



2024 Dakota County Fair Poster Art Competition

Call For Entries

Overview

This competition is for the Dakota County artist who has a true passion for the Dakota County Fair. Artists are asked to submit a color sketch celebrating the Dakota County Fair. Be a part of this first annual competition and submit your most creative idea that showcases the theme of the Dakota County Fair.

Artists have the chance to win a \$500 grand prize if their piece is selected. There will be three finalists selected. The grand prize artist will get the \$500 cash prize while the other two finalists will receive a \$250 cash prize. Each of the three finalists will receive three (3) complimentary parking tickets.

Eligibility

The Dakota County Fair Poster Art Competition is open to Dakota County residents only, age 18 and older. Employees, directors, and immediate family of the Dakota County Fair are not eligible to enter. Any artists who submitted work for consideration in previous years are encouraged to enter again except for the grand prize winner of which is not allowed to enter again.

Theme

The theme for this competition is **“Growing from Generation to Generation”**. Artists will submit a color sketch depicting their passion for the Dakota County Fair and incorporate the theme. However, we are not looking for an advertisement.

Submission Requirements

All submissions must include the following:

1. A completed entry form.
2. Resume (maximum of two pages) – this is to tell us about you
3. **Color** sketch (Concept) depicting the Dakota County Fair and “Growing from Generation to Generation” theme on 8 ½ x 11 paper.

4. Brief description of submitted sketch and intended medium.

All materials must be submitted in hard copy form. Submission materials will not be returned. Artwork must be two-dimensional and use traditional media in the final piece. Concepts may be rendered using computer software, but the final piece must use traditional media.

Finalists must submit final artwork in the following size: 18 x 24-inch horizontal or vertical poster. The artist's signature must be at least 1-inch from the border of the artwork.

The first submission (Concept) must be delivered or dropped off by **Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 3 pm**. See *Submitting Entries* below for mailing and drop-off addresses.

Selection Criteria

Judges will be looking for the following in each of the submissions:

- Artwork should celebrate the Dakota County Fair and incorporate the theme, "Growing from Generation to Generation".
- Passion for the Dakota County Fair
- Appeal to a broad audience
- Must include "Dakota County Fair" and Fair dates (August 5-11, 2024).

Failure to adhere to these standards will result in disqualification.

Selection Process

The selection process is as follows:

1. A panel of judges will review all submissions and select their top three submissions.
2. The artists of the top three submissions will be invited to Dakota County Fair to further explain their concept in front of the judges.
3. The top three finalists will have four weeks, **Thursday, April 25th, 2024**, to create the more detailed piece of his/her concept. The final artwork of the three finalists must use traditional media and be 18 x 24" horizontal or vertical in size, with signature 1 inch above border.
4. The panel of judges will review the finalists' artwork and will select the piece of artwork that celebrates the Dakota County Fair and theme the best.
5. After the Grand Champion Artist has been selected the top artist will receive a grand prize of \$500 and the other two finalists will receive a prize of \$250.

Terms and Conditions for Finalists and Grand Champion Artist

A complete agreement will be presented at the time of artist selection.

All finalists' artwork will become property of the Dakota County Fair. The artists will retain the copyright, but full ownership of the finished selection will be transferred to Dakota

County Fair. The Dakota County Fair will also have the right to reproduce the original artwork for sale in the form of commemorative posters and other merchandise, as well as for use in advertising and promotion of the Dakota County Fair.

The artist of the final selection agrees to publicity promoting their artwork upon request, including attending poster signing events during the Dakota County Fair

In addition to the \$500 for being the Grand Champion Artist, the artist will receive 25 posters. Furthermore, the Grand Champion Artist will be considered for various opportunities that arise before, during or after the 2024 Dakota County Fair.

Competition Proceeds

Posters will be used for advertisement of the Dakota County Fair. There may be merchandise that is made from the artwork that may be sold at the Fair Office or Information Booth during the Dakota County Fair. All proceeds from sales will support the Dakota County Fair - Friends of the Fair Fund.

Schedule of Events

Entry deadline:	March 26, 2024
First round judging artwork:	March 28, 2024
Finalists informed:	March 29, 2024
Finalists interviewed:	April 2, 2024
Finalist artwork deadline:	April 25, 2024
Judges select winning artist:	April 29, 2024

Submitting Entries

Materials must be delivered and arrive by **Entry Deadline: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 3 pm** or dropped off between 9 am – 3 pm at:

Dakota County Fair
Art Competition
4008 220th Street West
Farmington, MN 55024

Finalists will be contacted with further details at that stage of the competition. Any entries dropped off or received after 3 pm **Tuesday, March 26, 2024**, will not be accepted.

Questions?

Any questions about the competition should be directed to Kristine Smith at ksmith@dakotacountyfair.org.