



## *Gulfport Merchants Chamber “Rise and Shine” Artist Grant Program 2022/2023*

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Gulfport Merchants Chamber’s “Rise and Shine” Artist Grants is to support Gulfport’s and Pinellas County’s creative community and to promote Gulfport as an art destination. To be eligible to apply for the grant, an applicant must be a current resident of Pinellas County. Current residents of the City of Gulfport will be given preferential treatment during the approval process. The applicant must be at least 18 years old. **We are seeking applicants on the ascent of their creative career. If you’re starting out or re-visiting your art and building your body of work, then this grant is for you!**

The grants include funding, marketing/advertising support, and exhibition space.

**Deadline to Apply:** A complete application must be received by **August 25, 2022.**

**Overview:** Two grants will be issued with a value of \$1,000. Requirements of the grant must be completed within a one-year period. The grant includes:

- \$500 upon award. To be used exclusively for displays, materials and supplies related to your aspirations as an artist.
- \$200 in 5 booth reservations at Gulfport First Friday Art Walk or Third Saturday Night Market (depending on which venue is appropriate) with direct professional social media marketing support.
- Jury Exempt & 1/2 price booth for Gulfport Fine Arts Festival (Value of \$162.50). Full signage at show indicating the artist as the Rise & Shine Emerging Artist winner, in addition free social media marketing.
- Quarterly FREE ‘Business of Art’ consultations with professional artist

- Free 1 year membership as ‘Art Works Here’ GMC Artist member. Includes free social media promotion, workshops, etc. (value \$50)
- Final Art Exhibit at Gulfport’s Premier First Friday Art Walk
- \$100 after completing 8 events and the Post-Grant Report
- **Requirements:**  
All grant monies are expected to go directly into the artist creating work and creating a professional display that can be used for future festivals and shows.
- Grant recipients will be required to complete a **Post Grant Report**, which provides an accounting of expenditures and outlines the experiences the artist has had throughout the length of the grant period — as it relates to their creative process and their time at *Third Saturday Night Market and First Friday Art Walk*. If an artist fails to complete the report or the 5 booth reservations in a one-year period, the final payment of \$100 of the grant will be forfeited. Invoices for the initial \$500 and final \$100 are required.

### **Application Requirements:**

- Proof of Pinellas County residency and if applicable City of Gulfport residency. Proof of residency include valid Florida driver’s license, Florida I.D., Voter I.D. card or utility payment bill. Use .pdf or .jpg format to capture the image.
- Resume: No more than 2 pages. Please include address, telephone, email and 3 art/professional references. Please save in .pdf format.
- Artist Statement. Let us know your artistic vision and direction for the work you are presenting. Please save your file in a pdf format.
- Digital images of four (4) pieces of work (.jpg format) with a description of each image. Please include title, size, date and value of the work. Please name each file with your lastname\_medium\_number image (ie: Smith\_painting\_1.jpg)

- **Statement of Purpose:** Why do you want this grant? In your own words, please describe your art and artistic process. Include why you think this grant will help you in your artistic career.
- Instagram, Facebook and website links.
- E-mail all documents in one e-mail to **[artworkshere@visitgulfportflorida.com](mailto:artworkshere@visitgulfportflorida.com)**. You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your application.
- **Selection Process:**

The members of the Gulfport Merchants Chamber Board of Directors will review and make funding decisions on all submitted requests. Applications are typically reviewed as they are received, and artists will be notified of decisions via e-mail. All funding decisions are final.
- If you have any questions, please contact [artworkshere@visitgulfportflorida.com](mailto:artworkshere@visitgulfportflorida.com)  
On behalf of the Gulfport Merchants Chamber, thank you! It's time to Rise and Shine!