



2021 SENIOR CITIZEN “VIRTUAL” ART CONTEST


Works on Display from August 2 – 31

Please visit middlesexcountynj.gov & search for “2021 Virtual Senior Art Contest” for our virtual contest page. On this webpage, you will be able to register electronically and view entries once on display.

For eligibility guidelines, please see reverse. Registration ends June 30, 2021.

For more information:

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Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners

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Sponsored by the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners, the Middlesex County Office of Aging & Disabled Services, & and the Arts Institute of Middlesex County

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Any artist age 60 or over, currently residing in Middlesex County, may submit one entry completed within the past three years to his or her county exhibit. The entry may not have been entered or shown in prior County Senior Art Shows or in prior New Jersey Senior Citizens Art Shows. Eligible entries winning first place at the county level are automatically eligible to advance to the State competition. Only one entry per artist is accepted on the State level.

ARTIST CLASSIFICATION

Professional: is an artist who meets 2 or more of these qualifications:

- a. Sells or has sold artwork through commercial channels (including galleries, on-line galleries, craft shows, art shows, etc.);
- b. Has been exhibiting their work for 2 or more years in professional galleries and/or in professional art exhibits.
- c. Had work selected in 2 or more Juried art or craft shows.
- d. Has received 2 or more awards for their artwork.
- e. Holds (or has held) professional membership in an artist or craftsperson's guild or association.

Non-Professional: an artist who does not meet 2 or more of the professional criteria.

**** EXCEPTION:** Artists who only enter their County Senior Art Show and NEVER exhibit their work in any other show or venue do not have to identify themselves as a Professional Artist unless they have won First Place in their category 3 or more times – in that case, they should identify themselves as “Professional.”

CATEGORIES

1. Acrylic Painting
2. Craft - one-of-a-kind original creations only, no craft kits or molds
3. Digital (Computer) Art - artwork created using computer graphics software (does not include digital photographs)
4. Mixed Media – art that combines two or more media (often non-traditional), and no one of the media clearly predominates; includes collage and assemblage
5. Oil Painting
6. Pastel - includes chalk (soft) and oil pastel
7. Print – all print forms including – but not limited to – etching, linoleum block, lithograph, woodcut, monoprint, silkscreen, collagraph
8. Photography - includes color, black & white or tinted photographs taken with a film-based or digital camera
9. Sculpture - work designed in 3-dimensions, carved or constructed in any medium, abstract or figurative
10. Watercolor Painting - includes gouache (note: traditional watercolor often includes light pencil work and/or ink. They are still considered “Watercolor” – NOT “mixed media”
11. Works on Paper - includes hand-drawn works in mediums including: charcoal, pencil, colored pencil, graphite, ink, pen, crayon, or stylus of any sort

ARTWORK / DISPLAY RULES

- Hanging artwork, photos or crafts, may be no more than 36” (3 feet) in any direction.
- Sculpture or 3-D crafts may not exceed 20” in any dimension (measurements must include any base for the sculpture). Work should not exceed 40 pounds in weight.
- Artwork must be the original creation of the artist. No reproductions of original paintings or mixed media work will be accepted (including giclée or other digital print copies). – Of course, digital prints are accepted in Photography and Digital Arts categories.
- No work made using kits or direct copies of another person's artwork will be accepted
- All works are to be delivered “show-ready.” Any 2-D work must be matted, framed and wired (with screw eyes) ready for hanging. Paintings on canvas must be wired for hanging and the edges should be painted or finished. Works on canvas do not need to be framed. The 2-D artwork should be protected where necessary with Plexiglas, mylar, glass, or other clear protective material. All 2-D work must be properly labeled on the back. All 3-D work should have the label lightly attached where it is readily accessible during intake.
- Use of Plexiglas or acrylic (not glass) is strongly recommended for 2-D work to avoid damage to artwork. Plexiglas is required for any 2-D pieces over 24” in any dimension.
- Entries valued at \$400.00 or more must be insured by the artist –through their homeowners/rental insurance or through a fine arts rider.

Every effort should be made to ensure that work is correctly categorized. Work that is incorrectly categorized may be moved to the correct category (or risk being taken out of competition altogether) at the discretion of the Jurors.