

The Big West Arts Festival

August 7th & 8th, 2010

Artist Information

PLEASE NOTE: APPLICATION DEADLINE
POSTMARKED APRIL 23rd, 2010

WELCOME

You are invited to submit to be one of 50 exhibitors at the 5th annual celebration of the Big West Arts Festival taking place on the beautiful front lawn of Sheridan College at the foothills of the majestic Big Horn Mountains. Last year was a huge success and we are working hard to make our event the premier arts festival in the region. By keeping our number of artists to a reasonable number we strive to make our festival very lucrative for everyone involved. Our goal is to provide the public and our selected exhibitors with a show of unparalleled quality. This Artist Prospectus and Exhibitor Application includes essential details on exhibitor participation and should be read carefully prior to applying.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Big West Arts Festival's mission is to show the breadth of fine art and fine craft that is not only found in Wyoming and the West, but to show the west what's going on around the nation. It's not a western art festival, but rather an Art Festival in the Big West. The Big West Arts Festival welcomes all different styles, forms and images from traditional to the avant-garde.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Big West Arts Festival is a two-day outdoor celebration of the visual, culinary, and performing arts. The primary focus of the event is the juried exhibition of gallery quality fine art and fine crafts, giving our audience the rare opportunity to meet, interact with, view the works of and purchase art from the individuals who have created it. Additionally, the Arts Festival offers artist demonstrations, educational art activities for children and adults, live performances, special curated exhibitions and high-quality outdoor food vending. The Big West Arts Festival is a tax-exempt, art services organization, and all proceeds are used to produce the annual Arts Festival.

HOUSING

Fifty (50) rooms in our new residence halls have been set aside for the artists and culinary exhibitors. For information and reservations contact Ginny Racette in the Sheridan College Housing Office. E-mail gracette@sheridan.edu or call (307) 674-6446 ext. 2301. When you are accepted as an exhibitor, please contact this office on a first come, first served basis.

Limited self-contained RV & Trailer parking with no hook-ups will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

TIMELINE FOR APPLICATION PROCESS

April 23rd, 2010 – Applications due.

May 1st, 2010 – Notification begins by mail. Please do not call.

May 15th, 2010 – Deadline for accepted artists to commit to exhibit, return a signed exhibitor contract and booth fee.

JURY PROCEDURE

We are allowing 50 booths at the 2010 event determined through the competitive jury process. Images are reviewed in a blind jury process. The identities of the artists are not disclosed to the jurors. The Jury is comprised of 3 professional working artists. The Jury will view each artist's set of five images shown simultaneously in a horizontal grouping. The process, materials, dimensions for each image and artist information statement will also be made available to the Jury during viewing. Artistic excellence is the sole criteria for selection of exhibitors. The top 50 artists will receive invitations; artists who advance to the final round of jurying but were not invited to exhibit are considered alternates and will be notified of their alternate status. Decisions of the Jury panel are final.

BOOTH SPACE

Applications will be date stamped upon receipt. Artists desiring corner locations, or having any other specific space requests, will be assigned spaces on a first-come, first served basis from the date their application is received. Each exhibitor will be provided a space measuring 10' deep by 12' wide. Artists are to provide their own tent, display booth, racks and/or tables in order to display their work in an outdoor environment. Electricity is not available for artists' booths.

SALES

Artists retain all revenue from the sale of their work with no commission on sales due to the Arts Festival.

APPLICATIONS

Artists must submit separate applications, unless applying as a team. Artists that are applying as a team should send two sets of images that portray each artist's work individually. Only one application may be submitted per body of work represented. Artists whose work is selected in multiple media categories must still exhibit in one booth space.

PROCESSING FEE

There is a \$20.00 non-refundable processing fee per entry. Please mail with your application. Please make checks payable to the Big West Arts Festival. If you are applying electronically, please make payments through Pay-Pal or your application will be considered incomplete.

ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER TO EXHIBIT

An artist who is selected by the jury and accepts our invitation to exhibit must return the signed contract and booth fee to the Arts Festival by May 15th, 2010. Failure to respond by the deadline may result in revocation of the invitation and immediate invitation of an alternate from the waiting list. The applicant is responsible to keep the Arts Festival advised of effective mailing addresses.

REFUND POLICY

If for some unforeseen circumstance you are unable to attend and must cancel your contract to exhibit we will refund one half or \$150.00 of your booth fee until June 1st, 2010. Please contact us in writing to ensure that you will receive a refund. There will be no refunds for booth fees after June 1st, 2010.

EXHIBIT FEE

\$300.00 for all booths. *Please do not send an exhibitor fee with application.

SLIDE REQUIREMENTS

Five (5) images are to be submitted of the work to be exhibited by each artist. If 2 artists are sharing a booth each artist must send five (5) images each in the same application.

Four (4) images, numbered respectively #1 - #4, must be of individual pieces of work.

Image #5 must be of a display of the artist's work, showing overall continuity and presentation of your current body of work. The fifth image is mandatory. If a booth image per se is not available, submit an image taken of a grouping of works representative of the works to be exhibited at the show. The purpose of the booth image is to ensure the artist has a complete body of work which is

represented both in the first 4 images and also within image #5. It also helps identify the scale of the artist's work. Note: this is a blind jury process, please avoid submitting booth images with any identifiable sign, or photo of the artist themselves.

Slides must be in undamaged mounts, measuring 2" x 2" and 35mm. They must accurately represent the body of the artist's work to be exhibited at the Festival. Send the five slides in a protective plastic sleeve. Do not send samples, print photographs, resumes or biographical materials, other than the Artist Statement requested below.

To properly label your slide: hold the slide so you see the image correctly. Place a large red dot in the lower left-hand corner. The artist's name must appear on the top horizontal area of the mount. Identify the medium of the work on the bottom horizontal area of the mount. Each slide must also be numbered #1 - #5 in the bottom right-hand corner, opposite of the red dot.

High quality digital images on CD may be sent with application or e-mailed with electronic application to bigwest@sheridan.edu.

ARTISTS STATEMENT

Include an artist's statement on your application (100 characters or less) that describes the materials and techniques used to create your artwork. This statement may be read by the jurors.

RULES OF THE SHOW

1. All artwork must be **ORIGINAL, HANDCRAFTED WORK**. Artist guarantees the accuracy of the description of the works presented and the authenticity of the work as the creation of their own hands.
2. Work done by a production studio is not acceptable. All work must be designed and executed by the accepted artist.
3. No more than two artists may collaborate on work. Both must be included on the application and sign the application. Both must be present at the Arts Festival.
4. Artists must be present with their work for the entire two days of the event. Representatives may not attend in place of the artist. The Arts Festival requires photo identification at check in to ensure compliance.

5. Artists may only show work in categories and body of work selected by the Jury. All work exhibited must be of the quality, category and body of work that the Jury was shown in the slides.
6. **ABSOLUTELY NO REPRODUCTIONS ARE ALLOWED** (see special notes per media category).

MEDIA CATEGORIES

Media categories are used by the Arts Festival as a tool for organizing artist's images into logical, related groups for the jury's review. While a balanced show that equitably showcases both works of fine art and fine craft as well as diversity among media is a principal Arts Festival objective, the Arts Festival establishes no quota or entitlement by media category.

Ceramics: All original clay and porcelain work other than jewelry is accepted in this category. No machine-made or mass produced work is permitted. If multiple pieces of the same design are displayed each piece must be signed.

Digital Art: This category includes any original work for which the original image, or the manipulation of other source material, was executed by the artist using a computer. Work in this category must be in editions, signed and numbered on archival quality material. Traditional photographs taken through digital media should apply in the photography category.

Drawing: All original artworks in all drawing mediums on high quality paper. **No copies or reproductions allowed.**

Fiber: All work crafted from fibers including basketry, embroidery, weaving, leatherwork, tapestry and papermaking. No machine tooling, machine-screened patterns or other forms of mass production are permitted. No factory produced wearable items, regardless of additional modification or enhancement by the artist, may be exhibited.

Glass: No forms of mass production are permitted.

Printmaking: Printed works for which the artist's hand manipulated the plates, stones or screens and which have been properly signed and numbered as an edition may be entered in this category. **All photogravure, photocopy and/or offset reproductions, will be rejected.** Printmakers are required to disclose both their creative and printmaking processes.

Jewelry: All jewelry whether the work is metal, glass, clay, fiber, paper, plastic or other materials must be entered in this category. No commercial cast, molds or production studio work is allowed.

Metalworks: Includes all non-sculptural, non-jewelry works crafted from metals. No production studio work is allowed.

Mixed Media: This category includes works, both 2 and 3-dimensional, that incorporate more than one type of physical material to produce. Includes non-sculptural work as determined by the artist.

Painting: Works created in oils, acrylics, watercolor, etc. are in this category.

Reproductions of all kinds including gicleé are prohibited.

Photography: Photographic prints made from the artist's original image and which have been processed by that artist are included in this category.

Photographers are required to disclose both their creative and printing processes on prints which have been properly signed and numbered as an edition.

Sculpture: Three-dimensional original work done in any medium, including built up works in wood are included in this category.

Wood: Original works in wood that are hand-tooled, machine-worked, turned or carved are accepted in the wood category.

Checklist:

Make sure all of the following items and information are included in your application package before mailing. Incomplete applications will not be processed:

___ Completed and signed application form.

___ Five (5) properly labeled and numbered images in slide or CD format.

___ \$20 check payable to Big West Arts Festival, or Pay-Pal payment for non-refundable processing fee.

___ If mailing, send a 6" x 9" self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want your application materials returned.

MAIL ALL MATERIALS TO:

The Big West Arts Festival

Sheridan College

3059 Coffeen Avenue

PO Box 1500

Sheridan, WY 82801

Or e-mail electronic format to

bigwest@sheridan.edu

**YOUR APPLICATION MUST BE
POSTMARKED BY APRIL 23rd, 2010**