

# CREATIVE ARTS

## Fine Arts Exhibit

Framing and Wiring

# Framing

- In this tutorial we will clarify:
- Size requirements
- Proper framing for Erie County Fair
- Requirements for exhibiting at Erie County Fair
- Suggested vendor for Framing Preferred Service Provider

# Getting supplies ready

To frame and wire your art for hanging you will need:

- frame (wood or metal NOT PLASTIC)
- Nails
- Hammer
- Wire
- Hardware (D-Ring hangers preferred)
- Screwdriver
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Acid free backing paper (for frames with glass)



# Frames

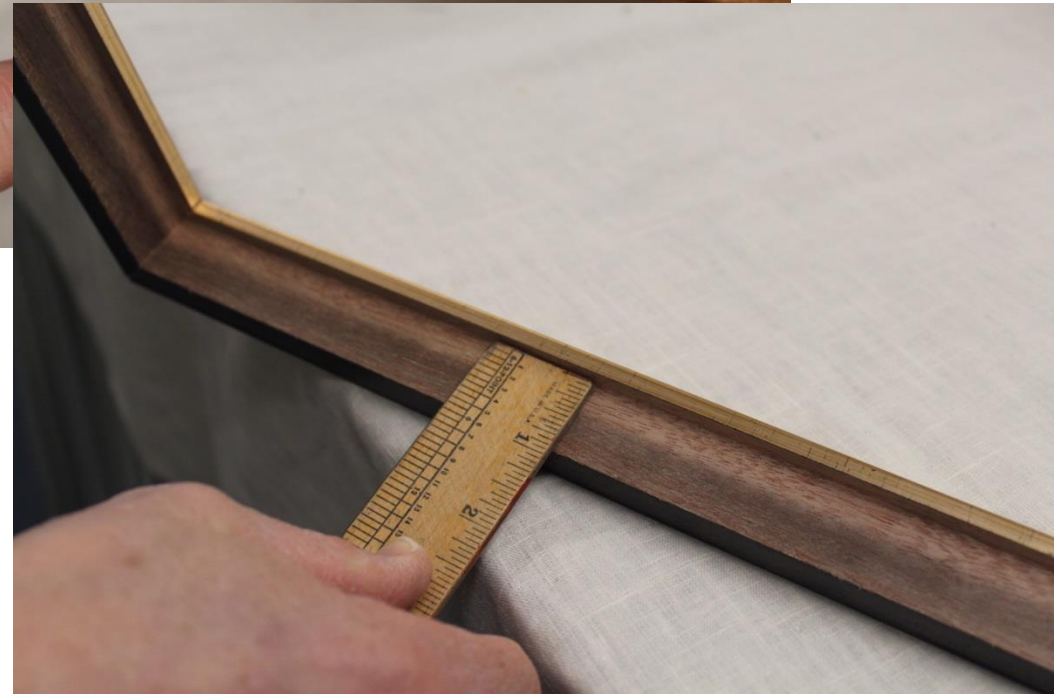
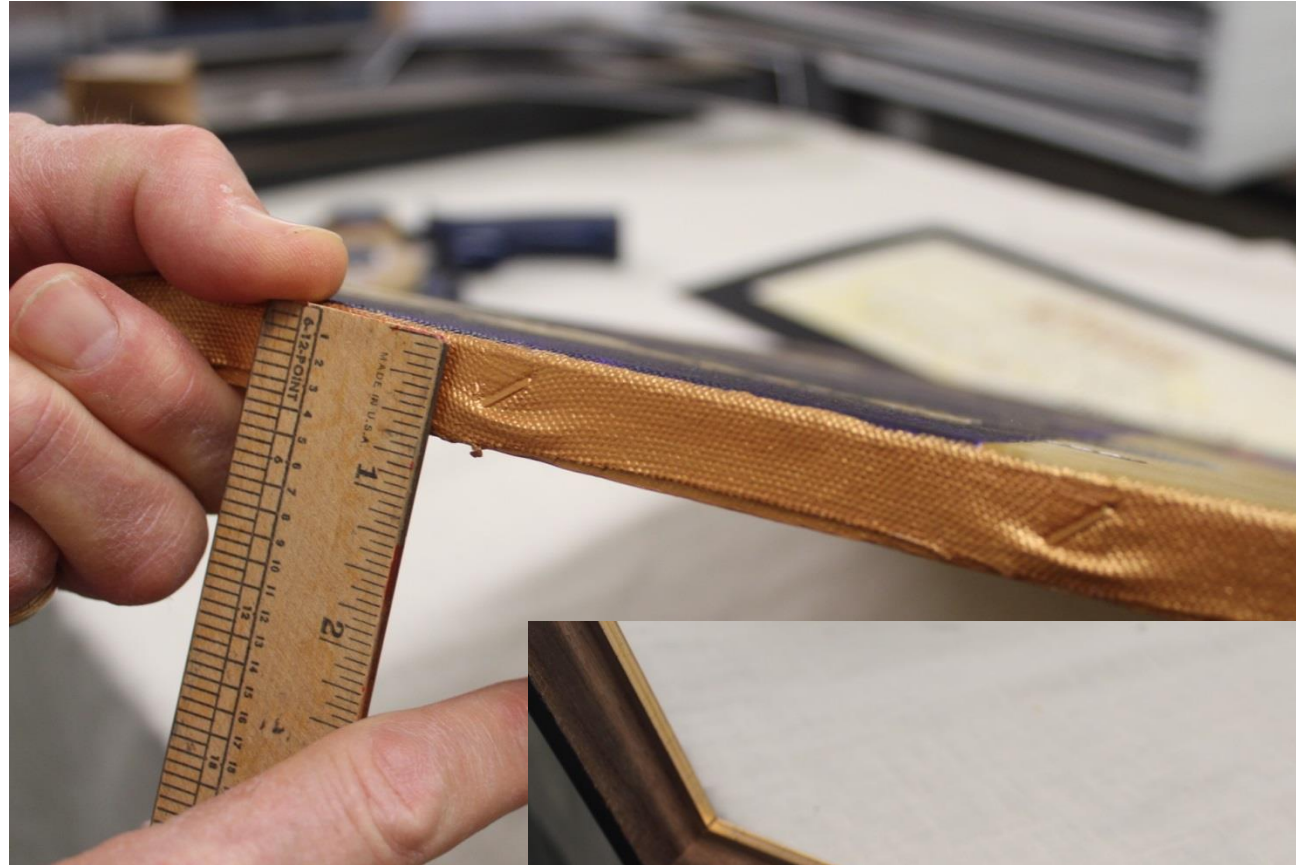
- Select a frame style and material that will compliment your work
- Erie County Fair will accept wood and metal frames yet WILL NOT accept plastic frames
- Your frame should be securely wired for the size and weight of your art.
- A painting created with acrylic, oil or encaustic (wax and oil) paints will not need glass to protect its surface
- Watercolor, pen and ink, pastels, pencil, charcoal, printmaking prints will need to be protected under glass





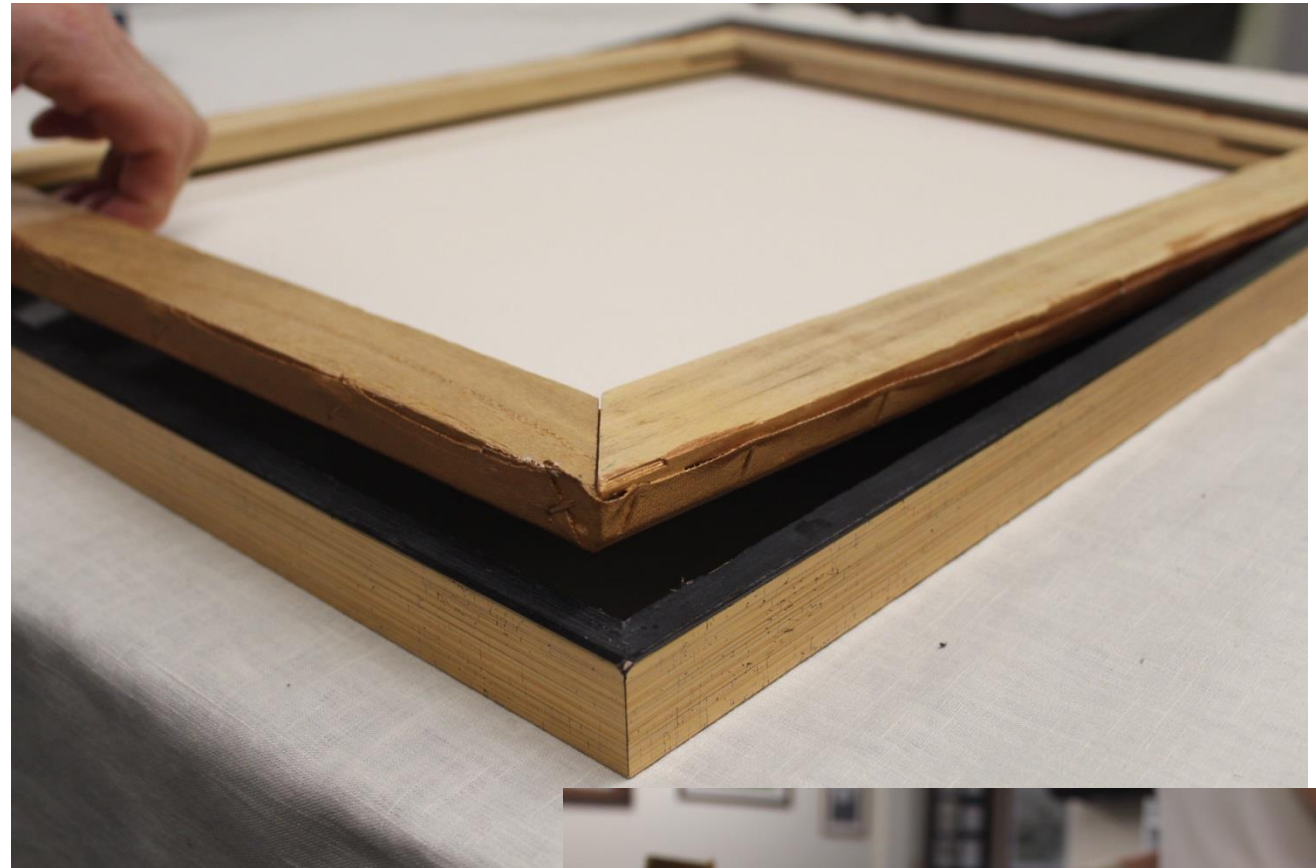
# Framing a **standard** canvas in a wooden frame(next 8 slides)

- As discussed in the “Selecting your Canvas” tutorial, the **Standard canvas ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ”)** has a thin width and must be framed
- Select a frame that has a depth that will fit your canvas inside it
- Remember a Gallery canvas ( $1\frac{3}{4}$ ” or thicker) will not need to be framed



Standard canvas will fit properly inside this frame

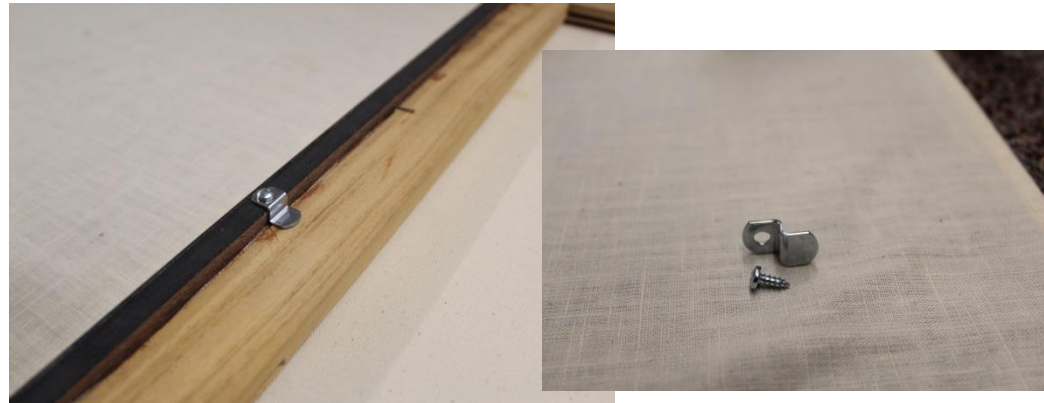
- Place the painting inside the frame and get ready to secure it and wire it for hanging as shown in next slides





## Secure your canvas to the back of frame using nails or metal clips

- These photographs show a nail gun placing a small nail into the frame so it will hold your canvas in a secure way
- You can use a hammer and small nails to achieve the same result
- Place at least two nails on each side
- Another technique is to attach a clip that will hold your canvas in place



# Attaching hanging wire to the back of your standard canvas

- Place your frame so that the top of your painting is at the top of your frame
- Measure down the entire height
- Take that measurement and divide it by 3
- Your hooks should be placed  $\frac{1}{3}$  down from the top of your frame
- In this example the height measures 21", 21 divided by 3 is 7, so measure 7" down from the top and mark that measurement





# The 1/3 rule

In this example the height measures 21", 21 divided by 3 is 7, so measure 7" down from the top and mark that measurement



# Get your tools ready

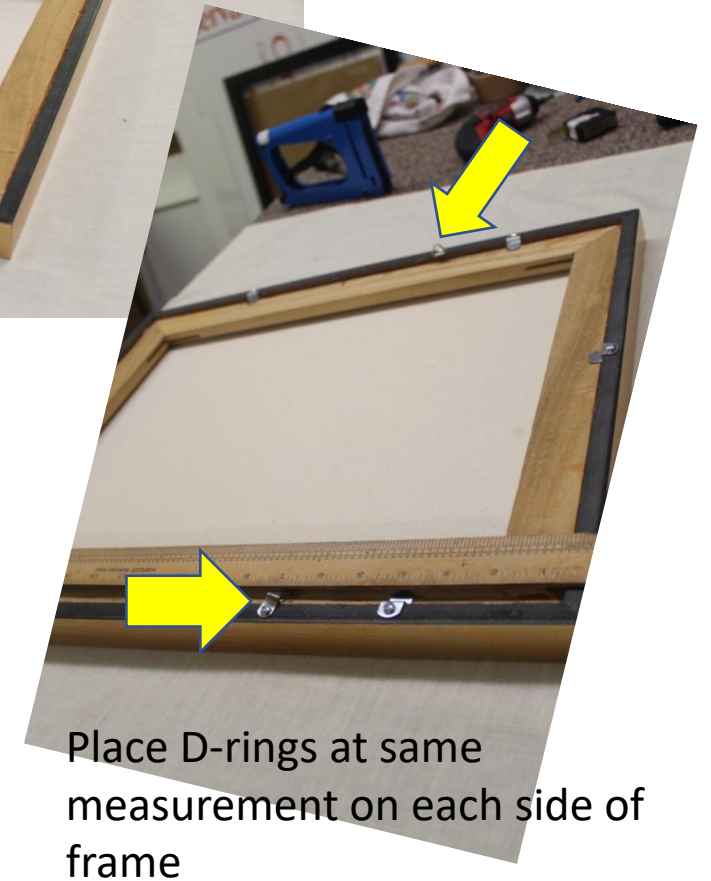
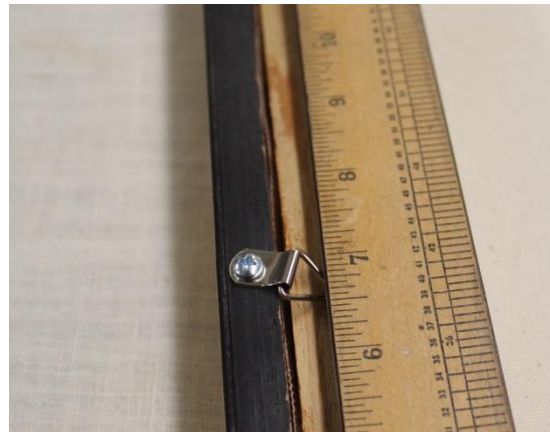
- Hammer
- Ruler or measuring tape
- Nail or awl
- Pencil or marker
- Wire
- Wire cutters
- Screw driver
- Hardware D-ring hangers preferred



# Attach D-ring hardware

-after marking 1/3 down the frame it is now time to attach your hanging hardware

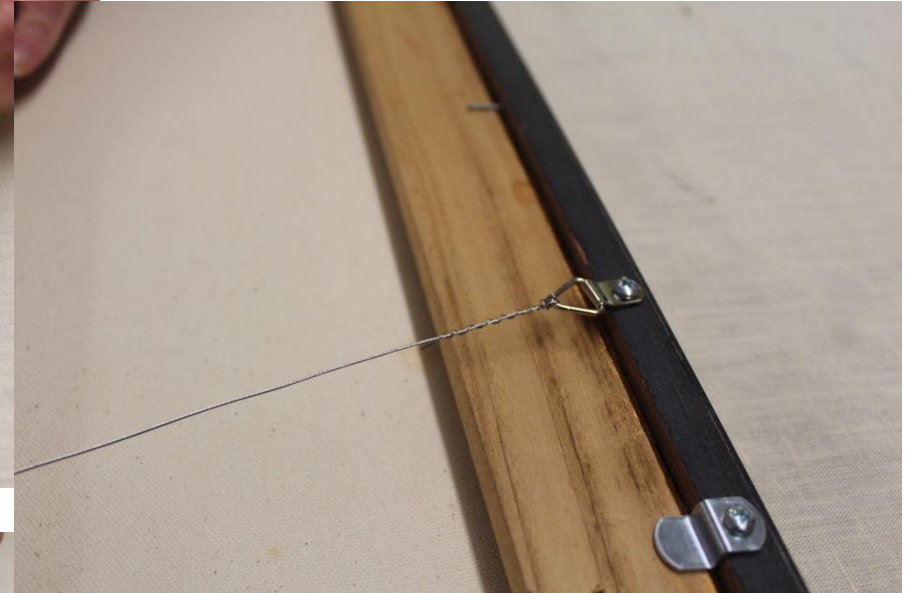
- D-Rings are the preferred hardware for this procedure (eye screws are acceptable yet not recommended)
- D-Rings come in many sizes: smaller rings for small frames and larger for heavier larger frames.
- These can be found at hardware stores or craft stores





# Adding hanging wire

- Hanging wire is metal braided wire
- DO NOT USE STRING, YARN or FISHING LINE
- Attach wire to D-Ring by twisting it around and then back through the hole
- Pull wire over to the other D-Ring making sure you have enough wire excess to twist around that D-Ring
- Cut the wire (wire cutter or multi purpose scissors) and twist it around the D-Ring and back again through the hole
- The goal is to have the tension of your wire when pulling it upwards to reach 5" in this example. You are trying to avoid your wire touching the top of your canvas or frame. Wire that goes over the top of your frame IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.(see next slide)

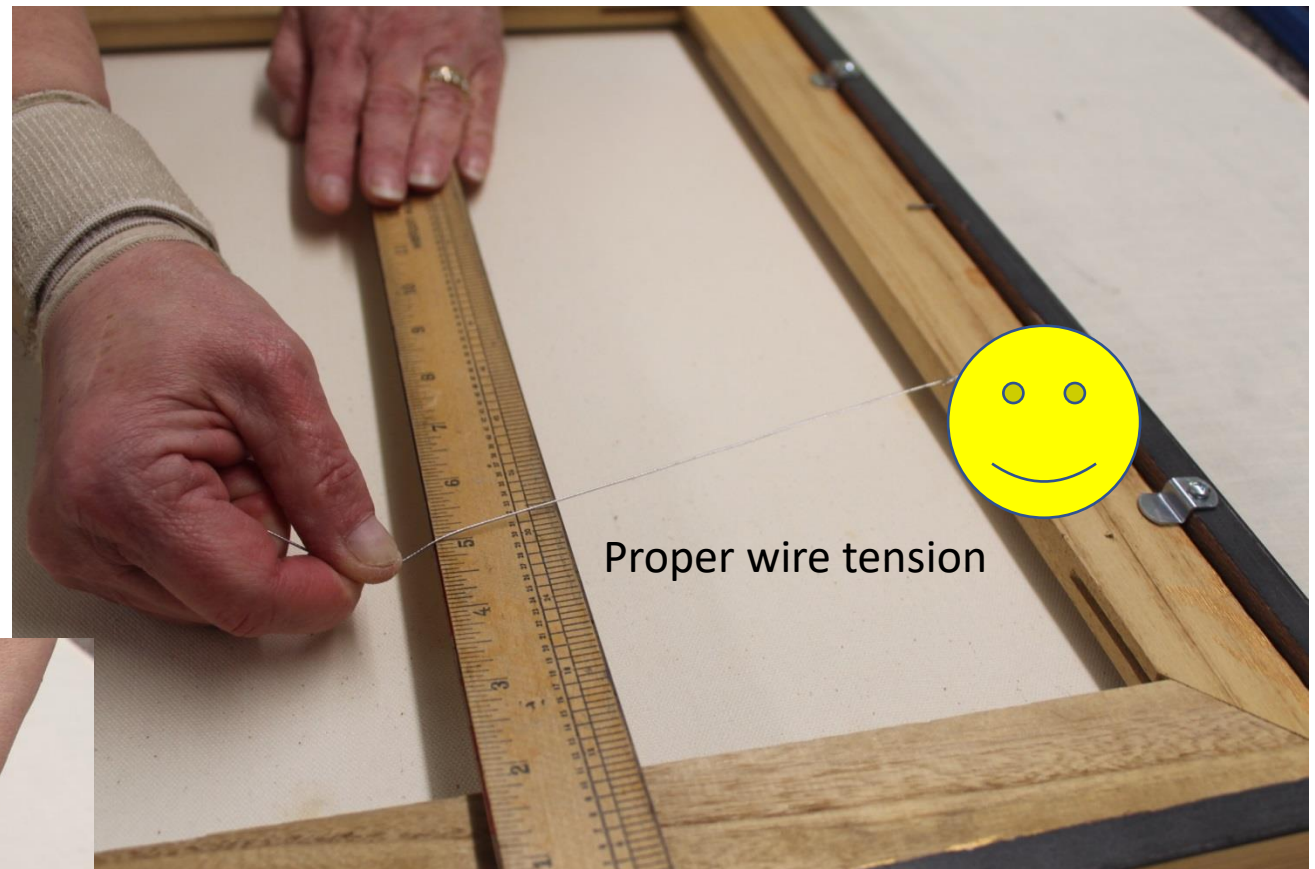


**TUG** on your wire to make sure it is secure!

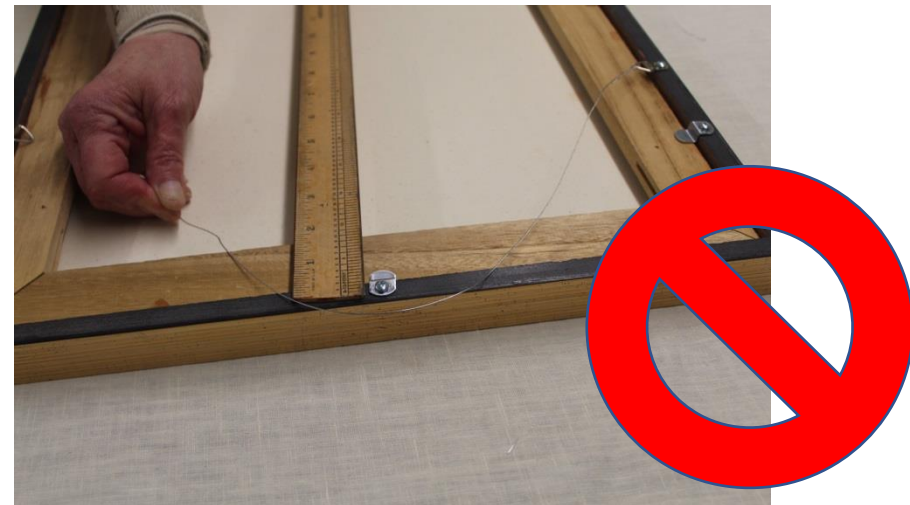
This is for the safety of your artwork, other artwork entered in the fair and patrons and staff! NO ART WILL BE ACCEPTED IF IT IS UNSAFE!

# Proper wire tension

- The proper wire tension placement is critical when hanging your painting on a wall.
- This concludes the framing and wiring instructions for a standard width canvas painting.



Wire is hitting top of canvas NOT GOOD

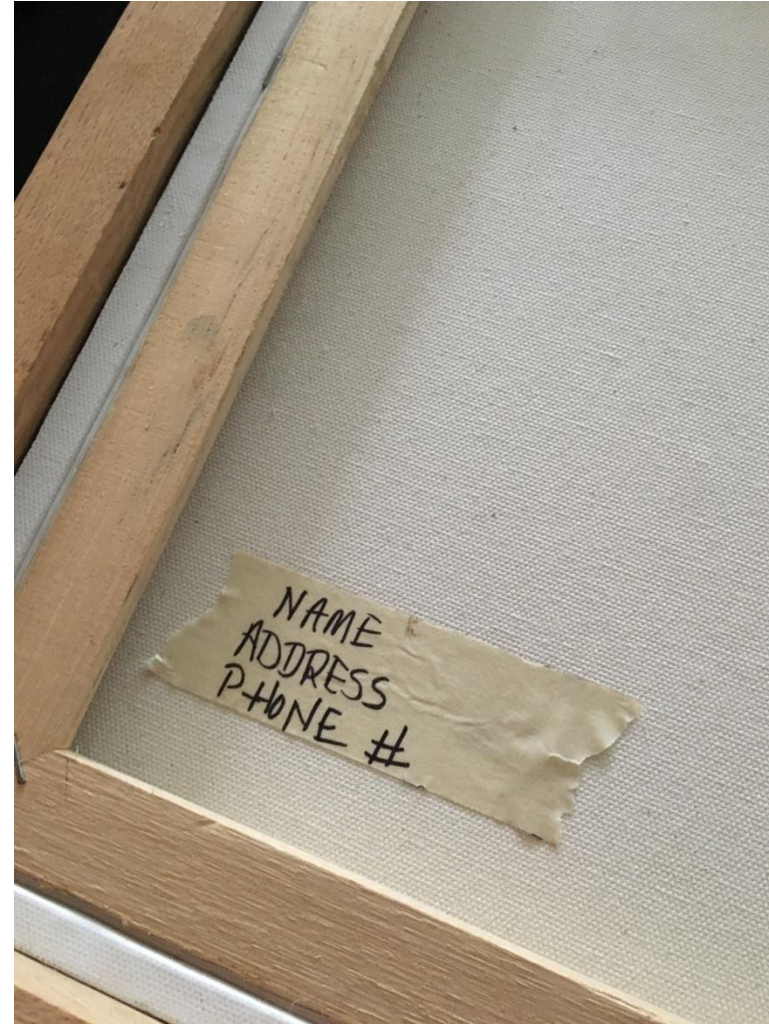


Wire is hanging over entire frame NOT ACCEPTABLE



Please place your  
information on every  
piece of work you submit

- On a piece of tape: name address and  
phone number is required just in case our  
paper tags we attach on intake day falls off





## Framing your art in a glass frame

- Framing under glass will protect your art work from moisture and smudging
- Mediums such as: watercolor, pencil, pastels, pen and ink, printmaking prints, charcoal will need to use a frame with glass



# Select a frame and matte that compliments your art

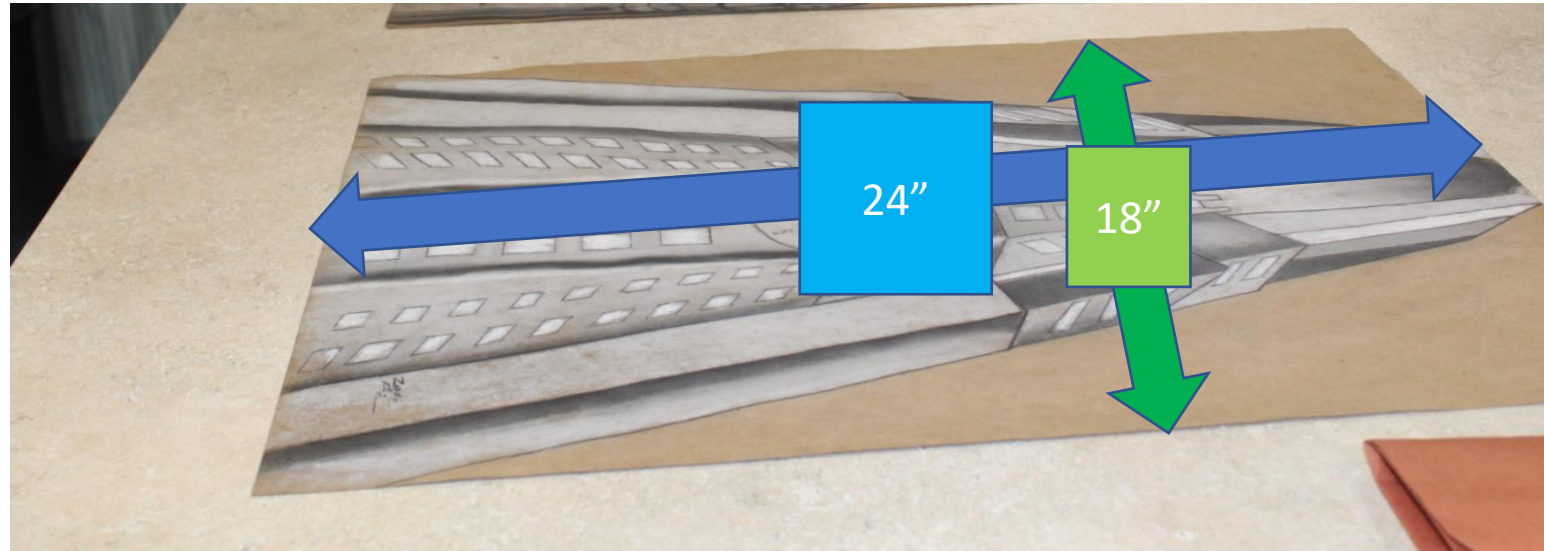
- The frame and matte size and color should not distract or take away from your artwork. Neutrals (tans, greys, whites or blacks) are recommended.
- Keep in mind the size of your mattes or frames are not restricted by the Erie County Fair. The art work itself must be 24" or less, yet the frame can exceed 24".



Measure your art to  
make sure it is no  
larger than 24"

-now you are ready to pick your matte and  
frame

This charcoal drawing measures  
18"x 24" it is within the Erie County  
Fair size requirements





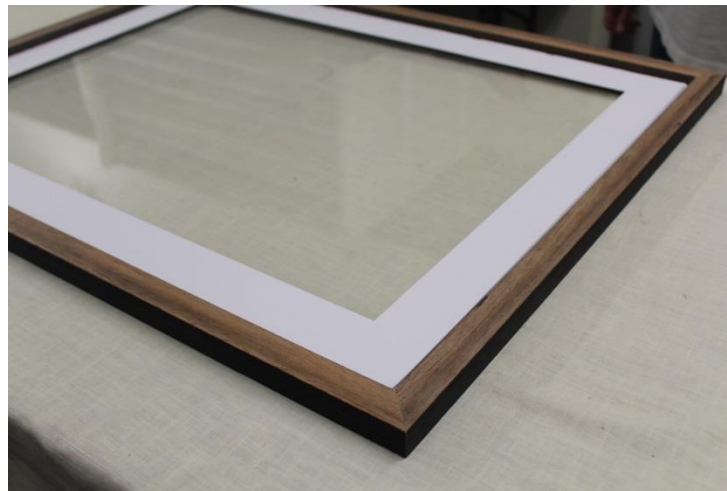
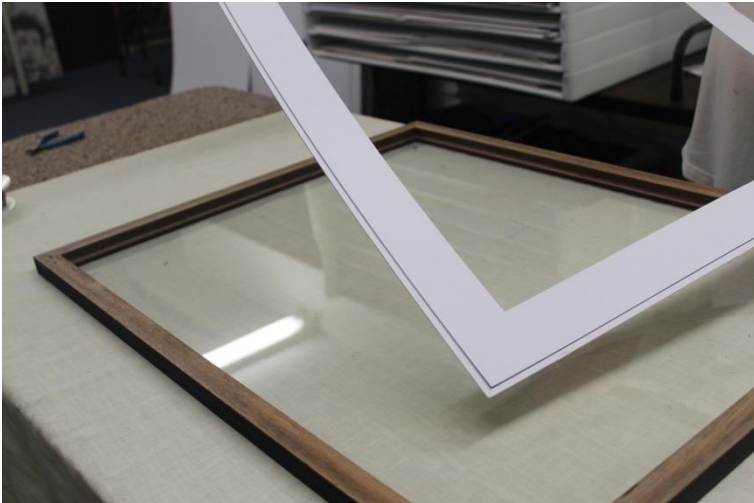
# Select your matte and frame

- This art work is being framed at a local frame shop so the choices are abundant. Professional framers can help you decide on the framing that will compliment your art.
- Premade frames and pre cut mattes also available at art/craft stores.



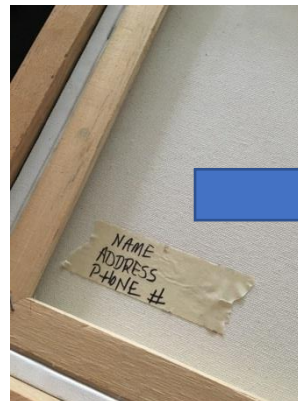
# Framing

- Place frame face down on a clean soft surface to avoid scratching the frame
- Clean your glass with a lint free cloth
- Choose a matte that will fit and place it right side down on glass
- Place your artwork right side down on top of the matte



# Secure your artwork to frame

- Place a board (matte board) to back of the artwork to act as a backing
- Secure that board to the back of the frame. You can use nails or acid free tape for this step.
- Most frame shops recommend you place a piece of cut acid free paper on the back after the backing is secure. This will reinforce and prevent any dust or moisture from getting into your frame. The backing paper can be glued or attached on by acid free double sided tape.
- After the backing paper (optional) is secured the hardware and wire can be attached. (see next slide)

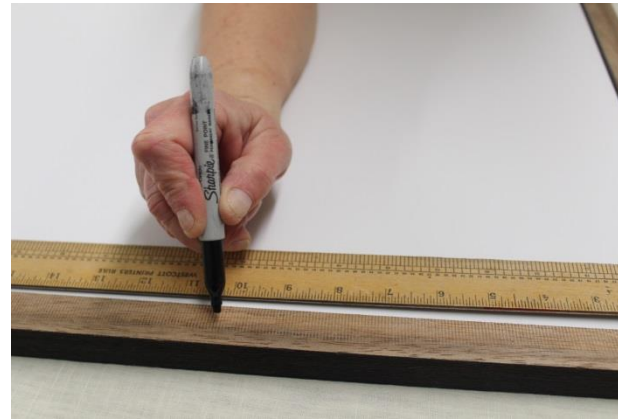


Please write your name, address, and phone number on a piece of tape and attach it to the back of your art



# Measuring and adding hardware

- For this example the total height of this framed art is now 30" so we can divide 30 by 3 and get 10. that is  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the total height.
- Measure down 10" and mark it on each side of the frame.
- Start your hole with a nail
- Add your D-Ring
- And then proceed the attaching the wire. TUG on the wire to make sure it is secure!
- **These steps can be reviewed in the first section of this tutorial (Framing a standard canvas)**
- Metal frames need their own special interlocking hardware (check with your frame supplier)



Only wooden and metal frames are acceptable      NO PLASTIC FRAMES ARE ALLOWED