

## BENTON COUNTY ARTS FEST 2023

### Q&A:

1. What is the purpose of this festival?
  - The objectives of this event are to showcase different forms of art by our talented Benton County artists, while inspiring visitors to our festival to explore and express their own creativity. The vendor show will provide the public with an opportunity to enjoy and purchase unique handmade art and crafts, to interact with working artists in the community, and to raise the level of awareness and appreciation for the creativity of our local artisans.
2. What are the different features of the festival?
  - Artisan Marketplace – featuring fine art and craft art from artists throughout Benton County and beyond.
  - Live performances
  - Artisan demonstrations
  - Open Mic (spoken word: poetry, recitation, story-telling, essays, fiction)
  - Chalk art
  - Artist swap and shop
  - Take and make items for visitors of the festival
  - Silent auction
  - Art competition for youth and adults
  - And more!
3. What types of items are allowed to be sold at the marketplace?
  - Please read the full list of [rules and regulations](#) on the website for a complete list of criteria.
4. What is the location of the festivities?
  - The art competition is in the Community Building – lower-level Harbor Room. The remainder of the events will be on Main Street.
5. Do I have to live in Benton County to be a vendor?
  - You do not have to live in Benton County to be a vendor at the artisan marketplace.
6. Will I need to bring my own display, tent, etc. if I am a vendor at the marketplace?
  - Yes – we will only supply you with a 10x10 space for your booth.
7. What are the vendor fees?
  - **Vendor Fees:** Benton County residents: \$10/booth plus a silent auction item (valued at a minimum of \$25 or more) or \$35/booth. Non county residents: \$20/booth plus a silent auction item (valued at a minimum of \$25 or more) or \$45/booth. All proceeds raised from the silent auction will go towards future Benton County Arts events supporting our local artists.
  - Is the art competition only for Benton County residents? Yes – we want to showcase
8. Is the competition juried?
  - No – but it is judged. The committee selects a qualified judge from outside of Benton County.
9. What are guidelines for the competition?
  - All entrants must have an address in Benton County, MO. Artwork must be recent, original, and family friendly. Entries previously entered in the Benton County Art Walk are not eligible for the contest. We hope to offer prizes according to medium (drawing,

painting, and mixed media), dependent on the number of entries – please note medium with your entries.

Two-dimensional work (including photography) must be brought to the show framed (or stretched on a frame) and ready to hang with securely attached braided picture wire. No saw tooth, cardboard pop-out or plastic hangers will be accepted. Due to limited display space, frames may not exceed 36” in width. Artwork is entered at the artist’s own risk, although every precaution will be taken in handling.

10. What type of prizes are there for the competition?

- Adults: Our prizes this year are cash prizes and have increased substantially since last year and will be dependent on the number of entries. We will also have ribbons for top places.
- Youth: The prizes for the youth are sponsored by Creative Palette and will include ribbons and age-appropriate goodie bags.

11. What type of performances are you looking for/having?

- We are seeking local and Missouri performers. Do you sing, dance, play an instrument, or have another talent you'd like to share in our celebration of the arts?
- Do you enjoy attending open mic sessions? We are also seeking performers for the open mic.

12. What are the details of the open mic?

- The open mic will be at a business (TBD) and you can schedule a time slot or you can show up. We are currently working on the schedule and it will be posted soon. You will only be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes unless there are open times.

Please contact Kim at the Warsaw Chamber for more information and to schedule an audition if you are interested in sharing your talent on one of our stages during the event! Groups are welcome as well!