



SEE • TOUCH • BUILD

A call for artwork that engages audiences through visuals, interaction, and constructive play.

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%.

SEE • TOUCH • BUILD invites artists to submit works that transform observation into participation. We seek work that shifts meaning when someone engages with it; work that responds to touch, motion, sound, or interaction. Designed for kids, adults, and everyone in between, this exhibition transforms the gallery into a playground for the senses, where visitors are encouraged to create, explore, and rediscover the joy of making. From soft textiles to shifting lights, from puppets and dolls to puzzles, or immersive installations, we seek art that embraces play as a serious form of exploration

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

KEY DATES

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: December 5, 2025 - February 22, 2026

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTED WORK: March 9, 2026

EXHIBITION AGREEMENT DUE: March 16, 2026

ARTWORK DELIVERY: April 4 - 10, 2026

ON VIEW: April 17 - June 21, 2026

OPENING RECEPTION: April 17, 2026

ARTWORK RETURNED BY: July 7, 2026

SUBMISSION AND EXHIBITION AGREEMENT TERMS

SELECTION

All artwork must be age-appropriate for children to view. The submitted artwork will be reviewed by the exhibition committee, who together will select the artwork for the exhibition. This will be done through a

blind jury process, meaning the exhibition committee will not be given any identifying information about the artist.

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

There are no date restrictions for artwork.

AWARDS

The Dairy Barn Arts Center is awarding \$450 in prize money. Three "Kids Choice Awards" will be awarded to by the close of the exhibition, as determined by gallery visitors under the age of 18.

- Kids Choice Award: \$200
- People's Choice Award: \$200

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 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 and must be completed and submitted by due date listed above. 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 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. 10.29.2025