



Community Arts Partnership Mailing Address:
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2026 Ithaca Artist Market
Guidelines & Application for
Individual Artists of all Disciplines
for a market booth
(Visual, Musicians, Writers...)

These guidelines are for **individual artists only**.
For **Arts Orgs** or **Food/Wine/Beer Vendor** information/forms,
visit ArtsPartner.org [Artist Market Page](#)

EVENT: Friday, August 14, noon to 7:30pm

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, June 15, 8:00pm

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE: Friday, June 19

Please do not fill out the Google Form application before carefully reading these guidelines.

The questions in the application refer to details outlined in this document, and asks for certification that you understand and agree to all the parameters outlined below.

Ask questions anytime! Email above.

ITHACA ARTIST MARKET GUIDELINES

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP

The Community Arts Partnership (CAP) is Tompkins County's arts council. CAP connects artists and audiences through our events: the Spring Writes Literary Festival, the Greater Ithaca Art Trail, the Ithaca Artist Market, the CAP ArtSpace gallery, and the CAP-a-Palooza Art Sale. CAP also supports artists and communities through five grant programs, professional development workshops, and networking events. Visit [ArtsPartner.org](https://www.artspartner.org) to learn more. If you are not already on our mailing list, you can sign up on the home page!

ABOUT THE ITHACA ARTIST MARKET

- Now in its 34th year, the Ithaca Artist Market is a **juried show & sale of fine and functional fine art** (and can also include artists that are **musicians, writers, performers, and filmmakers** - anyone with work to sell).
- **This application is for artists to apply for a booth or half a booth to sell work.**
- The 2026 market will take place on **Friday, August 14th**, 12pm to 7:30pm at the [Ithaca Farmers Market](#), co-sponsors of the Artist Market.
- The event is **rain or shine**. Having said that, in 2024 we had Hurricane Debbie. We were fortunate that we are able to reschedule for the following week, and that would always be our intention, but there is no guarantee. It depends on Farmers Market availability. (Former markets have had rain and even storms, but this was the first one we had no choice but to cancel.) If the market has to be cancelled for any reason, there are no refunds as all income will have already been spent on marketing.
- The Farmers Market is a **large open-air covered structure** with 88 booths on the inlet leading to Cayuga Lake. About 70 booths are reserved for artists selling work. Artists can have their own booth or can share with one other artist.
- Remaining booths are reserved for local not-for-profit **arts organizations, community groups** that foster the creative expression of diverse communities, and food/wine/beer vendors.
- The **East Hill Jazz Group** will play throughout the event.
- **Discover Cayuga Lake** usually runs a (ticketed) boat tour!
- The Artist Market is **advertised** through e-blasts, social media, online calendars, press, interviews, paid ads, and more. The Farmers Market will also promote the event.
- **Participating artists are expected to reach out to their audiences and help spread the word. This is part of the agreement.** 60% of audiences report that “Word of Mouth” and “Invites from Participants” is why they came!
- In 2025, 75 artists **sales** averaged \$600 each with a range of \$0 to \$6,000. The market is also a great place to have conversations about your work and make valuable connections.

- **The Artists Market is a juried show.** Decisions are made by a panel of local artists (who do not participate in the market).
- **Submitting an application is not a guarantee of acceptance** as we expect over 150 applications for about 70 booths. Applicants will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance by June 20th. See “Who Can Apply” and “Acceptance Criteria” below.
- **Being in the market in previous years is not a guarantee of acceptance.**

WHO CAN APPLY? ARTISTS OF ALL DISCIPLINES!

- **Artists of all disciplines** (not just visual) who wish to sell their work can apply:
 - **Visual Fine and Fine Functional Artists:** paintings, prints, photography, drawings, collage, artists’ books, fiber art, sculpture, ceramics. Fine Functional Art is art that serves a function, but is of original design. Artists can include items with their art such as stickers, etc.
 - **Writers, Musicians, Performing Artists, Filmmakers** can sell books, zines, journals, chapbooks, film, CDs, albums and the like.
- **CAP is the Tompkins County arts council, so preference for acceptance is given to Tompkins County artists.** Only four artists from out of Tompkins were accepted in 2025
- **Having said that,** there are two considerations that extend beyond Tompkins County applicants. One is providing visitors with a **varied art show**. Therefore, if a number of Tompkins County applicants share the same medium and/or style, then other more rare mediums from local or out of county artists (e.g. etchings, artists’ books) may receive higher consideration for acceptance.
- **We are also seeking artist diversity.** Artists of color or artists that represent different cultures from Tompkins and/or nearby Counties will receive high consideration.

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA for Visual Artists

An independent jury is chosen to review the applications and make acceptance decisions. The decisions of the jury are final. Decisions are based on “Who Can Apply,” “Acceptance Criteria,” application completeness, and submitted images for visual artists. For non-visual artists, the jury will look at links you provide showing your work.

1. Work brought to the market must be the applicant artist's **own original and self-owned work**, i.e. not AI generated. We wish to see the artist’s own **unique and original vision & hand**, with work that is the **artist’s own creation**.
2. Work must be **well conceived, well-presented, and well executed**. Artists can include more than one medium but we are looking for a **cohesive body of work** and a **clear cohesive presentation**.
3. We may give priority to artists who show **recent work** and have **active art careers**.

BOOTH FEE (or scholarship/trade)

- One artist in one booth: \$130
- Two artists sharing one booth: \$85 each
- CAP has a limited number of **full or part scholarship/trades**) for Tompkins Co. artists.
- **If you can afford to pay, please do so.** We need the income to offset the costs of the event. **If not, that's also okay.** There's a question on the application that you are interested in a full or partial payment scholarship/trade and we'll get back to you! Thanks!

TOMPKINS COUNTY ARTISTS

- **Payment: Tompkins County artists.** Fee is paid online or postmarked by the deadline. Fee will be returned payment if not accepted.

OUT-OF-COUNTY ARTISTS

- **Payment: Out of County artists.** Do not pay with application. If accepted, you will be sent payment information.

SHARING BOOTHS

- **Up to two individual artists can opt to share one booth.** If you would like to share, you can indicate that on your application. If you know who you'd like to share with, you can indicate that as well.
- **Each artist must apply separately.** There is no guarantee that the artist you wish to share with will be accepted. If that is the case, we'll contact you to see if you'd like us to match you up with another artist or withdraw.

OTHER TERMS and CONDITIONS

- It is expected that artists will be **in their booth** most of the day. If an artist needs special accommodation for non-attendance, someone must be present to represent them.
- If two artists wish to share a booth, they **must both be present** at the event.
- **Exhibited work must be for sale and clearly priced.**
- **Artists can only sell their own work.** Artists cannot sell art work by family members, fellow artists, or friends who have not been juried into the show.
- **Submitted images must represent the work that will be shown at the Market.** If you'd like to bring (for example) paintings and ceramics, submitted images must include both. It's possible that you may be accepted for one type of work and not the other.
- Artist is responsible for being **ready by 11:45 and remaining open until 7:30m.** Artists cannot leave or pack up early (unless the weather plays a part).
- Artists **cannot play music or run video with sound.** If you would like visitors to hear something recorded or online, headphones or bluetooth must be used.

- **Artist must work with the parameters, oddities or limitations of the booth provided.**
- Artists cannot remove anything screwed in or nailed down in their booth. Full details about your booth will be in your confirmation information. Artist is responsible for their own sales tax collection.
- An accepted artist who can't attend the Market can have their **fees returned up until August 1st**. No fees will be returned after August 1st for any reason (even if the market has to be cancelled due to weather).
- Artist must agree to **fill out a follow up survey** after the event.

BOOTH DESCRIPTIONS and MARKET CONDITIONS

- The market is an **open air structure with a roof**.
- You can find a **.pdf with images of each Farmers Market booth** on our Artist Market page. The booth images are up to date as of May 25th, 2026. The regular inhabitants of booths can change them anytime, so there's no guarantee that the images will be up to date in August. (Note: "no food" on the map means no food vendors can be in that booth.)
- Most **booth measurements** are about 12' x 10' deep. Most have dirt floors, some wood.
- **Each booth is different** and is tailored by their usual Farmers Market vendor. Some have shelving, some have counters that stretch across the whole or part of the front.
- **Once CAP assigns a booth, it cannot be re-assigned.**
- Artists agree to **leave their booths exactly as found** (remove tacks, screws, garbage).
- The Ithaca Farmers Market has strict rules regarding **garbage and parking**. Accepted artists will receive these rules with confirmation and must abide by them.
- There are **electrical outlets in between each booth**.
- The Farmers Market has wi-fi, but it is spotty and frustratingly unreliable. We highly recommend you provide your own personal hotspot or use your phone for transactions.
- The market has an **ATM and multiple bathrooms**. The office will be staffed.

ASSIGNING BOOTHS

- Having a booth in previous years is **not a guarantee** that an applicant will continue to be given that booth (unless the booth is their regular Farmers Market seasonal booth).
- **Many factors** are in play when assigning booths & not all booths are available.
- Artists do not have control over who is in a neighboring booth or outside of their booth.
- Artists **CAN indicate they wish to be near or do not want to be near the music** by the East Hill Jazz Group - details below.)

REQUESTING SPECIFIC BOOTHS

- The application will ask if artists would like to **specify a desire for specific booths** or you can indicate “no preference.”
- Artists can list booth **in order of preference**. For example: “In order of preference: 45, 65, 76, 67, 2, 3, 16, 17....” Or a request can also be made for a “shelf across the front” or “completely open booth” or “walk in booth.”
- **Corner booths are not for singular artists** - they will be given to two artists sharing.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Each year, the majority of applicants will request the same 10 booths. Or 30 artists will ask for a completely open booth with a wood floor and there are only 9 of them. **For this reason, please list as many booths as you can.** This gives you a higher chance of getting one on your list. It is not possible to give everyone what they ask for, although we try.
- Artists can decline to be the market if they’re not satisfied with their booth and their fee will be returned.
- Artists who have been in the Artist Market for years in a particular booth are encouraged to **check the .pdf** booth chart to see if it has changed.
- **Artists can specify that they would like to be near (or not near) the music.** The East Hill Jazz Group will play throughout the day at the north end of the structure in the half circle of booths. The group is not amplified and includes guitar, bass, trumpet and voice. If you do not want to be near the music, make sure to not list booths 65 to 82 in your preferences. You can also say “do not put me in booths 65-82.”

AGREEMENT AND DISCLAIMER

Artists who are accepted into the market must agree with these terms:

- The Community Arts Partnership and the Ithaca Farmers Market, its agents, employees and officers shall not be held liable for failure to fulfill or perform its contractual obligation provided such failure is caused, occasioned or furthered by closures of site locations due to any cause or causes beyond its control, including, but not limited to fire, health regulations, county or state directives, flood, severe weather, wind, rain, public disaster, theft, visitor damage, or any other cause.
- The Community Arts Partnership and the Ithaca Farmers Market shall not be held liable for damages to participant artwork or wares, exhibitors or personal property, or for theft, loss, or injury caused by products sold or exhibited by exhibitors, or other vendors or the general public or other calamities. Insurance for such loss, damages, or injury shall be the sole responsibility for each exhibitor at their own cost. Artists will take into account dust, high winds, rain, and customers carrying food/drink that they set down on your counters.
- Fees will not be returned if the Artist Market cannot or does not occur for any reason.

ARTIST APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. SUBMIT APPLICATION - GOOGLE FORM

<https://forms.gle/wXDNZ5VGprinrQFF8>

- After you submit, you'll receive **e-mail confirmation** from "Google Forms." If you do not, either your form was not submitted or you entered incorrect e-mail.
- **The form is editable.** You can go back and edit up until the deadline.

2. PAYMENT

- **Unless requesting scholarship, or trade:**
 - **Tompkins County Artists:** Submit payment by the deadline. (See "Booth Fee")
 - **Out of County artists:** Do not pay. If accepted, you'll be given payment instructions.
- **Paypal or credit card:** <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/37YW2MFNOVWXW>.
- **Checks** can be made out to "Community Arts Partnership" and mailed to the address above. (Please email for instructions if you'd like to hand deliver.)

3. WORK SAMPLES FOR VISUAL ARTISTS

(Non-visual artists are asked for a link to their work on the application)

- **Submit Work Samples:** to Robin at programs@artspartner.org
- **Submit at least 4 images** and no more than 7 representative of the work you wish to sell at the market - .jpg or .png.
- **Different mediums:** If you wish to bring different mediums to the market, (i.e., sculpture and watercolors... ceramics and drawings), images of each type of work must be provided.
- **Images size** doesn't matter as long as images are clear - they will be shown to the jury online. Ideally images would be less than 4MG.
- **How to Send:** Send any way that works for you: E-mail, google or dropbox links.. Do not submit images in the body of a pdf or within another document.
- **Images may be used for publicity purposes.**

(Optional) INCLUDE BOOTH SET UP IMAGE

- If you have an image of a prior booth set-up, please include with your images.

NAME IMAGES WITH YOUR LAST NAME

- Submitted images should be **named with the last name of the artist** - the same name as is on the application, i.e. "Smith1.jpg," "Smith2.jpg"...