



presents the

Erie Canal Artisan Festival

GO ART! invites artisans to apply for participation in the **Erie Canal Artisan Festival**, a special celebration taking place during **Canal Week** in honor of the **200th anniversary of the Erie Canal** and the **200th anniversary of Orleans County**.

This **first annual Erie Canal Artisan Festival** will celebrate the rich heritage, arts, and culture of the canal and Orleans County, with artisan vendors as the main attraction. With a projected attendance of up to 100,000 visitors over the three-day event, the festival will span the vibrant communities of **Medina, Albion, and Holley, NY**, and offer a variety of unique experiences, including:

- **Three ARTISAN VILLAGES** along the region's canal path; Medina, Albion, and Holley.
- A visit from the historic **Seneca Chief Packet Boat**.
- A theatrical car show in Medina.
- A **Christmas Village** in Albion (home of the first Santa Claus School).
- Live band performances at the **Holley Canal Falls**.
- A **flotilla** (boat parade) traveling from Medina to Holley.
- Food vendors.

Additionally, **boat taxis** will transport guests between the scenic locations of Medina, Albion, and Holley, NY, making this an unforgettable event for all.

Artisans interested in participating in this juried festival are encouraged to apply and join in this celebration of the Erie Canal's and Orleans County's bicentennial legacy.

September 26-28, 2025

Locations: Medina, Albion, and Holley, NY along the historic Erie Canal in Orleans County

Application Deadline: June 20, 2025

Application Fee: \$40 (non-refundable)

Vendor Fee (Upon Acceptance): \$325 (for one 12' x 12' space; additional 12' x 12' spaces available for \$300 each, corner surcharge \$75)

Notification of Acceptance: June 30, 2025

Full Vendor Fees Due: July 31st, 2025

2025 GO ART! Erie Canal Artisan Festival Rules & Regulations

The purpose of the Erie Canal Artisan Festival is to exhibit and offer for sale original works that reflect excellence in design and technique and to support the ongoing activities of GO ART!. The festival will also feature a select number of food vendors and entertainment to create a vibrant community event. Our goal is to provide a venue for high-quality arts and crafts to be displayed and sold while celebrating the 200th anniversaries of both Orleans County and the Erie Canal.

Jury System

- The Erie Canal Artisan Festival is a juried event. All vendors, regardless of previous participation in GO ART! events or experience, are required to submit their work for review.
 - Applications will be reviewed by a panel to ensure that all displayed and sold items meet the festival's high standards of originality, craftsmanship, and quality. GO ART! reserves the right to monitor product quality during the event to maintain these standards.
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Spaces and Parking Regulations

- **Spaces Available:**
A total of 433 spaces are available, including expanded areas to accommodate additional vendors. Exhibitors are responsible for providing their own tables, displays, and canopies.
 - **Setup and Parking:**
Vendors will have vehicle access to their spaces for unloading and loading during setup and tear-down times. However, not all spaces include adjacent parking for vehicles.
 - **Exhibit Requirements:**
Exhibitors are required to remain set up and present for the entire duration of the days they are scheduled to participate.
 - **Security:**
While there may be periodic patrols of the grounds, the festival does not provide dedicated security. GO ART! and event organizers are not liable for any loss or damage to personal or business property.
 - **Facilities:**
Food vendors and public restroom facilities will be available on-site for the convenience of vendors and attendees.
 - **Overnight Stay:**
Overnight camping or staying on festival grounds is not permitted. A list of nearby campgrounds, hotels, and other accommodations will be shared with vendors upon acceptance.
 - **Vendor Support:**
A Hospitality Committee will be available to provide short-term booth coverage as needed. Specific details will be shared with participating vendors closer to the event.
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Work Criteria and Restrictions

Eligibility:

- Each application may include only one individual artist or craft artisan.
- Partnerships between two artists are permitted if both contribute to creating the same finished product.

Originality:

- All items must be the exhibitor's original work and handmade.

Prohibited Items:

- Items featuring copyrighted or trademarked characters, logos, or designs (e.g., NFL, Disney, Warner Brothers) are not allowed.
- Products that are mass-produced, imported, or created using kits, commercial molds, or patterns are prohibited.
- Bulk materials, arts and crafts supplies, and rubber stamps cannot be sold.

Specialty Items:

- Artificial or dried flowers must be arranged and cannot be sold as loose materials.
- Pre-packaged foods, soaps, oils, and candles may be included but must meet specific guidelines and receive prior approval.
- Screen-printed apparel is permitted only if the designs are original works by the exhibitor.

Material-Specific Guidelines:

- Ceramics must be designed, fired, and finished by the exhibitor.
- Hand-poured candles must be made without commercial molds.
- Items made with or derived from endangered species are not allowed.

Solicitation Restrictions:

- Solicitations, raffles, and games of chance are not permitted, in accordance with state regulations. Exhibitors may not conduct prize drawings or sell raffle tickets for their merchandise.

Compliance:

- GO ART! reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of all crafts and artwork displayed at the festival.
 - Vendors who violate these guidelines may be asked to leave without refund and may not be invited to participate in future events.
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Selection Process

The Erie Canal Artisan Festival will feature a curated selection of vendors through a jury process.

- The jury panel consists of experienced artists and craftspeople.
 - Applications will be evaluated based on the quality of craftsmanship, originality, and suitability for the festival's theme and audience.
 - Applicants are encouraged to include supplemental images or descriptions that highlight their creative process and the unique aspects of their work.
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Prizes

Each exhibitor may submit one item for judging in their category.

- Category Winners (11):
 - \$100 cash prize, ribbon, free booth space, and jury waiver for the next year.
 - Best of Show:
 - Additional \$250 and ribbon.
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Disclaimer

GO ART!, the Erie Canal Corporation, New York State Parks, Orleans County, and the municipalities of Medina, Albion, and Holley assume no liability for any injuries or property damage that may occur during the Erie Canal Artisan Festival. Exhibitors are solely responsible for any harm or damages resulting from the items they display or sell. GO ART! reserves the right to review and approve or deny applications at its sole discretion.

Preparing Your Images

Please provide five images as part of your application:

- Three showcasing your artwork or craft items.
- One displaying your booth setup.
- One showing your creative workspace.

All images should be saved as JPEG files, no larger than 2.0 MB each. Please label each file with your full name for identification.

Notification, Fees, and Space Assignments

- **Notification:**
Applicants will be notified of their acceptance status by April 30, 2025.
 - **Fees:**
Booth fees are due no later than June 30, 2025. Please note that all fees are non-refundable unless GO ART! determines there are extenuating circumstances.
 - **Returned Payments:**
A \$35 fee will be charged for any returned checks or failed payments.
 - **Waitlist:**
If additional spaces become available, GO ART! will contact vendors on the waitlist individually to confirm their interest and availability.
 - **Space Assignments:**
While vendors may submit requests for specific locations, final space assignments will be determined by GO ART! and are final.
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Categories

- **Decorative Arts:** Hand-painted or stenciled items, including furniture, found objects, wood cutouts, fabric, clothing, lawn ornaments, or other crafted pieces where painting or decorative techniques are the primary focus.
- **Fiber & Textiles:** Quilts, woven goods, basketry, felting, knit or crocheted items, needlework, leather goods, and sewn accessories or garments crafted from natural or synthetic materials.
- **Glasswork:** Unique pieces created through blowing, fusing, slumping, or staining techniques. Painted glass is permitted if the glass itself is handmade by the exhibitor.
- **Jewelry:** One-of-a-kind, handcrafted jewelry made from metal, beads, gemstones, or other materials.
- **Metalwork & Sculpture:** Custom-designed furniture, sculptures, wall art, and lawn décor crafted primarily from metal.
- **Mixed Media:** Original creations that integrate multiple mediums, such as wood, glass, paint, and textiles, into a cohesive design.
- **Fine Art:** Drawings, paintings, prints, and collages using techniques like pencil, pen & ink, watercolor, acrylic, oil, or mixed media on two-dimensional surfaces.
- **Pottery & Ceramics:** Functional or decorative pieces made from clay, including vases, bowls, sculptures, and other forms, all handcrafted without commercial molds.
- **Woodwork:** Furniture, carved items, vessels, and other wood-based creations. Painted wood items should fall under Decorative Arts if painting is the primary focus.
- **Culinary & Personal Care:** Handcrafted consumables like packaged foods, candles, soaps, and lotions. All items must be made by the vendor and not repackaged wholesale goods.
- **Photography:** Prints, digital items, custom photo services; encompassing a wide range of photographic styles, including portrait, landscape, event, and fine art photography; whether through traditional film or digital techniques.

Application Requirements & Important Information

- **Handmade Art Only:** All items must be original and handmade by the artist. No third-party vendors or commercially manufactured items.
- **Booth Space:** Standard space is 12' x 12'. Additional 12' x 12' spaces are available for \$300 each. Corner space surcharge of \$75. Vendors are responsible for their own tents, tables, chairs, and other display materials.
- **Canopy Weights:** All canopy tents must be secured with a minimum of 20-pound weights per post.
- **Sales Tax:** Vendors are responsible for collecting and reporting all applicable New York State and local sales taxes. Orleans County sales tax is 8%.

Event Details

- **Festival Hours:**
 - **Friday, September 26:** 10 AM - 5 PM
 - **Saturday, September 27:** 10 AM - 5 PM
 - **Sunday, September 28:** 10 AM - 5 PM
- **Set-Up:** Begins at 8 AM each day. Vendors must be fully set up by the start time and remain until closing.

Application Process

To apply, please go to goart.submittable.com and select Erie Canal Artisan Festival Artist Application. If you are not able to complete the application online (preferred) please complete the attached form and return with a \$40 (check or money order) non-refundable application fee to Attn: Festival Coordinator, GO ART!, 201 East Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020, and email 5 images to festivals@goart.org.

For questions, contact the GO ART! office at (585) 343-9313 or email festivals@goart.org.

Application Form

Artist Information

- **Name:** _____
- **Business Name:** _____
- **Address:** _____

- City/State/Zip: _____
- Phone: _____
- Email: _____

Categories (select all that apply)

- Decorative Arts
- Fiber & Textiles
- Glasswork
- Jewelry
- Metalwork & Sculpture
- Mixed Media
- Fine Art
- Pottery & Ceramics
- Woodwork
- Culinary & Personal Care
- Photography

Artisan Medium / Item Description

Please describe the items you will be selling:

Display Requirements

Booth Space Requested:

- ☐ One 12' x 12' space (\$325)
- ☐ Additional 12' x 12' space(s) (\$300 each): _____ (Indicate number)
- ☐ Corner Space Surcharge (\$75 each)

Holiday Themed Items

Would your work be suited for Santa's Workshop in Albion (holiday or Christmas-themed items)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please briefly describe your holiday items:

Days You Will Accept

(minimum of two - price remains the same)

- ☐ Friday, September 26, 2025
- ☐ Saturday, September 27, 2025
- ☐ Sunday, September 28, 2025

Terms & Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the terms and conditions of the Erie Canal Arts Festival Artisan Vendor Application. I understand that the application fee is non-refundable, and if accepted, the vendor fee is due by June 30, 2025. I agree to hold GO ART!, festival organizers, Erie Canal Corporation, Orleans County, and the municipalities of Medina, Albion, and Holley harmless from any liability for damages, costs, or injuries arising from participation in this event.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Additional Festival Participation Opportunities

GO ART! offers three other exciting festivals in 2025, providing artisans with the chance to showcase their work across multiple events in the Genesee-Orleans region. Along with the Erie Canal Arts Festival, artisans are invited to apply for:

- **Ramble Explore ART! and Music Festival** – Saturday, July 5
- **Steampunk Festival** – Friday August 29 and Saturday, August 30
- **Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead** – Saturday, October 25

Pricing

- **Ramble or Dia de los Muertos:** \$50 for the first 12' x 12' space, with additional spaces available at \$35 each.
- **Steampunk:** \$75 for the first 12' x 12' space, with additional spaces available at \$35 each.
- **Multi-Festival Discount:** Book space at more than one event for a discounted rate of \$35 per 12' x 12' space for single-day festivals (Ramble and Dia de los Muertos) and \$60 for two days of the Steampunk Festival (for all festivals except the Erie Canal Arts Festival).

Application

Please indicate your interest in additional festivals below and we will send you separate application forms for them:

- ☐ **Ramble Explore ART! and Music Festival**
- ☐ **Steampunk Festival** (at least ½ themed items)
- ☐ **Dia de los Muertos** (at least ½ themed items)