



Virginia Highlands Festival Juried Fine Art Exhibit Rules & Entry Form

2026 EXHIBIT THEME:

“Beauty & History: Celebrating 250 Years of Appalachia”

To help celebrate Virginia’s 250th anniversary, this year we are looking for 2D artwork that captures the heARTbeat of Appalachia. Plan ahead and select/create works that in some way celebrate our region’s diverse beauty and/or history.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO ENTER:

1. Fill out Artist Entry Form & Submit Payment:

- \$20 for each artwork (adult, non-refundable entry fee)
- \$5 (youth: ages 8-16 as of 7/20/26, non-refundable entry fee)
 - Checks should be made payable to: Virginia Highlands Festival
 - **Online pre-registration available at VaHighlandsFestival.com**

NOTE: Adults registered for Plein Air Abingdon, Oct. 7-10, 2026 receive 1 free entry into Juried Fine Art.

2. Send PAYMENT and ENTRY FORMS to:

Virginia Highlands Festival, PO Box 801, Abingdon, VA 24212 ATTN: Juried Fine Art

3. Fill out Art Identification Forms (3 submission limit)

- Please print clearly. Illegible forms will not be accepted.
- Cut the forms apart.
- Attach to the *upper right-hand corner* of your artwork(s) for identification.
- Artwork without identification will not be accepted.

4. Deliver your artwork on Saturday or Sunday, July 18 or 19 from 2pm-5pm:

The Arts Depot

314 Depot Square SW

Abingdon, VA 24210

(Pre-register and pre-pay to avoid delayed processing time)

Juried Fine Art Awards:

- **Best in Show:** \$2000, **First Place:** \$1500, **Second Place:** \$1000, **Third Place:** \$500
- **Honorable Mentions(s):** \$250, **People's Choice:** \$500
- Youth awards are **First Place:** \$100, **Second Place:** \$50, **Third Place:** \$25

PLEASE JOIN US!

Awards Presentation Ceremony, Reception, & Juror's Remarks Friday, July 24 from 5:15-6:30pm

The Arts Depot
314 Depot Square SW
Abingdon, VA 24210

Voting for the People's Choice Award:

- Voting conducted by ballot July 24-August 1 concluding at 12pm on 8/1.
- People's Choice Winner will be announced Saturday, August 1 at 5pm.

Juried Fine Art Exhibition Hours (photography – same hours at The Abingdon Train Station)

- Friday, July 24 to Sunday, August 2
- Monday through Saturday 10am–5pm
- Sundays 1–5pm (4pm on August 2)

ENTRY CRITERIA:

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AS RULES HAVE CHANGED

Art Media Categories – ALL 2-DIMENSIONAL WORKS including:

Painting • Drawing • Printmaking (intaglio, etching, relief prints) • Mixed media • Charcoal • Pastel

***Photography will be in its own category this year**

- All artworks must be artist's originals - made by the artist's hands - and executed solely by the artist within the most recent two years (copy written material will not be accepted).
- **2D artwork ONLY.** (Max. dimensions = 52" x 52" by 4").
- Mixed media is accepted, however **digital media (Video & Photography)** is not.
- Entries should not include those accepted in previous years.
- Entry fee must accompany the entry form.
- All works must be entered by the artist or designated agent.
- Provided identification tags (PART A) must be affixed on the back of each work. An additional copy of each tag (PART B) must be turned in with this application.
- Plexiglass suggested; glass accepted at artist's risk.
- All works must be **WIRED tightly** & ready for hanging -- **no saw-toothed hangers will be accepted.** If wiring is not tight, the piece may lean out from the wall, making the hanging of the show more difficult.
- All works must be dry to the touch.
- Unframed wrap-around canvas and cradle boards will be accepted only if: (1) it is at least 1 to 1.2 inches in depth (2) the sides are completely painted, and (3) no staples are visible.
- Paint and other materials **MUST** be dry.
- Maximum size: 52 inches by 52 inches by 4 inches, including frame.
- **Youth only:** Art created during an instructor-led class, may be entered as long as the art was 100% created by the artist's hand and not the instructors.
- **Youth only:** May submit pieces for consideration that does not follow this year's Theme.

*** Artwork not meeting the above criteria will not be accepted or judged.**

INFORMATION & GUIDELINES:

- **ONLY** those artworks selected by the juror will be hung in the gallery. Exhibit selections will be made from all eligible works submitted (see entry criteria above for details on eligibility).
- All work will be accepted at the committee's discretion.
- Artwork must be priced by the artist at time of entry (see forms). If not for sale, mark "NFS" on the Art Identification Tags and on the Artist Entry Form.
- Virginia Highlands Festival commission on sales through the Juried Fine Arts Exhibit is 30%.
- Entries are limited to only three per artist. (Diptychs, in two separate frames, will be counted as one entry. Triptychs, in three separate frames, will be counted as one entry.) Maximum size of 52" applies to the works as a group.
- **No artwork will be received or returned by mail.**
- Every care will be taken by the committee and the festival, but neither can assume liability for loss or damage, whatever the cause. Submission of a work to the exhibition shall constitute an agreement to comply with all conditions set forth in this prospectus. It is suggested that artists wishing additional protection would ensure their works independently.

Art Identification Tags - PART A: Labels for Backs of Artwork

Please PRINT Legibly

Entry #1

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

(Cut out and place on upper-right back of piece #1.)

Entry #2

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

(Cut out and place on upper-right back of piece #2.)

Entry #3

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

(Cut out and place on upper-right back of piece #3.)

Art Identification Tags - PART B: Labels to Submit With Entry Form

Entry #1

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

Entry #2

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

Entry #3

Artist: _____

Youth or Adult (circle one)

Title: _____

Medium: _____

Size: _____ Price: _____ (or NFS)

Artist Entry Form (complete & submit w/payment)

NAME: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Youth OR Adult *(circle one)*

Adults: \$20 per entry

Youth: \$5 per entry

(limit three entries per artist)

Payment Method *(circle one)*

- Check
- Cash
- Card on site
- Pre-paid online

Exhibited artwork may not be removed from the exhibit until **Sunday, August 2 from 4-6pm** (FINE FOR
EARLY REMOVAL: \$20.00)

The Festival nor the Arts Depot are responsible for artwork not picked up by **8/5/2026**.

Artwork not picked up by **8/5/26** will become the property of the Virginia Highlands Festival unless other arrangements have been made with the Arts Depot. **Artwork NOT included** in the Juried Show can be picked up during the exhibition at the Arts Depot:

July 24 - August 2 from 10am-5pm Monday to Saturday, 1-5pm Sundays.