-juried based on changes in festival prospectus, concerns with your booth display or quality of work, they reserve the right to ask you to submit work to be reviewed by the jury again even if it's not your jury year.*

You may exhibit a **maximum of two categories in one booth** if both categories are accepted in the show. **Each category requires a separate application** and each medium is **REQUIRED TO BE JURIED** and an **additional jury fee for each medium** must be paid.

## **ARTIST STATEMENT**

As a new or re-juried artist you must complete the artist statement section of the application in order for your work to be reviewed by the jury committee. Please describe your methods, process, materials, size and scale of pieces, etc. If you are a returning artist, it is optional and will be used for marketing purposes.

## **BOOTH ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS**

You may request an area or booth location you have previously been in. Festival administration will do their best to honor your request, and planning for booth assignments work around these requests. However requests cannot be guaranteed. Space assignments are based on many variables including the

total number of accepted artists per category, the number of returning artists per category, the spacing of categories throughout the show, and special setup requirements. As we value the importance of your clients finding you in the same spot, the accessibility to the booth location, or the direction in which you face - the field layout may change over the years, the numbering of booths may change, the composition of the artists/mediums participating in the event also changes, and the final booth assignments will be decided by the festival administration.

## IMAGES

You must submit four (4) images:

- Three (3) current artwork images (with no visible signatures or initials), and
- One (1) booth image\* with your current artwork displayed. Your booth image should not have any identifying markers. That means no signatures, no booth cards, no signage, and no people or pets should be shown in the photo.
  - ***\*If you do not have a booth image that represents your presentation of work at an outdoor art festival, you may submit a 4th image of your work. You also must include in your artist statement your plans for the type of tent you'll be using and describe your plan and design for presenting your work.***
- Each artwork image must show the date the artwork was created or the application will be marked incomplete.
- No printed photographs or slides will be accepted for jury.

## PLEASE NOTE

Your application will be rejected if these rules are not followed, and the jury fee will not be refunded.

## JURYING COMMITTEE & ACCEPTANCE

The jury committee consists of 5 members. Committee members are under the Wickford Art Association family of members, staff, or respected members of the art community. Committee members will have in-depth knowledge and experience in multiple art media. It is a "blind" jurying process, names are not revealed when reviewing your work that is submitted. Jurors select artists based on an adapted WAA Juried Artist Member Judging criteria which includes: originality, workmanship (knowledge of medium, elements of art, composition, use of space) and professional presentation. Jurors also consider total show composition.

### **\*NEW\* WAIT LIST**

The jury will select up to 20 artists that will be added to a wait list if accepted artists choose not to participate upon acceptance or cancel by a certain date. Artists on the waitlist will be notified on a rolling basis up until April 30.

## **CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE**

All work displayed in the festival should be of the consistent, high caliber as indicated in your initially submitted images for jury.

Upon acceptance, please read through the eligible art requirements listed above and make sure you only bring and sell work that falls within the requirements listed.

Please be respectful of your fellow exhibitors who abide by these guidelines. In an effort to maintain the high quality of fine artwork at the festival, we will be actively checking booths both days. You will be asked to remove any artwork, prints, excess browse bins, crafts, etc, that do not meet our show specifications.

Again, you must be present and setup at the festivals BOTH DAYS.

### **REFUNDS/CANCELLATIONS**

You must contact the Festival Director via email at [wickfordartfestival@gmail.com](mailto:wickfordartfestival@gmail.com) by the deadlines below in order to confirm your cancellation and refund amount.

- Artist's requests for a full refund will be honored until **April 30, 2025**.
  - If you must cancel and request a full refund, you will NOT be listed on the Festival site.
- Cancellations after **May 1, 2025**, for any reason by the artist, \$175 of the booth fee is non-refundable.
- Cancellations after **June 1, 2025**, for any reason by the artist, the full booth fee is non-refundable.



## **BOOTH REQUIREMENTS**

Exhibitors will provide their own booth setups and should be prepared for inclement weather.

### **Tents must be white.**

1. Displays must be sturdy, professional and tasteful.
  - Tables must be covered on all four sides to the ground.
  - Boxes and other materials must be stored out of sight.
  - Booths shall not exceed standard booth height or 10' x 10' ground dimensions\*. (Any booth found to exceed these dimensions will be subject to relocation at the discretion of the WAF staff.)
  - Single tents over 100' square feet require a double booth space.
  - Booths must meet fire safety codes. Exhibitors must be prepared to show documentation (from manufacturer) thereof to Fire Officials upon request.
  - **For Emergency Purposes, your Booth Number must be displayed clearly on the upper left hand side of the front of your booth, per the North Kingstown Fire Marshall.**
  - **You cannot use stakes in the ground to secure your tent;** you must use weights/sandbags to secure your booth in place. Artists who stake booths that damage the field's sprinkler system may incur a fee from the Town of North Kingstown.
2. Only mediums which have been approved through the festival jury process may be displayed. Festival staff will ask exhibitors to remove non-juried mediums. Items or other products with your artwork on it to sell (IE bags, merchandise, pens, t-shirts, keychains, magnets ETC) are NOT PERMITTED. (Free promotional giveaways are allowed). Notecards, books featuring the artist's work are allowed. Notecards cannot be commercially printed and be sold as singles, they need to be packaged featuring original artwork and limited edition prints on high quality materials.
3. No commercial prints, multiple prints, multiple cast (or "buy-sell") objects.
4. All reproductions must be signed and numbered editions of less than 300 and **ONLY** placed within **ONE browse bin or box.**
5. Photographs must be produced with archival ink on archival paper, **signed and numbered to a maximum of 300 limited edition prints.**
6. All 2-dimensional, hanging works must be framed or gallery wrapped.
7. All booths will be attended by the artist. No agents permitted. Festival staff personnel will be available to booth-sit for exhibitors for brief times, as needed.

8. Artists exhibiting at the festival are responsible to carry their own insurance for their artwork, personal belongings and booth. The WAA is not liable for damages, losses or theft during the festival.
9. A Rhode Island Retail Sales (Tax) Permit is required (more information outlined on the artists information page on the website).
10. Exhibitors will maintain a clean booth and orderly surrounding area during the festival and leave the area clean at the end of the festival.
- 11. Non-compliance with requirements 1-11 will be grounds for dismissal from the current festival and subject to censure in future festival participation.**

*\*indicates conditions set by the North Kingstown Fire Dept. for issuing of 2025 WAF permit.*

## **TAX PERMITS**

Although original and limited edition artwork is now exempt from sales tax (certain restrictions apply); the state of Rhode Island requires that every artist has a Temporary or Annual Retail Sales Permit.

- Temporary Retail Sales Permits may be acquired onsite at the Festival Registration. The 4 copies will be emailed to each artist so permits can be pre-filled prior to the set up.
- There is no charge for a Temp Permit.
- Annual Permits may be acquired through the State of Rhode Island free of charge (see our Website for the button and link) prior to the festival.
- Wickford Art Association is required to keep a copy of your permit on file. If an artist has an Annual Permit and a Certificate of Exemption, please submit a current copy of each document with this application (preferred) or bring a copy to festival registration.
- The Town of North Kingstown requires artist's Date of Birth (requested on festival application)