



Mooresville Arts 44th Annual Artoberfest 2026

SCOPE OF EXHIBIT:

This is a **JUDGED** show opportunity and competition, not a juried show opportunity. If the submitted artwork meets the criteria specified in the show prospectus and presentation guidelines, work will be accepted at intake and included in the exhibit. **Please read the entire prospectus for complete information.**

IMPORTANT SHOW UPDATE: Due to the growing volume of artists who participate in this show, the number of artists will be limited to sixty (60) artists who can submit for this opportunity. Once this show reaches sixty artists, the online registration form will close. Thus, this show will be first come, first served so make sure to submit **BEFORE** the deadline!]\=====

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

- Registration, payment and submission of images will be online at <https://mooresvillearts-2026artoberfestjudgedshow.artcall.org>
- Submissions must be received **BY 5PM on Monday September 21st, 2026**. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

CALENDAR:

- **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** By Monday, September 21st, 2026 (by 5pm)
- **INTAKE:** Friday, September 25th, 2026, from 12-3pm and Saturday, September 26th, 2026, from 10am-1pm. All entries must be hand delivered to the Mooresville Arts Gallery. *No entries will be accepted after 1pm on September 26th, 2026*
- **RECEPTION:** Friday, October 9th, 2026, from 6-9pm: Opening Reception for exhibiting artists and awards ceremony. Artists, their families, and friends are encouraged to attend. The public is also invited to attend. In conjunction with the Artoberfest reception, Mooresville Arts is partnering with the Mooresville Downtown Commission to bring "Art & Acoustics" to downtown Mooresville on the same night! Guests can expect to meet artists, experience live art demonstrations, listen to live music, and enjoy our downtown social district on a lovely, fall evening in the heart of downtown Mooresville. Join us! All are welcome!
- **SHOW CALENDAR:** Tuesday, September 29th through Thursday, November 12th, 2026.
- **REMOVAL DAYS:** Friday, November 13th, 2026, from 12-3pm and Saturday, November 14th, 2026, from 10am-1pm.

*****IMPORTANT NOTE:** All works must remain on display for the duration of the show and be picked up on the designated removal dates. If you are unable to arrange for your work to be picked up on the designated dates, please contact the Director or Mooresville Arts to make other arrangements. Works not picked up within 10 days will become the property of Mooresville Arts.

AWARDS:

Reception and awards presentation: **Friday, October 9th, 2026 (6-9pm)**

- 1st Place Cash Award; 2nd Place Cash Award; 3rd Place Cash Award, Plus Cash Awards for Judge's Choice Awards

ENTRY FEE:

\$35 MA Members in good standing (limit of 2 works); \$50 Non-members (limit of 2 works). *Please only pay entry fee once.* Membership is welcome, starting at \$60 for individual memberships. Please visit our website at the link below for more info and to join/renew: <https://moorevillearts.org/join-or-renew>
Entry fee is non-refundable. NO EXCEPTIONS.

ARTOBERFEST JUDGE: Paul Travis Phillips - Associate Professor of Art at Elon University

Paul Travis Phillips is a multidisciplinary artist working across painting, sculpture, altered objects, installation, performance, and writing. His practice engages language as both subject and material, drawing from discarded or suppressed sources—banned books, abandoned texts, and cultural residue—to examine how knowledge is formed, fractured, and carried.

Approaching art as a recursive process of material and philosophical inquiry, Phillips develops work that resists resolution, favoring slowness, instability, and sustained attention over clarity and consumption. His projects foreground moments where systems of knowledge begin to break down—where understanding slips, abstractions take hold, and the illusion of understanding settles in—revealing the conditions that shape what can be known, said, or preserved, and holding those conditions open for further inquiry.

He is an Associate Professor of Art at Elon University. Across studio, text, and teaching, his work sustains a long-term investigation into intellectual resilience, authorship, and the structures through which ideas take form.

ELIGIBILITY:

Artists 18 years of age or older may submit up to a total of TWO entries. Eligibility may be given to some artists 16-18 years of age; please email us for details.

All Fine Art entries accepted in any medium (with the exception of photography as that is reserved for a separate annual show in the summer). Acceptable examples of media include, but are not limited to: painting, drawing, collage, mixed media, clay, ceramics, glass, woodwork, fiber arts, and sculpture (please email the Director for any further questions on media eligibility if unsure). ***The artwork must be the artist's own original creation in concept, composition and execution.*** Work produced from other artists' photographs (unless with express permission), advertisements, websites, art books, other artists' works, commercial or mass-produced mold or patterns as well as artwork created in a workshop or class or under the direction of an instructor is not allowed for entry. Artwork must be created 100% by the artist; no usage of AI will be accepted. Some digital software that can be used for artwork creation, such as Adobe Photoshop, include AI tools in their software packages. The use of these software packages is allowed for digital work, as long as the AI-specific tools, such as image generation and editing, were **not** used in your artistic process. Mooresville Arts reserves the right to deny or remove any entries that violate these guidelines at any time during the exhibition.

ELIGIBILITY (continued):

Work must have been completed after September 1, 2024, and not entered in ANY previous show (including but not limited to: judged, juried, themed, members' shows) sponsored by Mooresville Arts. There is no theme for this show.

Mooresville Arts will not accept any entry that is sexually explicit, perpetuates hate speech, or contains gratuitous violence. Mooresville Arts reserves the right to deny or remove any entry that violates our code of conduct at any time during the exhibition.

Artists who are sponsoring parties of this show, or family members of, are still eligible to apply but those artists' entries will not be considered for judging/awards. Family members of show Judges/ Jurors are also eligible to apply for the show but will not be considered for judging/awards.

SALES:

Please note all submissions to our show will be displayed in our galleries, and if so desired, for sale. Mooresville Arts will assess a 30% commission for members and 40% for non-members on all work sold. Payment to artists will be made at the conclusion of the exhibit.

SIZE, WEIGHT & PRESENTATION GUIDELINES:

- Each entry should not exceed 48" in any direction, including frame. There may be some availability for pieces larger than 48"; please contact the Gallery Committee if you wish to enter work larger than 48".
- All submitted pieces must be dry – no wet paint, glazes or varnishes.
- Two-dimensional artwork MUST be wired for hanging (NO EXCEPTIONS).
- Artwork must be properly framed and/or properly prepared for presentation. Gallery-wrapped (at least 1 1/2" deep) canvases with sides painted and presentable are also acceptable. Paintings on canvas or any other substrate (board, wood) less than 1 1/2' in depth MUST be framed. Artwork on metal may be acceptable without a frame.
- For your convenience and for more information on presentation guidelines, please visit our Gallery Presentation FAQ page here: <https://moorevillearts.org/artist-faq>
- For any questions or clarification on these guidelines, please email the Director.
- ***Please have all work prepared for hanging before submission.*** Artists should be able to carry their own work into the Mooresville Arts Gallery. Mooresville Arts reserves the right to deny or remove any entries at any time during the exhibition that are not properly prepared for display or works that require special installation or care. Mooresville Arts reserves the right to use discretion in acceptance/denial of submitted show entries.

LIABILITY:

Mooresville Arts will do everything possible to keep each piece safe. However, submission of an entry is at the artist's own risk. The declared value of the work must be reasonable and in line with the artist's previous sales.

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS & MARKETING:

Mooresville Arts reserves the right to photograph any work for publicity or promotional purposes only. No compensation is provided for this use. **If you have a Facebook or Instagram profile, please like/follow Mooresville Arts so that we can tag your account/profile in our promotional efforts!**

CONTACT:

- Gallery Director gallery@mooresvillearts.org
- Mooresville Arts: 103 W Center Ave Mooresville NC 28115 (704) 663-6661
- Facebook – facebook.com/mooresvilleart
- Instagram – Instagram.com/mooresvilleart

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