

2024  
**DEPARTMENT 22**  
**FINE ARTS – PAINTINGS – WATER MEDIA**

The 2024 Big E will be held September 13-29, 2024.

**Exhibitor handbooks and schedules are subject to change.**

We suggest you request to be added to the email lists of the departments you are entering, follow the department Facebook page, or check our website frequently for updates.

Email [CreativeArts@TheBigE.com](mailto:CreativeArts@TheBigE.com) to request to be added to be added to our email list.

Follow us on Facebook @bigecreativearts

All exhibitors are required to read and comply with the GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS of the Creative Arts Department and to acknowledge with entry submission that they have obtained <b>copyright permission</b> when appropriate.			
<b>Entry Form &amp; Photo Due</b>	<b>August 1</b> Online submission of photo of artwork and Entry Form	<a href="https://TheBigE.fairwire.com/">https://TheBigE.fairwire.com/</a>	
<b>Entry Fee per Item</b>	\$5		
<b>Entry Limit</b>	One entry per exhibitor		
<b>Eligibility</b>	Must be completed within past 4 years		
<b>Classes</b>	A: Adult Professional	B: Adult Non-Professional	C: Youth 13-18    D: Youth 5-12
<b>Jury Review</b>	August 2 through August 11		
<b>Premiums</b>	Best of Department: \$20	Blue: \$20	Red: \$17    White: \$14
<b>Acceptance Notification</b>	<b>August 13, 5:00 pm</b>		
<b>Receiving</b>	<b>Thursday, August 29, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm</b>		New England Center
<b>Judging</b>	Closed to the public	August 29	
<b>Release</b>	Monday, September 30, 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Tuesday, October 1, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm	New England Center
After November 1, all unclaimed items become the property of Eastern States Exposition and will be disposed of as deemed necessary.			
For additional information, contact Creative Arts at <a href="mailto:CreativeArts@TheBigE.com">CreativeArts@TheBigE.com</a> or call (413) 205-5015.			

**A photograph of the artwork must be submitted online to be juried. Only those works selected will be invited to display artwork for The Big E Creative Arts Competition.** An email will be sent to entrants and juried results will be posted online by August 13 for notification of accepted artwork.

Judging will occur from the physical pieces after they have been delivered to the Creative Arts Department on receiving day (see chart above) and meeting all entry requirements.



**Division 2201 Paintings – Water Media**

**Division 2202 2024 Creative Arts Theme: “United We Fair”. The piece involves a spirit of unity.**

Please include a 3”x5” index card describing how entry relates to the theme.

**General**

1. All entries must be the original work of the entrant.
2. All entered items must have been created within the last 4 years.
3. Two-dimensional artwork may not exceed **400 square inches**, including the frame. We will not accept any entry exceeding the size limit.
4. In keeping with Eastern States’ family orientation, items of an offensive, controversial, or objectionable nature or subject matter will not be accepted.
5. Exhibition space is not climate controlled.

**Entry Process**

6. Submission of digital image of the artwork for judging through online entry at <https://TheBigE.fairwire.com>.
  - a. Artwork must be photographed on a solid background.
  - b. Artist’s name must NOT appear on uploaded images. *Please cover any name or initials before uploading.*
  - c. Only one full frontal view image of the artwork is allowed for upload.
  - d. Uploaded image size requirements: 1024 x 768 pixels or smaller (width x height) - less than 8 MB and saved as JPEG, GIF, BMP or PNG formats only. If your total image file size is greater than 8 MB, you will need to use a photo editing program to re-size the photo image.
  - e. All exhibitors must provide a valid email with their registration submission.
7. On August 13, all exhibitors will be notified of accepted entries.
8. Submit the installation ready artwork on August 29 for judging and selection of premium awards.



Painting by Bernard Duffy

**ACCEPTED ENTRIES:**

9. **RECEIVING DAY: Thursday, August 29, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm**

**Entry Mounting and Size Limitation**

10. Two-dimensional artwork may not exceed **400 square inches**, including the frame. We will not accept any entry exceeding the size limit.
11. All artworks must be received installation ready. **Artwork must be framed unless painted on a gallery wrapped canvas.** Artwork should have suitable wire hanging using strong screw eyes and wire. The paintings are hung using peg board J hooks. Paintings may be damaged if proper hanging hardware is not attached to the painting.
12. Saw-tooth hangers, string, clip mounts, missing wires, scotch tape, uniframes, and frames with a sharp glass edge will not be accepted.
13. Wet artwork will not be accepted.



Painting by Colin Leonard (Youth 13-18)

14. Eastern States Exposition will not furnish or protect any artworks with glass, plastic or hanging apparatus. The exhibitor may include glass; however, if shipping artwork, glass must be replaced with Plexiglas or another acrylic sheet product.

### Entry Identification

15. All exhibitors must affix an official entry tag to the back of the exhibit that was emailed to the exhibitor in the acceptance email.
16. Put tags in **middle** of the back of the artwork.
17. Your name should not be visible anywhere on the front of the entry. *Please cover any name or initials before bringing your artwork. Any covering will be removed once judging concludes.*
18. Exhibitors who remove one or more entries prior to the release date without a release will forfeit all premiums won. **Premiums will be forfeited if exhibitor chooses to remove the entry early regardless of who owns the entry.** Disqualified entries may be released earlier by the Eastern States Exposition staff.
19. **Judging Criteria.** Judges will be looking for composition, originality and creativity, technical skills, and presentation.
20. **Decisions by Judges.** Departments/classes may be combined or split at the discretion of Fair Management based on number of entries and quality of articles. Judges' decisions are final. Decisions may not be disputed with the office staff or volunteers. The staff and volunteers do not serve as judges nor dispute the judges' decisions. Judges may give more than one award at the same level in any Division, in each class. Judges also reserve the right to give awards at the deserving level. If work does not meet standards or quality, one or more awards may be omitted. Judges reserve the right to move entries to another category if they feel the entry is incorrectly listed. The judges may also add a division within a category to enable them to properly evaluate the work.
21. **Placement.** All entries may not receive a placement. Placings are based on the Danish system, a method of evaluating a participant's product, skill, or exhibit relative to the standards developed for that class or contest. The judges do not judge one person's work by comparing it to another's.
- BLUE (excellent):** The exhibit met high standards, an excellent rating. A blue is given to those who most nearly meet the highest standards established for the particular class or level of performance. Blue does not indicate perfection or superiority but indicates a high degree of achievement toward the elements in the standards.
  - RED (very good):** Meets minimum standards, very good work. These entries meet minimum standards in relation to the expected achievement. Either the general level of accomplishment is less than excellent or enough shortcomings are found to cause the placing to drop from excellent to very good.
  - WHITE (good):** Meets standards well enough to be shown but is only good quality. The white grouping contains entries found lacking and rate only a good, acceptable, or satisfactory rating for the standards established.



*Drawing by Andrew Johnson (Youth 5-12)*

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- d. HONORABLE MENTION (Yellow) (fair): Meets standards well enough to be shown but is only fair quality. The yellow grouping contains entries found lacking and rates only a fair, acceptable, or satisfactory rating for the standards established.
  - e. NO RIBBON: In Danish, no ribbon may be given if exhibits or individuals who, for one reason or another, fail to produce that level of achievement which can be reasonably expected in relation to the specific class or performance in which they are entered.
22. The artist retains the rights to their artwork, but grants permission of Eastern States Exposition to use images of their artwork as a permanent record of the exhibition and may be edited, adapted, published, and used for publicity, promotion and/or advertising at their discretion without compensation to the contestant. Artwork will be properly credited.

Due to exhibit space limitations, we are accepting only one type of medium each year.

YEAR	DIVISION
2024	Paintings - Water Media
2025	Drawings & Pastels
2026	Paintings - Acrylic & Oil Media

### SPECIAL AWARDS FOR FINE ART

Selection of award recipient is based on "judge's choice" using criteria set by the donor of the award.

**AMERICAN MADE CRAFTERS BY A&W**; Email: [awngi@cox.net](mailto:awngi@cox.net)

\$25 award to *Outstanding Youth Watercolor Painting*