



OH+5

A call for contemporary work from artists living and working in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

During the fifteenth biennial exhibition at The Dairy Barn Arts Center, Athens, Ohio

- Entry Fee: \$40 for up to 3 entries. \$35 for Dairy Barn Members.
- Works may be listed as “Not for Sale”. If offered for sale, the artist receives 65%.
- Exhibition Dates: January 16 - March 29, 2026

The OH+5 exhibition celebrates the creative pulse of the Midwest and Appalachia through a dynamic survey of contemporary artwork by artists living in Ohio and its 5 bordering states: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Now in its fifteenth iteration, this juried exhibition invites submissions across all media, offering a platform for both emerging and established artists to share work that reflects the diversity of thought, technique, and innovation in our region.

As we look to the future of regional artmaking, OH+5 aims to capture the spirit of experimentation and the relevance of place. This is an opportunity to showcase work that speaks to personal or collective experiences, questions tradition, and expands the conversation about what contemporary art can be - here and now.

We encourage artists working in all forms to apply and help define the ever-evolving artistic landscape of our region.

Please reach out to Erin McKenna (exhibitions@dairybarn.org) with any questions about submitting work to this exhibition.

KEY DATES

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: August 29 - November 7, 2025

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTED WORK: November 21, 2025

EXHIBITION AGREEMENT DUE: Friday, December 5, 2025

ARTWORK DELIVERY: January 5 - 11, 2026

ON VIEW: January 16- March 29, 2026.

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, January 16, 2026, 5pm-7pm

ARTWORK RETURNED BY: April 12, 2026

SUBMISSION AND EXHIBITION AGREEMENT TERMS

ELIGIBILITY

OH+5 is open to artists residing in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

MEDIA

Open to all traditional and non-traditional genres and media. The Dairy Barn Arts Center's carefully assembled juries change from project to project, and have no collective predisposition towards any particular kind or style of art.

DATE RESTRICTIONS

All entries must be completed after January 1, 2024. The recent modification of an older or previously dated work does not make the work eligible unless the artist can provide documentation of significant differences between the original and the revised versions of the piece.

JURORS

Jurors will select artworks based on originality and innovation, design, technique, and craftsmanship. Acceptance will be granted based on digitally submitted images. The jury panel is comprised of three individuals. Their names and biographical information will be listed on the website.

AWARDS

The Dairy Barn Arts Center is awarding \$800 in prize money. The following awards will be chosen by the jurors:

- Best of Show: \$300
- Most Innovative Use of Material: \$200
- 3 Juror's Awards: \$100 each

AUTHORSHIP

Artists must be ages 18 and over. Works eligible for consideration must be the result of independent effort unless all collaborators are acknowledged at the time of submission. Artwork cannot be created for or as the result of an instructional setting in which another artist or teacher has provided guidance. The artwork must be an original design, not a copy or a variation of the original design of another artist working in any medium.

SUBMITTING WORK

ENTRY FEE

Each artist may submit up to 3 pieces with up to 3 detailed images per piece. The submission fee is \$40 per artist. Members of The Dairy Barn Arts Center receive a discounted submission fee of \$35.

ENTRY IMAGES

You may upload up to three images per entry. The first image must clearly show the entire artwork, including all edges. The second and third images should be detail shots or different angles (for 3D work).

All images must be in focus, well-lit, and taken against a clean, uncluttered background, representing the artwork exactly as you would wish it to appear in reproduction. Only images of completed artwork will be accepted—do not submit work-in-progress images. These images are the primary materials the jury uses to make their selections, so high-quality, accurate documentation is essential.

DIGITAL IMAGE FILE SPECIFICATIONS FILE TYPE

Be sure each file is a .jpg and carries the extension “.jpg.” The acceptable resolution is 72 dpi. Images should be sized no larger than 2000 pixels on the longest side. If you have issues submitting your images, please contact exhibitions@dairybarn.org.

If you are submitting a video or audio work, please edit the piece down to a 3-minute short that is less than 60 MB. These may be .MOV, .MPG, .MP4 for video and .MP3 or .WAV for audio. We also accept links to YouTube and Vimeo videos.

Please indicate the full length of the piece in the description section of the application. This includes documentation for submissions for performance work. Online links for video submissions (such as links to the video on YouTube) may be provided in the entries and will be screened for names for the blind jury.

FILE NAMING

“Title.jpg” for the overall image; if providing a detailed photo, please use “Title_detail_1.jpg”, “Title_detail_2.jpg”, etc. Please do not include your name in the file.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Upon submission of artwork, an artist’s statement of no more than 80 words is required. This statement will appear on gallery materials. The Dairy Barn Arts Center will not publish more than 80 words per artist and reserves the right to edit statements for clarity, punctuation, grammar, etc.

SALES & INSURANCE

Artists will be asked for both retail and insurance value for each piece of accepted work. The insurance value is 65% of its fair market value. In the event of loss or damage, it will be the artist’s responsibility to provide documentation concerning the value of the work and the extent of the claim. The Dairy Barn Arts Center will insure the artwork while it is in our gallery for the duration of the exhibition, but the artist is responsible for their own insurance during shipping to and from The Dairy Barn Arts Center.

A work identified as For Sale (e.g. with an established retail price in U.S. Dollars) must maintain that status for as long as it is part of the active exhibition. Artists whose work is not for sale (NFS) must write NFS and must list a valid insurance value in U.S. Dollars. Insurance values for artworks that are not for sale are calculated by 65% of the fair market value.

In the event of a sale, the artist will be paid 65% of the retail price listed. The Dairy Barn will retain a 35% commission on work sold during the exhibition at The Dairy Barn or any sale that results from mediation by Dairy Barn Staff.

NOTIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE

All artists will be notified via email by November 21, 2025, following the jury process. The Dairy Barn Arts Center reserves the right to refuse work that is drastically different from what was photographically represented in the submission. The Exhibition Agreement will be emailed by November 21, 2025, and must be completed and submitted by December 5, 2025. Selected works will be on display at The Dairy Barn Arts Center in the Sauber Gallery.

AGREEMENT

Submission of a work of art to this exhibition and the completion of the online entry process shall be understood to constitute an agreement on the part of the artist to all the conditions set forth. This will also grant The Dairy Barn Arts Center the rights to reproduce and distribute the images through print and electronic media for promotion of the exhibition and its entrants. Artists will retain all copyrights to their work.

DELIVERY AND RETURN OF WORK

Artists are responsible for the shipping of their work to and from The Dairy Barn Arts Center. Selected pieces **MUST** be shipped to arrive or be hand-delivered between January 5 - 11, 2026, to:

The Dairy Barn Arts Center
8000 Dairy Lane
Athens, Ohio, 45701

All artwork must be ready to hang or install. All 2D work must be framed with either D-rings or picture hanging wire. Multi-piece installations must have instructions and all hardware included.

The artwork will be returned in the same container in which it was shipped. Please make sure that your shipping container is sufficient. The Dairy Barn Arts Center is not responsible for artworks damaged from insufficient packaging or handling during delivery.

Please send a prepaid, self-addressed return shipping label with the artwork. Do not send cash or personal checks with an estimated amount for postage.

REV. 8.28.2025