



High School Student Emerging Artists

57th Annual ART ON THE SQUARE

Join us for one of Iowa's oldest continuing art festivals!

**Sat, June 13, 2026, • 9 AM – 3 PM
Historic Downtown Oskaloosa, Iowa**

Calling all Emerging Artists: Artists who are participating in Art on the Square for the first time are invited to apply to sell artwork in a shared Emerging Artist's Space.

We are extending a special opportunity for high school art students who were recommended by their art teachers!

For high school student artists interested in participating, we are offering a special discount. High school students can apply for free and will only pay a \$40 registration fee to participate. Full and partial scholarships are also available!

HOW DO I APPLY?

1. Fill out the attached application.
2. Include a copy of sales tax certificate
3. Bring/send us your jury items/artwork samples.
4. Deadline to apply: May 1, 2026.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I APPLY?

1. The jury will review your artwork items/samples.
2. You will be notified whether your application has been approved or not.
3. Accepted applicants will pay the \$40 high school participation fee.
(Payment instructions and additional event details such as setup, parking, etc., will be included in the acceptance letter.)

WHAT IS ART ON THE SQUARE?

Art on the Square is one of Iowa's oldest continuing art festivals. It is a day to shop art, show art, and share art—and an opportunity for artists from around Iowa and the country to sell their artwork. There will also be special creative activities on the Square and throughout downtown. This year's Art on the Square will take place on Saturday, June 13, from 9 AM to 3 PM.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

It is free to apply. If accepted, you will be notified by May 18. The \$40 registration will then be due by May 29. Scholarships are available to cover half or full registration.

IF I'M ACCEPTED, WHERE AND WHEN DO I SETUP?

All artists (including student emerging artists) will receive their spot assignment during check-in on the morning of June 13. Artists may check in and set up after 8 AM. All setups must be completed by 9 AM. High school student artists will receive a spot in the shared Emerging Artist's Space alongside other students and Emerging Artists. In case of rain, Art on the Square will be moved indoors to Penn Central Mall. More details will be included in the acceptance letter.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A TENT, TABLE, OR SUPPLIES TO DISPLAY MY ART?

We have you covered! Tents, tables, chairs, and day-of use of display supplies will be available for high school student artists and other artists in the shared Emerging Artist's Space. The Art on the Square committee will work with you to determine what kinds of supplies will help you in displaying your artwork for sale.

WILL I STAY AT MY BOOTH ALL DAY? WHAT ABOUT FOOD AND RESTROOMS?

All artworks must stay on display until 3 PM. Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning during setup. Lunch will also be provided. (Coffee and donuts are all courtesy of Oskaloosa Main Street.) There will also be food vendors if you would like to purchase your own lunch. If you need to grab a bite to eat or take a restroom break, volunteers will be available to watch your booth for a few minutes.

WHAT KIND OF ART WILL BE ACCEPTED?

Review the attached "Accepted Media Categories" sheet for more information. All artworks must be the original, handcrafted work of the artist. Resale items are not permitted. High school student emerging artists must have a minimum of 5 pieces available for sale. Computer manipulation is allowed but must be noted in the "Description of Material and Technique" section of the application.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, email or call Oskaloosa Main Street:

Angie Foster, Main Street Director

Mainstreet@mahaskachamber.org • 641-672-2591

Art on the Square

Accepted media categories

Ceramics: All original clay work, either functional or decorative, made by shaping and then firing. If displaying multiple pieces of the same design, the artist must sign each piece.

Digital Art: Original work using computer technology to craft or manipulate images. (Traditional photographs taken by a digital device and digitally post-processed should apply in the photography category.)

Drawing: Drawings made with pencil, crayon, ink, charcoal, and other marking media.

Fiber: All work crafted from fibers such as basketry, embroidery, weaving, leatherwork, or tapestry. No machine-tooling, machine-screened patterns, or other forms of mass production.

Furniture: Unique, original, hand-crafted items, either functional or decorative.

Glass: Glass work that is functional or decorative, kiln-formed, or created by glass blowing, molding, or casting. Work may be etched or engraved.

Jewelry: Artwork created through hand-forging, twisting, and fabricating of various materials. All jewelry is produced from metal, glass, clay, fiber, paper, plastic, or other material. No commercial casts, molds, or production studio work.

Metal: Decorative, functional, or sculptural metal artwork created by forging, twisting, or fabricating various metals.

Mixed Media: Two- or three-dimensional pieces that incorporate more than one type of physical material in the same piece, including but not limited to, paint, pencil, watercolor, photographs, prints, or found objects.

Painting: Creation of an image on a flat surface using oils, watercolors, or acrylics.

Pastels: Creation of an image on a flat surface using dry or oil pastels.

Photography: Images must be from original negatives or digital files that the artist has created and processed. Photographers must disclose both creative and printing processes.

Printmaking: Hand-pulled original works from a brick, plate, stone, or other object. Prints must be properly signed and numbered. Reproductions are allowed but must be marked as such.

Sculpture: Three-dimensional original work done in any medium.

Wood: Woodworking primary material must be wood. Original works in wood that are hand-tooled, machine-worked, turned, or carved are acceptable. Wood pieces can be either functional or decorative.

Not sure? Need more info?

Other: If the work does not fit into any of the above categories, or if the artist has any questions about the rules for a category, please contact Oskaloosa Main Street, **before** submission of application, to discuss: 641-672-2591 or chamber@mahaskachamber.org.

If Art on the Square is not the right fit, your creative work may be better suited for one of a local craft/vendor fair—such as Sweet Corn Serenade or another event.

Art on the Square

2026 High School EMERGING ARTIST APPLICATION

Deadline to Apply: May 1, 2026 – No fee to apply.

If accepted, \$40 registration is due by May 29. Scholarships are available!

Name: _____

Address: _____ **City/State/ZIP:** _____

An Iowa Sales Tax Number is required for selling your artwork. You can visit <https://tax.iowa.gov> to apply for one.

We are happy to help you with the process! Call our office 641-672-2591 for assistance.

Iowa Sales Tax Number (ISTN): ☐ Yes, I have an Iowa Sales Tax Number: _____

If YES, please provide copy of sales tax certificate.

☐ No, I do not have an ISTN yet. (A staff member will reach out to help you with this!)

Phone (home/cell): _____ **Email:** _____

Tell us about your art and how you create it. What materials and technique do you use? Computer manipulation is allowed, but please describe it here. (You may also submit this information as a separate document of 1000 characters or less): _____

Description of Display (We will provide supplies for the day of the event but tell us more about how you would like to display your art, so we know what supplies are available.)

☐ Tabletop easels ☐ Grid walls to hang artwork ☐ Baskets, bins, or crates

☐ Risers to display items on different levels ☐ Trays/displays for jewelry/small items

☐ Other (describe or attach photos of examples):

☐ Unsure (our director or a committee member will reach out to brainstorm with you)

Price Range of Artwork: \$_____ to \$_____ (How much you will be selling your artwork for)

Not sure? Your art teacher can help you figure this out.

Special Requests (requests cannot be Guaranteed): _____

Application checklist:

☐ 3 photos of your artwork ☐ Parent/guardian signature ☐ Copy of sales tax certificate

You may drop off or mail your application and artwork photos to the Mahaska Chamber office at 222 1st Ave E in Oskaloosa (upstairs of the drive thru MidWestOne Bank Building). You may also email your application and photos to chamber@mahaskachamber.org.

It is hereby agreed and understood that 1) Oskaloosa Main Street is not responsible for any damage to any property displayed at Art on the Square and 2) artist name and photos of artwork may be used by Oskaloosa Main Street in marketing and social media for promotional purposes, and 3) the artist will have all necessary Iowa tax permits (Iowa Sales Tax Number) at Art on the Square, June 13th, 2026.

Student Artist Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Office Use Only

Date submitted	Jury fee pd. Date	Jury status	Registr. Fee pd. Date
Jury Date	Database	Acceptance letter	Canva doc.
Jury Fee	Photos submitted	Registration fee amt.	
Jury form of pmt.	Bios received	Registr. form of pmt.	