

An abstract artwork on the left side of the page. It features a large, hand-shaped print in the center, filled with dark, textured brushstrokes. The background consists of concentric, wavy lines in shades of orange, yellow, and white, resembling a topographical map or a cross-section of a tree trunk. The top and bottom edges of the artwork are framed by dark, textured bands with splashes of blue and red.

CALL FOR ARTISTS



Application Packet
Deadline: April 25



2025 Call for Artists

About the Exhibition

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network is hosting an art exhibition during Mental Health Awareness Month to **stART the conversation** about mental health through art. We are searching for community artists who have a message to share about mental health. It is our mission to lift up diverse perspectives, engage our community in honest conversation about mental health, create change and raise awareness through art. We are calling for artists to submit their mental health-related art work. We would be honored to lift up your voice through this curated exhibition.

The stART the conversation art exhibition will take place on Thursday, May 22, at Thomas A. Burke Technical Education Center, located at 6565 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102.

How to Enter

All artists in the Greater Kansas City area are invited to enter their artwork for inclusion in the stART the conversation art exhibit. In order to include the perspectives of as many artists as possible, we will only be accepting one piece of artwork per artist due to spatial limitations. In the event that the number of received submissions exceeds spatial capacity, determinations regarding inclusion of artwork in the exhibition will be made based on the artwork's connection to mental health as evidenced by the artist statement included in the entry materials.

We are including an option to apply to be a Featured Artist. Artists selected as Featured Artists may have the option to submit additional artwork (if space allows), have their artwork featured on Wyandot BHN's social media channels ahead of the exhibition and/or speak during the event program on May 22.

Artists interested in submitting their work for inclusion in the exhibition should complete the attached entry form & additional releases. There is a separate entry form for interested artists under the age of 18, which requires permission from a parent/guardian. **Entry forms must be submitted no later than Friday, April 25.**

All visual artwork entries must be dropped off at 757 Armstrong Avenue no later than Friday, May 9, unless alternative drop-off arrangements are made with event organizers. Completed entry forms may be dropped off at 757 Armstrong along with artwork or submitted via email to communications@wyandotbhn.org no later than April 25.

The stART the conversation art exhibition is open to a variety of art forms, including paintings, sculptures and performance art pieces, provided we can accommodate the artwork's needs in our exhibition space. If you are submitting a large-scale art or performing art piece, please complete the Artwork Accommodations form, which asks specifically about space, supply and other needed accommodations.

As part of your entry materials, please email 2-3 photos of your artwork to communications@wyandotbhn.org. If you wish to enter a performance art piece, please send a link (YouTube, Vimeo or Facebook) or an audio or video file to communications@wyandotbhn.org.



ART EXHIBITION ENTRY FORM

Deadline to Enter: Friday, April 25, 2025

Full Name:

Phone Number:

☐ Please check this box if you prefer for your artwork to be exhibited anonymously.

Pronouns:

Address:

Email:

Artwork Title:

Artwork Medium:

Artwork Dimensions:

Artist Statement (Please provide an artist statement describing how your submitted artwork reflects your personal journey with mental health and recovery. Attach additional page if needed. Limited to 500 words.)

Artist Bio (Optional - Attach additional page if needed. Limited to 500 words.)

APPLY TO BE A FEATURED ARTIST

Artists selected as Featured Artists may have the option to submit additional artwork, have their artwork featured on Wyandot BHN's social media channels ahead of the exhibition and/or speak during the event program on May 22. Those selected as featured artists will be notified by May 2nd.

☐ Please check this box if you are interested in being a featured artist.

If applying to be a featured artist, please write 3-5 sentences explaining how art has impacted your mental health:

Please email 2-3 photos of your artwork to communications@wyandotbhn.org as part of your entry materials.

Submitting Artist Signature

Date



ARTWORK ACCOMMODATIONS

Deadline to Enter: Friday, April 25, 2025

The stART the conversation art exhibition is open to a variety of art forms, including paintings, sculptures and performance art pieces, provided we can accommodate the artwork's needs in our exhibition space. **If you are submitting a large-scale or performing art piece, please complete this Artwork Accommodations form and provide a detailed explanation of the piece, including supply and space needs.**

Full Name:

Artwork Medium:

Artwork Title:

Artist Proposal

Please provide a detailed explanation of the large-scale artwork or performance piece you intend to submit for inclusion in the stART the conversation art exhibition. Your proposal should include a description of how much space is needed to accommodate your submission, as well as a mention of any supplies or other elements that will be used during the event on May 22. Artists are required to provide all of their own supplies, with the exception of common display mechanisms (easels, pedestals, etc.).

Submitting Artist Signature

Date



Informed Consent Form

Purpose:

stART The conversation is an art exhibition by Wyandot Behavioral Health Network (Wyandot BHN) to raise awareness of and destigmatize mental health. This exhibition is rooted in the empowerment of people with lived experience in the mental health system. The artwork displayed in this exhibition belongs to the artist. The artwork will be dropped off for exhibition and picked up at an agreed upon date. While the purpose of this exhibition is empowerment, advocacy, and destigmatization, you are encouraged to consider the risks, benefits, and how the public consumption of your artwork may impact your mental health.

Risks:

Artwork is deeply personal and may explore sensitive topics and experiences. Wyandot BHN cannot guarantee who will be present at the exhibition or how your artwork will be perceived by the public. In the public space, people may take photographs or videos of your work that may be posted online or in other public media spaces. In past years, the exhibition has garnered attention from local news outlets. This may result in news outlets speaking about/videotaping/photographing your artwork exhibited. While artworks are accepted from all community members, display of your artwork in an exhibition by Wyandot BHN may result in assumptions about you being a client of Wyandot BHN, resulting in confidentiality risks. Wyandot BHN offers no warranty and will accept no responsibility or liability for any claims, damages, losses, expenses, costs, or other general liabilities that may occur to artwork or personal property before, during or after said event. All participants accept responsibility for the care of any art whether displayed or not.

Benefits:

The mission of this exhibition is to lift up diverse perspectives, engage our community in honest conversation about mental health, create change, and raise awareness through art. Participation can be a healing and empowering experience. You may find yourself empowered, validated, and supported by the conversations and reactions to your artwork. This may result in feelings of fulfillment and purpose and an increase in self-esteem, self-worth, and self-acceptance. This exhibition could also be utilized as an opportunity to be better known by your support network and community. The exhibition of your artwork may empower others who relate to your work to open up about their own experiences.

I, _____ (name) , acknowledge that I have been informed of the purpose, risks, and benefits of participation in the stART the conversation art exhibition.



Release of Artwork

I, _____ (name), consent for Wyandot Behavioral Health Network to use, display, and/or photograph my artwork, artist statement and/or artist bio for the following purposes:

Please initial all that apply:

☐ ***Exhibition:** I agree to have my artwork and any associated artist statement and/or artist bio displayed publicly as part of the 2025 stART the conversation art exhibition at 6565 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102, on May 22, 2025.

☐ ***Promotion of Exhibition:** I agree to have my artwork, artist statement and/or artist bio featured on Wyandot BHN's communications channels (social media, website, newsletter, etc.) ahead of the exhibition as part of Wyandot BHN's promotional efforts.

☐ ***Promotion of services:** I agree to give Wyandot BHN the right to use my artwork to promote future services through its various communications channels (social media, website, newsletter, etc.).

As part of the exhibition, artists have the option to provide a link to a social media handle or website showcasing their art. **This is not required.** This information will be shared with exhibition visitors as an opportunity to view additional artwork and inquire about purchasing pieces. Please provide the social media handle or website in the box below or write N/A.

* I acknowledge that I have been informed of the circumstances in which artwork, from both clients and non-clients of Wyandot BHN, will be used in exhibition and/or promotion of the exhibition and future services. I have been informed of the purpose, benefits, and risks of the display of artwork.

I grant this consent as a voluntary contribution in the interest of mental health education and advocacy. If applicable, any artwork will be displayed in a respectful and professional manner. If I choose to revoke this consent at any time in the future, such revocation can become effective by writing "Revoked" on this form, with the date and signature.

Signature of Authorizing Person

Date