



SENIOR ART CONTEST & SHOW 2025

The Middlesex County Office of Aging and Disabled Services welcomes you to our 2025 Senior Art Contest and Show.

This annual contest is to showcase and promote the many creative talents of older adults (age 60+) residing in Middlesex County. The contest is open to both professional and non-professional arts and crafts enthusiasts. To learn more about the contest, including eligibility requirements and registration, please visit middlesexcountynj.gov and search for “Senior Art Contest”.



Registration closes on July 1

Register at forms.office.com/g/DDLFKM547M

If you have questions, please call 732-745-3295 or email mcoads.events@co.middlesex.nj.us

Art Drop-off:

July 15, 10am–2pm

Works on Display:

July 23 – August 21

Gallery Open:

**Monday – Thursday,
11am–4pm**

**The Studio Art Gallery
Performing Arts Center
Middlesex College**

2600 Woodbridge Avenue
Edison NJ 08837

See Back for Eligibility Guidelines

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

County: Any artist residing in New Jersey, age 60 or over, may submit artwork to her or his County Senior Art Show. Work must have been completed within three years immediately prior to the Show (to enter the 2025 Senior Art Show, work must have been completed between May 2022, to the present). Entries may **not** have been entered or shown in prior County Senior Art Shows or in prior New Jersey Senior Citizen Art Shows. **ONE ENTRY per artist may be entered**

State: All artwork awarded First Place in your 2025 County Senior Art Shows is automatically eligible to advance to the New Jersey Senior Art Show. County Coordinators will submit the County's artwork to the State Art Show. One professional and one non-professional entry in each of the following 11 categories may be entered: acrylic, craft, digital art, mixed media, oil, pastel, photography, print, sculpture, watercolor, and works on paper (drawing, etc.) may be entered per County.

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 not one of the media clearly predominates; includes collage and assemblage
5. Oil Painting
6. Pastels - includes chalk (soft) and oil pastel
7. Print - all print forms including - but not limited to - etching, linoleum block, lithograph, woodcut, monoprint, silkscreen
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

ARTIST CLASSIFICATION - Professional or Non-Professional?

Professional: any artist who meets 2 or more of the following 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) has 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 craftsman's guild or association.

Non-Professional: an artist who does not meet 2 or more of the above 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 1st Place in their category 3 or more times** - in that case, they should identify themselves as "Professional."

ARTWORK/DISPLAY RULES

- All 2-D artwork (framed art, photos or crafts wired to hang) **may be no larger than 30" or smaller than 10" in any dimension.** All 2-D work must be framed, wired and ready to hang.
- Sculpture or other 3-D crafts may not exceed 20" in width and 36" in height (measurements must include any base for the sculpture), and may not weigh more than 40 pounds. Any 3-D piece with a base, must be securely fastened to that base in order to be entered.
- All art must be the original work of art. No reproductions of paintings, drawings, etc., will be accepted (including giclee or other digital print copies*). Of course, entries in the Photography or Digital Arts categories may be digital prints.)
- No work made using kits or direct copies of another person's artwork can be accepted.
- Sawtooth hooks or command strips will NOT be accepted.
- 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 administrators.
- All artwork valued at \$400 or more MUST be insured by the artist – either as part of their homeowner's insurance or under a special arts insurance rider. Artwork valued at \$399 or less is not required to be insured by the artist.
- Provide secondary artwork description if possible. This helps with the jurying process.
- Participating artists may submit a photo of their work by email to mcoads.events@co.middlesex.nj.us. All artwork will be displayed online.

IMPORTANT: Work may be listed for sale. No commission is charged. Staff will email any purchase inquiry directly to the artist. Artist assume complete responsibility for sales (including - but not limited to: payment arrangements, plans for shipping/ pick-up of purchased artwork and any sales taxes they may incur from sales and/or sale negotiations.)