

OPEN CALL FOR EMERGING ARTISTS' TENT

ARTS IN THE MIDDLE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

JUNE 6-7, 2026

HEWITT PLANTATION, URBANNA, VA

Dear Emerging Artist!

Applications are now open for Arts in the Middle's Emerging Artist Tent for 2026.

Arts in the Middle Fine Arts Festival, held just outside Urbanna, is consistently rated one of the best art shows in eastern Virginia, and a universal favorite among vendors. Every year local artists are invited to exhibit in a shared tent where their work is highlighted.

The Emerging Artist Tent is a pavilion directly adjacent to the Local Artist Tent, a prime location for visibility and sales.

You are required to display a minimum of 5 pieces of your art. Arts in the Middle can provide a table and rack for your art, but it will depend on the space that is available and space will be determined after your application is accepted. We encourage you to bring your own hanging rack and display table if available.

A tent fee paid by each emerging artist helps defray the cost of the tent. There is an award for Best Emerging Artist, presented at a reception on Saturday night.

For young artists living in the Middle Peninsula or Northern Neck, it's a great opportunity to sell work at a high-profile show. It's also a chance to connect with a thriving network of other emerging and local artists. And for artists who haven't done an outdoor show before, the AIM Festival is an ideal way to test the waters.

Applications are open until March 31st. Applicants are juried, the results of which will be made known by April 15th.

We hope to see you at Arts in the Middle! Please contact either of us if you have any questions.

Lauren Ahnemann

laurenahnemann@gmail.com

Katelin Reiner

katelinskreations@yahoo.com

**ARTS IN THE MIDDLE 2026 FINE ARTS FESTIVAL
EMERGING ARTIST APPLICATION**

Mail completed application and portfolio examples to:

Arts in the Middle, Inc, P.O. Box 982, Urbanna, VA 23175

OR submit electronically to Lauren Ahnemann (laurenahnemann@gmail.com) or Katelin Reiner (katelinskreatations@yahoo.com)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2026

JURY DECISION: April 15, 2026

TENT SPACE FEE DEADLINE: Upon acceptance no later than MAY 1, 2026

Applicant Name: (Must be 16 or older): _____

Local Address: _____

Mailing Address, if different: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

TENT SPACE FEE: \$25 (Scholarships available to waive part or the full fee. Please indicate in the email/letter when you submit your application if you are requesting a scholarship.)

Medium:

Describe medium, materials and technique of each of the 4 items submitted with application:

Image 1: _____

Image 2: _____

Image 3: _____

Image 4: _____

Images of examples of work you wish to show must accompany application. Photos are acceptable and may be submitted by mail or email. When documenting traditional pieces, be mindful of lighting, clarity, and presentation. **If submitting via email, please label each image file as follows: YourName_Image #**

If you require special physical supports or accommodations, please describe:

I grant permission for images of my artwork to be used by **Arts in the Middle** on its website and in printed materials to promote the May event and future **Arts in the Middle** events.

Yes____ No____

General Release: In signing this application, Applicant releases and forever discharges Arts in the Middle, Inc and Hewick Plantation from any responsibility, personal liability, loss and/or damage in connection with this show; and agrees to abide by all Policies and Guidelines accompanying this application. Failure to honor Festival Policies and Guidelines can result in immediate dismissal from the show.

I have read the complete show prospectus and agree to all terms as stated.

Signature of Applicant _____ **Date:** _____

Before mailing make sure you have included:

__Initialed Policies and Guidelines Page **__** Images of Submitted Artwork

Arts in the Middle 2026 Fine Arts Festival Acceptable Media

Paintings & Drawings: Oils, acrylics, watercolor, chalk, charcoal, pastels, pencil, wax crayon, & the fluid media of inks & washes applied by pen or brush.

Jewelry: Jewelry of any material. No commercial casts, kits, molds or production studio work, commercially made beads, commercially available pendants and brooches, loose stones, or catalogue merchandise.

Ceramics: Original clay and porcelain work other than jewelry.

Photography: Photographic prints made from the artist's original image, processed and printed by that artist, or under his or her direct supervision, with archival media on acid-free papers. Signed copies of 200 or fewer. Photographers may be asked to disclose their creative and printing processes.

Digital Art: Original work for which the base image, or the manipulation of other source material, was executed by the artist using computer software. Work must be in limited editions of 200 or less inclusive of size or format, and signed and numbered on acid-free materials. Traditional photographs taken through a digital camera are in the photography category.

Graphics/Printmaking: Printed works for which the artist's hand manipulated the plates, stones, or screens and which have been properly signed and numbered as a limited edition. Printmakers are required to disclose both their creative and printmaking process.

Sculpture: Clay, Wood, Metal, Fiber

Mixed Media: Non-sculpturing work incorporating more than one type of physical material or process in its production, e.g, books with Artist's original illustrations, a painted etching or collage combining handmade paper and photography.

Other Media: Leather, Weaving, Quilting, Leaded Glass and all fine crafts and art works considered to be in the Fine Arts category are acceptable.

Reproductions: Reproductions must be from the Artist's original work and signed.

For more information, contact:

Lauren Ahnemann (laurenahnemann@gmail.com)

Or

Katelin Reiner(katelinkreations@yahoo.com)