

Prospectus: 2023 Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair

OVERVIEW

The Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair (AASAF) is the original of three concurrent and contiguous fairs that transform central Ann Arbor into a massive outdoor art gallery each July. Established in 1960, the AASAF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization with a mission of increasing public knowledge and appreciation for contemporary fine arts and fine crafts. Over the past 63 years, the Original Fair has continued to focus on the art, the artists and the art buyers.

Known for its consistently high quality, all original work, the Original Street Art Fair takes place on the streets surrounding the historic Burton Bell Tower, and the tree-lined central campus of the University of Michigan and does not host sidewalk sales or vendor booths. The AASAF was voted one of the “Top Ten Best Art Festivals” in the country in a USA TODAY Reader’s Poll and is consistently in the Art Fair Calendar’s “Top Ten Best Art Fairs”, Art Fair Source Book’s “Elite 25”, and in the top 20 in Sunshine Artist’s “Top 100 Fine Art Shows” poll.

- **Fair Dates:** Thursday, July 20 – Saturday, July 22, 2023 (Set-up Wednesday, July 19)
- **Application Open:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 thru Wednesday, February 15, 2023 – 11:59PM EST
- **Application Fee (non-refundable):** \$40 Early-bird (submitted by 12/31/2022), \$45 (submitted 1/1/2023 to 2/15/2023).
- **Booth fee:** \$650 and \$800
- **Awards:** \$10,000 – 10 Excellence Awards of \$1000 each

HOW TO APPLY

- Applications will be available online at ZAPApplication.org beginning Wednesday, November 2, 2022.
- Application Fee (non-refundable): \$40 (submitted by 12/31/2022), \$45 (submitted 1/1 to 2/15/2023)
- 5 images are required: 4 images of your artwork and 1 booth image.
 - The booth image is a reference; you are not juried in for ALL work in the booth image. You are juried only on the body of work represented in the four images of your artwork.
 - Booth images should represent how your work will be displayed in a 10’x10’ outdoor booth. Please note: the booth image may not be digitally created, and must be an accurate representation of the display you will bring to the AASAF. If you have questions about the booth image, please call.
 - Applicants will be contacted before jury if there are any questions regarding their images.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 2, 2022: Online application available at www.ZAPApplication.org

February 15, 2023: Applications due by 11:59 PM EST

February 17-20, 2023: Jury in session

February 24, 2023: Notifications e-mailed

March 24, 2023: Booth fee and Contract/Booth Request Form due

April 11, 2023: Booth assignments released

May 11, 2023: Deadline to cancel and receive refund (less \$75 administrative fee)

July 19, 2023: Artist set-up

July 20 to July 22, 2023: 64th Annual Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair

Hours: Thursday, Friday – 10:00am-9:00pm; Saturday – 10:00am-8:00pm

MARKETING

The Street Art Fair, as well as the three other concurrent art fairs in Ann Arbor, market collectively and individually, resulting in hundreds of feature articles and listings, an enormous social media presence, as well as Detroit area TV and radio coverage. Major marketing pieces include:

- Partnerships with the Detroit area television & radio stations provide broadcast advertising for several weeks in advance of the Fair.
- The Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair spotlights our artists on our Facebook and Instagram feeds, which have 15,000 followers and continue to grow. In addition, the combined Ann Arbor Art Fair pulls our feed and posts, reaching several thousand additional followers.
- Consistent e-newsletters go out to over 7,000 subscribers.
- www.artfair.org; The Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair’s mobile responsive website, which had 65,000 unique users last year, includes images of artists’ work, brief artist statements and links to artists’ website.
- www.theannarborartfair.com; a mobile responsive site for the combined Ann Arbor Art fair with links to each individual fair.

AMENITIES AND SERVICES

- Power to every booth.
- Vehicle access to the Fair site or easy dolly access during set up/teardown.
- Flatbed dollies are available for artist use.
- Private security after hours plus patrolling City and University police.
- All day artist hospitality tent includes morning coffee and bagels, plus snacks and beverages throughout the day.
- Water delivery to booths.
- Volunteer booth sitters.
- Access to indoor restrooms.
- Behind booth storage.
- Complimentary lunches.

MEDIA CATEGORIES

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair reserves the right to re-categorize an artist’s submission. Every attempt will be made to notify the artist if this is done.

2D Mixed Media: Two-dimensional work in which the primary intention of the work is the union of two or more mediums in one piece.

3D Mixed Media: Three-dimensional work in which the primary intention of the work is the union of two or more mediums in one piece.

Ceramics: Original clay and porcelain work, functional or sculptural.

Digital Art: Includes any original work in which the original image, or the manipulation of other source material, was executed by the artist using the computer. (Digital photo editing within the confines of what could be done in the darkroom is allowed in the photography category.) Work must be in editions, signed and numbered, using archival papers, inks, and emulsions.

Drawing: Work created in which the main body is made by using dry media including chalk, charcoal, pastels, pencil, wax, crayons, etc. or from a fluid medium of ink. Reproduction prints are not allowed.

Fiber: Includes leather, baskets, dolls, paper, wearable and non-wearable. No machine-tooled, machine-screen printing or other forms of mass production are accepted. Factory-produced wearable items, regardless of additional modification or enhancement by the artists, are not accepted.

Furniture: Original, handmade furniture designed and fabricated using raw/unfinished material. Factory-produced items, regardless of additional modification or enhancement by the artists, are not accepted.

Glass: Functional and sculptural work is accepted. Kiln forming, blowing, molding or casting, as well as all cold working processes are permitted.

Jewelry: All jewelry, whether produced from metal, glass, clay, fiber, or other materials must apply in this category.

Metal: Sculptural or decorative work made from metal. No jewelry will be accepted in this category.

Painting: Acrylic, oil, gouache, and watercolor paintings are accepted in this medium. Reproduction prints are not allowed.

Photography: Includes traditional film photography, hand colored images, emulsion transfers, and digital photography that has not been manipulated to achieve results beyond what could be done in a traditional darkroom. Only artist's original source material is acceptable. Work must be in editions, signed and numbered on archival material and all work displayed in the booth must be for sale. Signage of an overtly commercial nature listing the availability of numerous sizes, print surfaces, and/or framing options is prohibited.

Printmaking: Only hand pulled original prints are allowed. Prints must be in limited editions, signed and numbered. Reproduction prints are not allowed.

Sculpture: Three-dimensional work using additive or subtractive processes where the form is made, mainly in a single medium.

Wood: Original works that are hand tooled, machine-worked, turned or carved.

BOOTH INFORMATION

Booth fee: (Due March 25, 2023)

- Artist's Own White Canopy: \$650. 10' x 10' space with 2' between booths.
- Artist's Own White Canopy: \$800, 10' wide x 20' deep space. (This option is limited and assigned as available.)
- Electricity is included in your booth fee.

Optional Fees:

- Corner Space: \$75 additional, requested through the Contract & Booth Request Form sent upon acceptance; assigned as available. (Invoiced in May if you are assigned a corner.)
- Rental Items: Ordered through the Contract and Booth Request Form. (Invoiced in May.)

Refunds:

- Cancellation: If an artist cancels on or before May 11, 2023, their booth fee will be refunded, less a \$75 administration fee.
- Refunds: Booth Fees are not refundable after May 11, 2023. Other fees may be refunded at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Booth Assignments:

- Booth spaces are assigned giving priority to these artists: 2022 Award Winners, re-invited artists, returning AASAF artists.

MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

- An artist may submit two applications within one category with two significantly different bodies of work. The AASAF reserves the right to reject a second application if the bodies of work are deemed to be too similar. If this happens, the artist will be contacted in advance of jury. Both bodies of work must be juried into the Fair in order to bring both, otherwise only the juried body of work may be presented.
- An artist may also submit an application in different categories, with a three category limit. A separate application is required for each category. If multiple categories are juried into the Fair you may bring those categories of work and display them in the same booth. You will not receive an additional booth space if accepted in more than one medium. In the event that only one category is accepted, you may only bring the accepted category to the Fair.

COLLABORATION

- A collaborator is another artist that is an equal partner in creating the submitted work. (Beatriz throws the pot; Patrick glazes the pot.) **A collaborator and an assistant are different.**
- You and your collaborator's name will be listed in all material.
- Both collaborating artists must be present at the Fair.

AWARDS

- Jurors evaluate all artists' work on the opening day to select Excellence Award winners. All artists, regardless of category, are eligible for these awards. Each award winner receives recognition, a cash award and a re-invitation to the Fair for the following year.

JURY

Application Fee: \$40 Early-bird (submitted by 12/31/2022), \$45 (submitted 1/1 to 2/15/2023).

- A separate application and fee is required for each category, with a three category limit. A separate application and fee is also required for each entry within the same category, with a two entry limit.
- Openings for new artists are available in every category each year. The 2023 Fair will be comprised of approximately 200 artist spaces. Approximately 70 artists have been re-invited or rolled-over, leaving approximately 130 (or more) artists to be invited through the ZAPplication jury process in February. An additional group of artists will be selected for the waitlist.

Jury process: The AASAF jury is unique among art fairs because it utilizes in-person media panels, resulting in a Fair of exceptional quality.

- Three jury sessions, each comprised of specific media categories, are held. Each session is judged by four guest jurors with expertise in the media being juried and at least one member of the Street Art Fair's Jury Advisory Board. Jurors, primarily from Michigan and Ohio, are selected for their knowledge and experience in a specific media. A diversity of backgrounds and skills is sought, including artists, educators, and museum curators/directors. Juror profiles are updated on www.artfair.org as available.
- Scoring is 1 (low) to 7 (high), based on originality, creativity, design, technique, craftsmanship, and production methodology.
- Jury scores are combined and averaged and invitations extended to the highest scores, followed by waitlist invitations.

Waitlist: A single waitlist of all mediums is maintained. Waitlisted artists receive their number and can track their status on ZAPplication. Due to the unique situation created by multiple Ann Arbor fairs, a larger than usual waitlist is maintained and invitations are generally extended to all of the artists waitlisted.

On-site Jurying and Re-Invitations: Each artist's work is scored during the Fair, except artists whose media is scheduled for total re-jurying in the following year. On-site scoring is completed by the Jury Advisory Board, in addition to Peer Jurors. Peer Jurors are selected from invited artists to jury within their own or related categories and are issued a re-invitation for the following year.

- **Re-Jurying:** Each year, several categories are completely re-juried. This means that no invitations from on-site scores for a re-juried category will be issued. All media are entirely re-juried over a four-year cycle.
 - 2023: Painting, Drawing, Printmaking (no invitations in these media have been extended except for award winners)
 - 2024: Fiber, Glass, and Digital Art
 - 2025: Jewelry, Metals, Photography
 - 2026: Mixed Media (2D and 3D), Sculpture, Clay, Furniture, Wood

RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

Before applying, please make sure your work meets the following criteria. By applying you agree to abide by the rules, policies and decisions of the Ann Arbor Original Street Art Fair.

The AASAF is a highly selective fine art fair. Participating artists' booths will be visited periodically throughout the fair by the Jury Advisory Board or staff to ensure compliance with the rules. Artists will be required to remove all work that is not in compliance. Persistent and/or major violation of the rules gives the AASAF the right to remove the offending artist from the Fair and deny eligibility for future fairs.

- 1) *All work must be original, handcrafted work which complies with the media definitions listed in this prospectus.*
- 2) *Work must be designed and created by the artist solely, in partnership with a collaborator, or with assistants working under the **DIRECT** supervision of the artist in the artist's **OWN** studio.*
- 3) ***No reproductions** of original work are allowed to be sold. This includes, but is not limited to, giclee and off-set prints. Refusal to remove reproductions, when asked to do so, gives the AASAF the right to remove the offending artist from the Fair and deny eligibility for future fairs.*
- 4) *No commercial products are allowed.*
- 5) *Artists may only show work in categories approved by the Jury.*
- 6) *All work exhibited must be of the quality and type of that shown in the juried images. The AASAF reserves the right to ask an artist to remove work that does not meet this requirement. Failure to remove said work gives the AASAF the right to remove the offending artist from the Fair and deny eligibility for future fairs.*
- 7) *Artists must prominently display an Artist Statement, with the artist's picture, describing how and by whom the work is made and the materials used to make the work.*
- 8) *Artists must be present with their work for the entire Fair. If the work is collaborative, each collaborator must be present. All artists must check in at Registration upon arrival. Photo ID is required.*
- 9) *If you produce work in editions, you must disclose edition numbers to the Fair audience and include in your work descriptions.*
- 10) *Card racks are not allowed.*
- 11) *Artists may not show in other fairs, exhibitions or events in Ann Arbor taking place at the same time as the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair.*

TAXES

Taxes: 6% MI Sales Tax. Artists are responsible for the collection, reporting and payment of all taxes.

ARTIST NOTIFICATION

Artists will be notified of their status on or before February 24, 2023 by email and your status will be changed on Zapplication.org. A list of the invited artists will be posted on www.artfair.org soon after notification.