



# WASHINGTON COUNTY Arts Council

October 2, 2015

Dear Prospective 2016 Western Maryland Blues Fest Poster Artist,

The Washington County Arts Council (WCAC), along with the committee members of the Western Maryland Blues Fest (WMBF), are pleased to invite visual artists, including local artists of Western Maryland and the surrounding area, to answer a "Call to Artists" for the opportunity of becoming the 2016 Blues Fest Poster Artist. All submissions are subject to the guidelines set forth herein, and the "Call to Artists" is open to submission by any and all interested artists. When determining a winner among closely judged alternatives, The City of Hagerstown and jury members of the WMBF's "Call To Artists," may, but need not, give preference to an artist currently having (or, instead, having once had) a connection to the City of Hagerstown or to the State of Maryland.

The 21<sup>st</sup> annual Western Maryland Blues Fest is scheduled for June 2, 3, 4, and 5, 2016. Your original work of art will be commissioned by the WCAC and the City of Hagerstown, and will be used to create posters, t-shirts, programs and promotional materials. A raffle is conducted for the original piece throughout the 4-day festival to help raise funds for the Western Maryland Blues Fest.

Artists who are interested in having their work reviewed by the WCAC and the Blues Fest Committee for a chance at becoming the 2016 Blues Fest Poster Artist are encouraged to submit up to three (3) entries. Images must be submitted in a jpeg format and files should be labeled: "Last Name, First Name, and Title of Work."

Please email images of the works to be considered to:  
[gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com](mailto:gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com). Include full name, address, telephone and email address. Alternatively, artists may submit digital images by sending a CD, marked with the artist's name, and a completed entry form to:

Washington County Arts Council, Inc.  
ATTN: Gallery Manager  
34 S. Potomac Street, Suite 100  
Hagerstown, MD 21740.

Artists who would like to have the CDs returned should include a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

All digital entries must be submitted no later than Noon on **November 13, 2015**. Submitting artists will be notified about the committee's decision the week of **November 16, 2015** by phone and by mail.

The final product selected from the proposed sketches will be due to the WCAC gallery by **December 11, 2015** no later than 5 pm. The final product should be created based on the selected sketch. Approval of committee must be obtained in writing if the artist wishes to change the artwork's content significantly.

Please make note of the following detailed guidelines which apply equally to your sketches and, in the event that you are selected, your final poster image product:

1. The artwork must be original, and not clearly identifiable as imitative of any existing art or artist. The artist hereby agrees to hold the City of Hagerstown and the WCAC harmless, and indemnify the same for any loss, damages or claims arising as a result of the style, content, subject or theme of the said artwork.
2. Keep in mind when creating your original work that it will be manipulated by a graphic designer.
3. The artwork should not represent tobacco, alcohol, or drug use, or, without express written permission from the subject or from his/her authorized legal representatives, a real identifiable personage, living or dead. Again, you hereby agree to hold the City of Hagerstown and the WCAC harmless, and indemnify the same for any loss, damages or claims arising as a result of the style, content, subject or theme of your artwork.
4. It is recommended that the artists visit [www.blues-fest.org](http://www.blues-fest.org) and search under history to view the posters from previous years.
5. There will be promotional efforts marketing the Blues Fest artist that will include a full-page article in the program booklet and news releases to regional news media.
6. There will be a gallery exhibit featuring your work at the Washington County Arts Council Gallery in downtown Hagerstown. You will need to provide a body of work to be hung at the art gallery on Wednesday, June 1, 2016. The exhibit will open on Thursday, June 2, 2016 with a reception from 5pm to 8pm. The show will remain on display through Tuesday, June 28, 2016. Artwork must be picked up between 3pm and 5 pm. on Tuesday, June 28, 2016. All artwork on display in the Gallery must be for sale. WCAC will collect 30% commission on all works sold during exhibit. Artist will be paid promptly after the close of their exhibit. The selected artist must contact the Arts Council to view the gallery space to determine the amount of art necessary to fill the display space.
7. There will be a poster signing during the opening at the WCAC Gallery.
8. The artist will receive 50 posters for his or her own use.
9. The artist will receive 2 free VIP tickets for Friday, June 3, 2016 and 2 VIP tickets for Saturday, June 4, 2016 which provide entrance to the festival and VIP tent which includes food and beverages. If additional VIP tickets are needed, they can be purchased from the City of Hagerstown. Please call 301.739.8577 ext. 183 for more details and pricing.
10. The artist will be compensated \$500 by the City of Hagerstown for the artwork and all reproduction rights. The artwork becomes the property of the City of Hagerstown.

We are very pleased to offer this opportunity to the artists of our surrounding area and we look forward to reviewing your work.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact WCAC Gallery Manager, Chris Brewer at 301-791-3132 or email [gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com](mailto:gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com). Please note that the Washington County Arts Council Gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 am to 5 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm.

Very truly yours,

Gaela Shoop  
Event Assistant  
The City of Hagerstown

Mary Anne Burke  
Executive Director  
Washington County Arts Council, Inc.

**21<sup>st</sup> annual Western Maryland Blues Fest: 2016 Prospective Poster Artist  
ENTRY FORM**

*Either fill out this form digitally, save to your computer and email to:*

*[gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com](mailto:gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com) or submit via mail to:*

*Washington County Arts Council, ATTN: Gallery Manager, 34 S. Potomac St., Hagerstown, MD 21740*

**Deadline: November 13, 2015**

Artist Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ Website: http://www. \_\_\_\_\_

	<b><i>Title of art work</i></b>	<b><i>Medium</i></b>	<b><i>Size</i></b>
Entry 1			
Entry 2			
Entry 3			

*Email is the preferred method to receive your information. However, if sending via mail, be sure to include a CD (No DVD's please) with digital images, and a self-addressed, stamped business size envelope if you would like your CD returned.*

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

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