



### **“Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful”**

You are invited to share your amazing talent with the Huntington, West Virginia community and extended Tri-State region (West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky) in launching the next collaborative art initiative called “Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful.” Following two previous iterations of this public art project in 2015 and 2019, the newest exhibition, scheduled to begin June 1, 2024, promises to be the best yet. The theme of the exhibited works will be the abundant wildlife West Virginians and visitors to our state enjoy year-round. Artists will have the choice of one of four animals: deer, bear, fish, or cardinal as their subject.

This is a unique undertaking for artists to create original sculptures using a cast fiberglass replica of one of the four featured animals. Modeled after successful art installations in cities large and small across the world, “Wild and Wonderful” offers participants opportunities to transform these castings into masterpieces which will be shared with our community.

Presented by Mountain Health Foundation, the ultimate goal is to raise funds to benefit the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital (<http://hoopschildrens.org/>) in Huntington, West Virginia. Sponsorships will be sold to support exhibited works and an auction will be held at a gala occurring during the duration of the exhibition. All funds will go to provide critical services for kids at the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital. Each artist selected for the exhibition will be awarded a \$1,000 stipend.

If you are interested in designing and executing one of the 70-100 fiberglass castings that will transform this region into a walking art gallery, please review the attached prospectus and submit your proposal by August 31, 2023. Artists selected to participate in the exhibition will be notified no later than October 15, 2023, and castings will be available for artists to pick up January 6, 2024. The deadline for delivering the completed sculptures is April 15, 2024.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- **August 31, 2023**– Deadline for submission of proposals to include a finished color drawing of your sculpture and a typed description of your concept not to exceed one page. Your drawing must be 16" X 20" and will be used, along with your concept, to sell sponsorships, promote the exhibition, and as part of the auction to raise funds for the Children's Hospital.

**The mailing address for submission of proposals in a flat or tube is:**

**Mountain Health Foundations**

**Attn: Jessica Payne**

**1340 Hal Greer Blvd.**

**Huntington, WV 25701**

- **October 15, 2023**– Selected artists will be notified.
- **January 6, 2024** – Artists pick up the castings
- **April 15, 2024** – Artists deliver finished sculptures
- **April 15 - May 15, 2024** – Sculptures clear coated and prepared for exhibition
- **June 1, 2024** – Exhibition opens
- **October 15, 2024** - Exhibition closes

***Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful***—is a collaborative project under the umbrella of the Mountain Health Network Foundations.

***The goals*** of the project are to:

- Promote visual arts and its artists, tourism of the Huntington, WV and Tri-State area, the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital service area, and beyond.
- Raise needed funds for the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital (<http://hoopschildrens.org/>)
- Increase regional prosperity
- Enhance quality of life
- Strengthen community pride
- Activate economic development

### ***Artist Selection Process***

A panel of judges will choose, by blind selection, 70-100 proposed sculptures.

### ***Artist Remuneration and Support***

- Selected Artist will receive a \$1,000 honorarium for chosen rendering upon completion of the sculpture.
- Artist must have the means to pick up the casting and return it back to Huntington, WV.
- Each work of art will have a plaque, provided by exhibition organizers, highlighting the work’s name, the artist’s name and the underwriter’s name.
- Artist will be recognized in promotional activities and publications of the initiative.

## ***Design Criteria***

Artists may – per the selected design submission – paint, sculpt, light, or add appendages to the casting. However, the structural integrity of the casting cannot be compromised. Additional costs as a result of alteration are the responsibility of the artist. Proposed additions must be made at the time of application submission.

Artist color drawings must be 16”x20” on quality artist paper (such as watercolor, drawing, or canvas type). You may submit up to three different views of the project, each on quality artist paper. Each drawing must be signed by the artist.

“Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful” is a public art event. Sculptures will be placed in the center of downtown Huntington, and surrounding cities, where the public can touch final creations. Public safety is of significant concern. Designs should be created with durability and safety in mind. An artist will work with appropriate mediums and finishes to ensure longevity of artwork on the fiberglass form and be permanent enough to resist removal by eager fingers. Installation calls for finishes that are weatherproof and “kid proof” – these art works are designed to be interactive to the public. A clear coat or varnish will be applied by exhibition organizers to help insure permanence. We do not guarantee that sculptures will be placed in a weather-protected zone.

If a design changes radically from the original proposal, changes must be submitted to the exhibition organizers for review before the project can continue. Failure to submit may result in possible rejection of completed sculpture for display and withdrawal of stipend.

NO direct label advertising or logos of a company or product is allowed.

This is a public display and therefore all proposals must be appropriate for all audiences. Designs that may appear to be disrespectful on political, religious, or other grounds will not be displayed and final stipend will not be provided. Under no circumstances will works that display animal cruelty be exhibited.

Any repairs that are required during the duration of the exhibition are the responsibility of the artist, who will be notified if any are needed. All pieces will require touch-ups during the weeks preceding the auction.

Artists will not be responsible for the installation of the sculptures. Sculptures **MUST** arrive at the designated area (TBA) by the date that is required **April 15, 2024 (or before)** for sculptures to receive the clear coat.

Each sculpture will be required to include a small Hoops Family Children’s Hospital logo well-hidden and worked into the design. The purpose is for a public treasure hunt to find these logos and receive an incentive. (Artists will be provided with a picture of the logo). It should be a minimum of 1.5”x 1.5” and a maximum of 3”x 3”.

## ***Recommended Materials***

Materials listed below are suggested but not required. All materials must be listed in each artist proposal. (Note – Object needs to be easily transported from location to location, so be mindful of adding additional weight to the sculpture). Please refer to the sculpture selection sheet for specifications regarding size and weight.

**Bondo Body Putty:** Tube for filling small holes and making small repairs, and Bondo fiberglass body repair kit for making larger repairs (purchase at auto supply stores).

**Paint:** All professional-grade artist acrylic or oil paints will do the job. For ease of application, good color stability, and national availability in art stores, we recommend Liquitex Soft Body (Medium-viscosity) Acrylics. The high-viscosity paints are too “gluey” to move around with ease. You will need 59 ml (2 oz) tubes or jars, in the color selections of your choice.

**Golden Polymer Medium-Gloss:** 250 ml or 500 ml bottle for decoupage. Use full strength, immersing paper in medium, applying it to the form, and removing all air bubbles with your hands. Remove excess medium with almost-dry sponge. Let it dry for several days before

varnishing. Make color copies on computer or copy machine, of any pictures or images from magazines that you wish to decoupage. The inks are more permanent, and the copy paper will hold up better than photographic or magazine paper.

**Lascaux UV-1 Gloss Varnish-** Use for a protective coating on your artwork before pick-up for clear coat. Order as soon as you get your assignment, because it can't be found in most stores and most art catalog houses run out and have to back-order it. THERE IS NO GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR THIS PRODUCT. For use, dilute 4 parts varnish to 1 part water and filter through gauze. Use nylon brush, and have a large jar of water handy to immerse your brush in if you have to pause when varnishing. It sets up quickly, so if you pause, don't begin again until the varnish is dry (15 minutes or so). It goes on slightly cloudy, but dries crystal clear. Immediately remove air bubbles if they form by touching lightly with brush.

**Magic Sculp Epoxy Putty:** For altering the surface, or adding sculptural elements. This product comes in two tubes and you mix equal parts together to activate the product. Complete directions for usage will be found on these websites, along with ordering information: [www.magicsculp.com](http://www.magicsculp.com) OR [www.restoresupplies.com](http://www.restoresupplies.com). It will adhere to the fiberglass form if you rough up the surface, and drill a few small holes so you can push the Magic Sculp into the holes for a helter bond. It is non-toxic, allows a couple of hours of working time before it sets up, and after drying (12 hours) can be sanded if necessary, and painted with ease.

**Mosaic Tile or Mirrors:** If you will be applying mosaics over primed surface, follow the directions from your tile outlet. Treat the form as though it was a bathroom wall (example: use thin-set adhesive and sanded mortar) using whatever the tile store recommends. These forms should be sealed with mosaic sealer, not clear coat. If you are going to use broken pottery, be advised that some of the colors will not be colorfast and may fade outdoors. Also, be certain that the mortar completely covers any broken edges so that when you rub your hands over the form you do not get scratched or cut. Weight of completed sculpture must be considered for approval, transportation to and from downtown placement must be taken into consideration.

**Glues, Adhesives:** Use non-aqueous glues such as jeweler's cement, liquid nails, or epoxy cements. Do not use Elmer's glue or any other water-soluble glue. Remember that people will try to peel off anything that you glue onto a form. You can also use Magic Sculp epoxy putty as glue if you rough up the form and the item to be glued, and drill into each side so the epoxy putty can form a true bond.

**Fabrics:** If you are going to apply a fabric such as cotton to the form as a decoupage, you can use the Golden Polymer Medium as described above. If you are going to harden fabric and apply it to the form, you will need to use an extremely toxic material. It is a two-part resin product and needs to be used outdoors, away from children and pets, and you need to wear a respirator, rubber gloves and eye protection. We do not recommend this, and would not do it ourselves.

## ***Conclusion***

By submitting your application you are stating that:

- You are the original creator of your design and you have not copied anyone else's original work.
- Your design does not infringe on anyone else's intellectual property rights such as trademark, copyrights, trade dress, or design patents.
- To the extent anyone else has contributed to your design, you will obtain a signed written release from that person arranging for all rights in contribution to your work. By submitting your design on paper you are ensuring that you will create a full scale artwork of the highest quality that will meet durability standards.
- Artist must sign the Artist Release and Waiver and Photo/Video Release papers.

A review panel will evaluate all designs. This review panel has sole discretion to accept or reject any design

**Honorarium:** If your design for "Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful" is selected, you will receive a total honorarium of \$1,000. Partial honorarium amount of \$500 will be provided upon pick-up of casting. Once your finished sculpture is delivered, you will be mailed a check for the remaining honorarium amount of \$500 via United State Postal Service. If for any reason you cannot complete your project, the \$500 partial honorarium must be returned to the exhibition organizers.

**Rights:** The exhibition organizers will own the entire right, title and interest of your design proposal, accompanying sketches, concept paper, and all derivative works, including the final sculpture. You will be acknowledged as the artist on a plaque attached to the base of your sculpture and in appropriate publications. The artist or artists, title and underwriter of each sculpture may be listed in printed materials. However, the copyrights, which include the rights to reproduce your design, create copies, or reprint will be owned by the exhibition organizers. If your design is not selected for exhibition, the entire right, title and interest in your design will be returned to you.

If a sculpture is not purchased via the auction or otherwise, the artist will be given the opportunity to reclaim his/her/their work until October 15, 2024. Unclaimed sculptures will become the sole property of the Mountain Health Network Foundation, and the Foundation reserves the right to dispense with the sculpture as it sees fit.

**Questions:** Call (304) 781-4444 or email [Jessica.Payne@mhnetwork.org](mailto:Jessica.Payne@mhnetwork.org)

**Entry Deadline:** August 31, 2023

# AUDIO/PHOTO/VIDEO MEDIA RELEASE FORM

I grant permission to *Mountain Health Foundations, Cabell Huntington Hospital, The City of Huntington, and the Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful, exhibition organizers* and its volunteers, agents or employees to use photographs and/or video and audio taken of me. These images may be used for marketing, social media, advertisements, and both printed and online newsletters. Furthermore, I authorize the use of my image, likeness, and voice for all program promotion, materials, merchandise, and any other purposes in connection with the program deemed appropriate and necessary by *Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful*.

I hereby agree to release, defend, and hold harmless *Mountain Health Foundations, Cabell Huntington Hospital, The City of Huntington, and its volunteers, agents or employees, including any firm publishing and/or distributing the finished product in whole or in part, whether on paper, via electronic media, or on Web sites, from any claim, damages, or liability arising from or related to the use of the photographs/video, including but not limited to any misuse, distortion, blurring, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite forms, either intentionally or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in taking, processing, reduction, or production of the finished product, its publication, or distribution.*

I am 18 years of age or older and have read this release before signing below, fully understanding the contents, meaning and impact of this release. I understand that I am free to address any specific questions regarding this release by submitting those questions in writing prior to signing and I agree that my failure to do so will be interpreted as a free and knowledgeable acceptance of the terms of this release.

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Name (please print)

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Signature

Date

I am not 18 years of age

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Parental Signature

Date

## Artist Release and Waiver of Liability

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

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Artist Release:**

I, the above named, hereby assume all risks and hazards incidental to any participation in the Artisans Celebration 2024: Wild and Wonderful Initiative Project.

The Artist warrants and represents that he or she is the sole legal owner of all right, title and interest in all Artwork, including all related intellectual property interests such as trademarks and the sole and exclusive copyright in all artwork, and has the full right and authority to enter this Agreement and grant the rights granted in this Agreement. The Artist is responsible for any injuries that may occur to his or herself or other persons or parties while working on this project or transporting sculpture if selected.

### **Waiver of Liability:**

I do hereby expressly released and hold harmless the parties listed below, Mountain Health Foundations, Cabell Huntington Hospital and all of their entities and The City of Huntington, West Virginia and all of its/their staff, volunteers, and resident artists, individually and collectively, from liability for all damages to or for the loss of the art work that I am voluntarily submitting, including transportation to and from activities.

I do hereby release and hold harmless the above-listed parties from any claim arising from and usage of the facilities.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO THE POLICIES AS STATED ABOVE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Artist Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Artwork Title

Medium

Price

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Use back of form for additional pieces

# FORMS FOR "ARTISANS CELEBRATION 2024: WILD AND WONDERFUL"



Dimensions: 5' tall x 4' long x 17" wide  
Approximately 54 lbs.



Dimensions: 4' long x 29" high x 18" wide  
Approximately 65 lbs.



Dimensions: 4' tall x 32" wide x 26" deep  
Approximately 55 lbs.



Dimensions: 3' tall x 46" long x 18" deep  
Approximately 38 lbs.