



CALL FOR ARTISTS

— 2026 Exhibition —



Application Packet
Deadline: April 10

Artwork Dropoff
April 24

Event Date: May 7

6565 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102



2026 Call for Artists

About the Exhibition

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network is hosting an art exhibition during Mental Health Awareness Month that uses art to **stART the conversation** about mental health. We invite community artists to submit artwork that explores mental health. The exhibition highlights diverse perspectives and encourages honest, meaningful conversation about mental health. We would be honored to share your work as part of this exhibition. The stART the conversation art exhibition will take place on **Thursday, May 7**, at **Thomas A. Burke Technical Education Center** (6565 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102).

How to Enter

Artists in the Greater Kansas City area are invited to submit artwork for the stART the conversation exhibition. To include as many artists as possible, each artist may submit **one piece of artwork**. If we receive more submissions than space allows, artwork will be selected based on its connection to mental health, as described in the artist statement.

Artists may also apply to be a **Featured Artist**. Featured Artists may have their work shared on Wyandot BHN's social media, speak during the event on May 7, and/or be included in an extended exhibition at a Wyandot BHN location for the remainder of the month.

Artists must complete the attached entry form and required releases. Artists under 18 must complete a separate entry form with a parent or guardian's permission. Entry forms must be submitted by Friday, April 10. All visual artwork must be dropped off at 757 Armstrong Avenue by Friday, April 24, unless other arrangements are approved by event organizers.

Entry forms may be dropped off with artwork or emailed to communications@wyandotbhn.org by Friday, April 10.

The exhibition accepts a variety of art forms, including paintings, sculpture, and performance art, as space allows. Artists submitting large-scale or performance pieces must complete the Artwork Accommodations form.

Please email 2-3 photos of your artwork to communications@wyandotbhn.org. Performance artists should submit a video or link (YouTube, Vimeo, or Facebook) to communications@wyandotbhn.org



ART EXHIBITION ENTRY FORM

Deadline to Enter: Friday, April 10, 2026

Full Name:

Phone Number:

☐ Check this box if you would like for your artwork to be displayed anonymously.

Pronouns:

Address:

Email:

Artwork Title:

Artwork Medium:

Artwork Dimensions:

Artist Statement: Please describe how your artwork connects to mental health or personal recovery. Limit: 500 words. You may attach an additional page if needed.

Artist Bio: Share a short bio about yourself and your art. Limit: 500 words.

APPLY TO BE A FEATURED ARTIST

Artists selected as **Featured Artists** may have their work shared on Wyandot BHN's social media, speak during the May 7 event, and/or be included in an extended exhibition at a Wyandot BHN location for the remainder of the month. Featured Artists will be notified by April 24.

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

☐ Please check this box if you are interested in speaking at the event.

If applying to be a Featured Artist, please write 3-5 sentences about how art has supported your mental health.

Please email 2-3 photos of your artwork to communications@wyandotbhn.org

Submitting Artist Signature

Date



ARTWORK ACCOMMODATIONS

Deadline to Enter: Friday, April 10, 2026

The stART the conversation art exhibition accepts a variety of art forms, including painting, sculpture, and performance art. Artists submitting large-scale or performance pieces must complete this Artwork Accommodations form to help us understand space and supply needs.

Full Name: **Artwork Medium:**

Artwork Title:

Artist Proposal

Please describe the large-scale or performance artwork you plan to submit. Your proposal should include:

- “How much space will your artwork will need?”
- “Any supplies or equipment required during the event“

Submitting Artist Signature

Date



Informed Consent & Release of Artwork

Deadline to Enter: Friday, April 10, 2026

What Is This Exhibition?

stART the Conversation is an art show by Wyandot Behavioral Health Network (Wyandot BHN). The goal is to help people talk openly about mental health, reduce stigma, and share different life experiences through art. The artwork belongs to the artist and will be returned after the exhibition.

What is Needed to Participate?

- Each piece of artwork must have its own entry form.
- Artwork will be dropped off and picked up on agreed-upon dates.
- Artwork will be displayed in a public setting.
- Artists are encouraged to think carefully about how sharing their work publicly may affect their mental health and well-being.

Considerations

- Artwork may include personal or sensitive experiences.
- Wyandot BHN cannot control who views the artwork or how it is interpreted.
- Visitors or media may photograph or record artwork, which could appear online or in other public spaces.
- Some viewers may assume artists are clients of Wyandot BHN, which could impact privacy.
- Wyandot BHN is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of artwork before, during, or after the exhibition.

Why Participate?

- Sharing artwork can be empowering, meaningful, and healing.
- Artists may feel validated, supported, and connected to others.
- Artwork can help reduce stigma and encourage open conversations about mental health.
- Participation may help artists feel more visible and understood within their community.

Artist Consent & Permissions

By signing the entry form, you a) confirm you understand the purpose, risks, and benefits of the exhibition, b) give permission for your artwork to be displayed in the exhibition, and c) allow for your artwork to be used to promote the exhibition.

Participation is voluntary and meant to support mental health awareness.

Submitting Artist Signature

Date