



Call for Entries

Submission Deadline: Friday, January 23, 2026 by 5 PM

Exhibit Dates: March 24 - May 9, 2026

The 23rd edition of our annual show is presented to showcase artists from the North Alabama area. This is an open call to North Alabama area artists who work in all mediums to enter images of their work for consideration. The artist may be professional or amateur, and 18 years of age or older. Juried awards will be given for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place overall, Curator's Choice, and Director's Choice each with a cash award as well Honorable Mention Awards.

General Information

Submitted piece(s) of art must be original artwork, not a copy of another artist's artwork. Pieces must be no more than 5 years old. Artwork shown in previous EA exhibits are not eligible. Artists may be residents of Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Limestone, Limestone, Winston, Cullman, Morgan, Madison, Marshall, Jackson, Dekalb, Cherokee, Marion, Blount, or Etowah counties in Alabama.

Selected works must be available March 14 - May 9, 2026 for exhibit installation, the entirety of Embracing Art exhibition time and de-installation. No piece may be pulled for other uses even if only for a short time.

Artists must complete the entry form, listing pieces being submitted for consideration. Art Exhibit Submission Forms and this Call for Entries are available for download at www.carnegiearts.org and at the Carnegie during regular gallery hours, Tuesday - Friday, 10 AM - 5 PM, and Saturday, 10 AM - 2 PM. You are not required to offer your work for sale but may do so if you wish. Purchased works will remain in the exhibit until the end of the show.

Acceptable Work: 2D and 3D works in single or multi-media. All two-dimensional pieces submitted for Embracing Art must comply with the instructions for hanging hardware (page 2). THERE IS NO EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE. If you are uncertain of what the proper hanging hardware looks like or you cannot find d-rings, please ask and we will be happy to provide the information you need.

All two-dimensional work, with the exception of stretched canvases, MUST be properly framed. Stretched canvases may be framed if desired. The edges of unframed stretched canvases must be painted.

Canvas boards must be framed in order to properly install hanging hardware. Works on paper must be framed behind (clean) glass or Plexiglas and preferably mounted or matted with a white, cream, neutral or black mat board with a 1.5 to 3 inch border around it.

Photography should be printed for presentation 8" x 10" or larger. It should be mounted on or matted with a white, neutral, or black mat board with a 1.5 to 3 inch border around it and framed behind glass/Plexiglas unless it is presented as a print on metal or canvas and has the proper hanging hardware securely attached.

All art must be securely attached in frames and the frames themselves must be structurally sound. We will not accept work that is loose in the frame or is taped in.

Specific hanging hardware must be properly attached to the back according to Hanging Hardware Instructions to be included with acceptance letter.

All three-dimensional work must be of a size and weight that one adult can move easily.

Submission process: Complete the Art Exhibit Submission Form and return by mail, email or in person to The Carnegie along with applicable entry fees. Photographs of prospective works maybe submitted as follows:

High resolution, (300dpi), 5" x 7" or larger, JPG images of the prospective works by email to exhibits@carnegiearts.org. Include your name and phone number in the email.

High resolution (300dpi), 5" x 7" or larger JPG images of the prospective works on CD (not DVD) by mail or in person. Flash drive is also acceptable. Write your name and phone number on CD/ flash drive with permanent marker (no labels).

Clear and focused photographic prints of the prospective works, 5" x 7" or smaller, by mail or in person. Write title of piece, your name and phone number on the back of each photograph.

You may retrieve your CD, flash drive, or prints from the Carnegie anytime from delivery date though pick-up date (at the end of the exhibit) during business hours.

Do not submit actual artwork until you receive a notification of acceptance. Your photos or CD will be available for pick up on art delivery date(s) if you would like it returned. Submission of photographs of work(s) does not guarantee acceptance into the exhibit.

Submission Deadline: Total submissions include completed entry form, photographs of works, and entry fee. Submissions by mail must be postmarked by Friday, January 16, 2026. Submissions in person, online, or by email must be received by Friday, January 23, 2026 at 5 pm.

Entry Fees: An entry fee of \$35 is required of each artist. Each artist may submit up to 3 pieces for consideration. Entry fee is non-refundable whether any of your pieces are selected for exhibition or not.

Acceptance: All applicants will be notified by email of acceptance status on Friday, February 6, 2026 by 11:59 PM. If you do not receive notification, please call or email us on the following day to verify your email address. Included in acceptance emails will be information about delivery and pick-up dates, exhibit installation, hanging hardware requirements, sales and commissions, award presentations, Artist Reception, and other events during the exhibit.

For more information, call 256-341-0562 or email exhibits@carnegiearts.org

207 Church Street, NE | P. O. Box 1591 | Decatur, Alabama 35602 | www.carnegiearts.org | 245-341-0562

Carnegie Visual Arts Center Art Exhibit Submission Form

Submissions by mail must be postmarked by Friday, January 16, 2026. Submissions in person or by email must be received by January 23, 2026 at 5 PM.

Type or Print clearly:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Website: _____

Social media page/handle: Facebook _____ Twitter _____

Instagram _____ Other _____

Works shown in previous EA exhibits are not eligible.

Description of Pieces:

	Title	Medium	Size	NFS/ Value or Sale Price
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Photographs of prospective works maybe submitted as follows:

- High-resolution JPG images of the prospective works by email to exhibits@carnegiearts.org. Include your name and phone number in the email.
- High-resolution JPG images of the prospective works on CD or flash drive (not DVD) by mail or in person. Label CD with your name and phone number.
- Photographic prints of the prospective works, 5" x 7" or smaller, by mail or in person

Do not submit actual artwork until you receive a notification of acceptance.

Entry Fee: \$35 for up to 3 pieces. Entry fee is non-refundable.

Cash, check (payable to Carnegie Visual Arts Center), or card is acceptable for payment.

Card Number _____ Ex. Date _____ CCV# _____ CC Billing Zipcode _____

I hereby agree to comply with all Carnegie Visual Arts Center (CVAC) regulations. I understand that this is a juried show, that space is limited, submission does not guarantee selection for participation, and that the selection committee's decisions are final. I understand that submitted works must be available for the entirety of the installation and duration of the exhibit. I understand neither CVAC, nor any sponsors or personnel of the same, is responsible for the loss or damage of work, personal injuries, or property damages. I assert that example photos submitted are an accurate representation of my work and, upon selection, photos of my accepted work(s) may be used free of charge for publicity purposes. CVAC reserves the right to review and approve all works to be exhibited. My signature signifies acceptance of all terms and conditions listed in this prospectus.

Signature of Submitting Artist: _____ Date: _____