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Des Moines Arts Festival® Opens Artist Applications for 2023 Festival

Traditional and new opportunities are now available for professional and aspiring artists

(Des Moines, IA) – The Des Moines Arts Festival® presented by [Nationwide](#) is now accepting artist applications for the 2023 Festival. In its 26th year, the award-winning Festival will be held June 23 – 25 in Downtown Des Moines’ Western Gateway Park. Applications are open for professional artists, emerging Iowa artists, a program for Iowa residents currently enrolled in an institution of higher education, and a new emerging artist program that is designed for any individual embarking on a career in the art fair industry.

The application process is facilitated online through ZAPplication® (ZAPP®), a universal online application system that allows artists to submit and manage applications for participating art shows, festivals and fairs. Interested artists can visit this [link](#) and search for Des Moines Arts Festival.

The application deadline for the 2023 Festival is Jan. 18, 2023 at 8 a.m.

Artists will be selected through a rigorous five-person jury process. Through this, the jury will only be privy to six images provided by the artists, including samples of their work and one image of their booth. The jurors will also be provided the associated pricing for each piece in an image and will hear an artist's statement. No other information will be provided. The jury will use a 1 – 7 scoring system for the first round, followed by rounds of voting, eventually narrowing down and composting the final show for the 2023 Festival. The jury is scheduled the week of Feb. 6, 2023 in Des Moines (dates subject to change). The selected artists will be announced at Des Moines Arts Festival’s REVEAL event on March 2, 2023.

One of the most respected arts and culture festivals in the world, the 2023 Festival will host 195 of the nation’s top artists in the beautiful urban setting surrounding the 4.4 acres John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park. Fourteen-time winner of the coveted Grand Pinnacle Award from the International Festival and Events Association (IFEA), the Festival is dedicated to the highest standards of excellence that works tirelessly to maintain a positive environment for artists and their clients, supporting their mission to *Impact Lives Through the Arts*. The Festival is a non-profit organization with any proceeds earned going to support the advancement and advocacy of working professional and emerging artists, the continuation of the Festival, and keeping artist fees low.

The Emerging Iowa Artist program (EIA) and the new Emerging Program are presented by [Principal](#). Thanks to this support, the programs provide unique benefits making the opportunity to participate more affordable and providing them with an opportunity to sell their work just as seasoned professionals.

For more information on the application process please see the 2023 Artist Prospectus [here](#) or contact Des Moines Arts Festival executive director, Stephen King, at sking@desmoinesartsfestival.org.

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About the Des Moines Arts Festival. The [Des Moines Arts Festival®](#) is committed to strengthening a vibrant and creative community. Dedicated to the principles of collaboration and creative expression, Des Moines Arts Festival inspires engagement with the arts, fosters and celebrates inclusion, values professionalism and quality, and champions new and emerging ideas.

The Des Moines Arts Festival produces an annual outdoor festival celebrating arts and culture, provides programming and support to artists and arts organizations, advocates for a “arts first” leadership model, and inspires individuals to find their creative voice.

The mission of the Des Moines Arts Festival is to Impact Lives through the Arts.

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