



Call for Artists!

57th Annual

ART ON THE SQUARE

Saturday, June 13, 2026 • 9 am-3 pm

City Square Park in Historic Downtown Oskaloosa

ARTIST APPLICATION STEPS:

1. Complete your Artist Application
2. Return the following to Oskaloosa Main Street:
 - Artist Application
 - Copy of Sales Tax Certificate
 - Non-refundable **\$20 Jury Fee**
 - Jury Items and/or Photos
3. If/when approved, pay the non-refundable Registration Fee:
 - \$75 Early Bird** • Apply by April 10, 2026
 - \$85 Final** • Apply by May 1, 2026

EVENT INFORMATION: Join Oskaloosa Main Street for Art on the Square, one of Iowa's oldest continuing art festivals. The 57th Annual Art on the Square event will take place Saturday, June 13, 2026, 9AM – 3PM, with set up beginning at 7 a.m. (Earlier set up can be arranged). Like last year, in addition to artist vendors, this year's festival will feature an emerging artists booth (1st time artists, call the Chamber office at 641-672-2591 if interested), window art walk, and more! Various purchase awards and awards of excellence will be distributed.

LOCATION: Art on the Square will take place in Oskaloosa's City Square Park. To allow for setup and pedestrian traffic flow, all tents will be set up partially in the grass. To receive their spot assignment, all artists must check in with volunteers **before** the event. As in past years, the rain location is Penn Central Mall.

ELIGIBILITY: All work submitted, displayed, and presented for sale must be the original, handcrafted work of the applying artist. Resale items are **not** permitted. All artists must have a minimum of 12 pieces (8 pieces for Emerging Artists) available for sale. Technique must be divulged in the "Description of Material and Technique" section of the application. Any computer manipulation used in the creation of the work must also be disclosed in the "Description of Material and Technique" section. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. Only selected artists will be accepted into the juried booths. No artists will be accepted who do not meet these criteria, or do not submit all required materials: jury items, complete application, and proper payment of fees.

JURY FEE & PROCESS: Submit the non-refundable \$20 jury fee with your complete application and jury items. **All artists** will be juried regardless of prior jury acceptance. **Three** jury items must be submitted to Oskaloosa Main Street at 222 1st Avenue East, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Alternatively, photos of artwork may be submitted to chamber@mahaskachamber.org. If original artwork is of excessive size/weight, please include a detailed description of medium or materials. To increase publicity of participating artists prior to the event, this year's application also encourages a short bio and photo to be used for print promotions and online marketing, including social media. The Art on the Square committee reserves the right to remove any items from the show that do not meet juried expectations.

REGISTRATION FEE: The artists will be contacted by phone or letter after jury approval. Artists must then submit their registration fee. The fee is based on application submission dates below. Registration fees are non-refundable. Fees (including tax) are listed below:

\$75 Early Bird • Apply by April 10, 2026 **\$85 Final** • Apply by May 1, 2026

Registration fee covers one vendor space approximately 12x12 situated in the City Square Park. **Applicant must indicate a need for electricity on the application (one outlet available per applicant).** Artists are responsible for bringing their own tables, chairs, displays, and canopy/tent, including protection for wind and sun.

EMERGING ARTISTS: Artists who are participating in an art show for the first time, please contact chamber@mahaskachamber.org or call the Main Street office at 641-672-2591 to discuss supply setup or display options if needed.

ACCEPTED MEDIA: Please see the attached "Accepted Media Categories" sheet for more information about what kind of artwork will be accepted into the juried art show. If your creations do not fit into the accepted media categories, please reach out for vendor show/craft fair opportunities, such as Sweet Corn Serenade set for July 23, 2026. Email or call Oskaloosa Main Street for more information.

QUESTIONS? Additional information and event details will be posted online at mahaskachamber.org/events/art_on_the_square. If you have questions, don't hesitate to email or call us.

Contact:

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, 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 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 of 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 other events!

Art on the Square

2026 ART ON THE SQUARE ARTIST APPLICATION

Early Bird Jury Deadline: April 10, 2026, • Final Jury Deadline: May 1, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Iowa Sales Tax Number & copy REQUIRED (please send with application), OR Statement indicating product or service is not subject to Iowa sales tax as follows:

Phone (work): _____ Phone (home/cell): _____

Email: _____

Description of Material and Technique (may also be attached as a separate document of 1000 characters or less; computer manipulation is required to be disclosed in this section):

Canopy Size: _____ Number of spaces (one space = 12x12 feet): _____

Price Range of Artwork: \$_____ to \$_____ Electricity (one outlet) (\$3.00): ☐ Yes ☐ No

Special Requests (requests cannot be guaranteed): _____

Along with this application, submit the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jury Items/Photos | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo of Booth Setup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sales Tax Certificate Copy | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 non-refundable jury fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artist Photo and Bio for Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> List of display and supplies needed for first-time artists |

Submit to Oskaloosa Main Street at 222 1st Avenue East, Oskaloosa, IA 52577, or email chamber@mahaskachamber.org no later than **May 1**, 2026. Make all checks payable to Mahaska Chamber Attn: Main Street. No artist will be considered without a completed application, jury fee, and required materials. Early registration is recommended. If/when you are notified of application approval, you will be responsible for the registration fee according to the date by which you applied: \$75 if you applied by **April 10**, 2026; \$85 if you applied by **May 1**, 2026.

It is hereby agreed and understood that the undersigned will carry all necessary insurance covering all property displayed by him/her and any necessary Iowa tax permits at Art on the Square, June 13th, 2026.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office Use Only

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