



# PRAIRIE ART ALLIANCE

## GALLERY & SCHOOL

Dear Interested Artist:

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Juried Artist Member of the Prairie Art Alliance. As a not-for-profit gallery and school, the Prairie Art Alliance is committed to serving artists and the community. Membership offers expanding opportunities for emerging and established Central Illinois artists and provides the chance to grow as an artist and network with more than 120 artist members. As a member, you may exhibit and sell your work in the H.D. Smith Gallery, other Prairie Art Alliance venues, and through the Business Art Services Program:

### **The H.D. Smith Gallery**

- Presents six exhibits each year;
- Brings over 300 people into the gallery at each of our six artists' receptions;
- Takes only a 30% commission on sales; and
- Provides you with the opportunity to be a featured artist.

### **Prairie Art Alliance's Business Art Service**

- Offers art rental to area businesses (artists receive 50% of the rental fee); and
- Offers art sales to area businesses (artists receive 70% of the sales).

There are other membership benefits as well. The Prairie Art Alliance exhibits art in a variety of community locations throughout the year, informs members about upcoming events and opportunities for visual artists in the community, and offers opportunities to earn income by teaching classes and through outreach programming. Membership meetings offer the chance to enjoy friendship, mentoring, and inspiring programs. You also receive a 10% discount on all gallery purchases and discounts on class and workshop fees.

To apply for membership, complete the following application; submit a \$50 jury fee for the first medium in which you would like to jury and \$20.00 for each additional medium (per the list of medium attached); your artist's statement; and resume. If accepted, annual juried membership dues are \$240 per year. If you have questions, feel free to give us a call at (217) 544-2787 or visit the H. D. Smith Gallery at the Hoogland Center for the Arts at 420 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Springfield, IL 62701.

Prairie Art Alliance juried members who wish to jury in a new medium must submit \$20 per medium; all other requirements are applicable.

## **PRAIRIE ART ALLIANCE**

### **JURYING OVERVIEW AND CRITERIA**

Thank you for applying for artist membership in the Prairie Art Alliance. We sincerely appreciate your interest in our organization. Our mission is to serve the public through exhibits, classes, and community outreach and to encourage the development of member artists. Through your application, you have demonstrated a commitment to our belief that art should be a vital part of the Central Illinois community.

Prairie Art Alliance admits artists regardless of whether or not their work will sell. Unlike for-profit businesses that must focus on sales, Prairie Art Alliance is a not-for-profit organization committed to the development of artists and to exposing the general public to art. We encourage all artists, regardless of media, to apply.

Each application must include **resume and artist's statement** to be considered in the jury process. The artist's statement should be brief,--no more than 250 words-- and should provide some insight into what inspires your artwork or explains your style and/or subjects or themes of your artwork or gives some insight into what you are trying to achieve with your artwork. It can also be a combination of those ideas.

Your work will be juried by a panel of artists. The use of juries is a common practice in the field of art. By employing a panel of fellow artists, artwork is judged by several people objectively rather than submitted to the subjective tastes of any one judge. Prairie Art Alliance's purpose in using juries is not to create an exclusive club of artists; rather, we use a jury of artists to ensure that the quality of work displayed in our gallery is of the highest possible quality in terms of style, technical skill, and that it is professionally presented.

You must bring your artwork (three items) into the Prairie Art Alliance per an arranged jury meeting time (we will contact you to let you know the day and time) and meet with a panel of artists who will assess the work you submit. Your work will be evaluated in these three areas:

#### Technical Skill

- The artist's handling of the media shows control, skill, and experience.
- The design or composition exhibits knowledge of and skill in using the principles of design (balance, rhythm, unity, etc.).

#### Level of Achievement

- The work shows that it has taken time, thought, knowledge, and skill.
- There is design consistency with each work and in the artist's body of work.

#### Presentation

- The overall impression of the materials submitted conveys that the applicant is a competent artist. (i.e. Prairie Art Alliance application guidelines have been thoroughly followed; artist statement and resume are neatly presented and clearly stated).

Each juror will use a scale of 1 to 6 to evaluate your artwork in each of the preceding categories. The score is a numerical translation of the following:

- 1 = not acceptable
- 2 = somewhat acceptable
- 3 = shows promise
- 4 = good
- 5 = very good
- 6 = excellent

The scores you receive in each category are added and divided by the number of jurors. This produces an average score in each of the three areas judged. These average scores are then added together and divided by 3 (the number of categories) to receive an overall average. Prairie Art Alliance requires an overall average score of 4 or better to be accepted.

Notification will be sent via U.S. mail informing you as to whether or not your work has been accepted.

For **accepted applicants**, you will receive a contract that must be signed and returned to the Prairie Art Alliance before your work may be exhibited; you will also receive the date and time of new member orientation. Orientation will inform you about our organization and procedures, and is a great way for us to meet you! Please note that only work in your juried medium/media may be exhibited in the gallery. You may choose to jury additional media at any time a jury is offered. A jury fee of \$20 will be charged to cover expenses for each additional medium.

For **applicants who have not been accepted**, your overall average score as well as the average scores you receive in each category will be provided. Prairie Art Alliance does not provide written comments on work, nor is the staff authorized to discuss scores. We provide these scores as a means by which applicants might seek to develop their work, perhaps through further study or classes. Prairie Art Alliance offers art classes throughout the year as do other local educational organizations; however, enrollment in a Prairie Art Alliance class has no bearing on the decision rendered by future juries.

Thank you again for your interest in our organization. All of our members and staff wish you the best of luck in this jury and in all your artistic endeavors.

## Check List for Applicant

- Resume**
- Artist Statement**
- Application**
- Fee**

**PRAIRIE ART ALLIANCE  
APPLICATION FOR FULL ARTIST MEMBERSHIP**

Complete this application page and return it to Prairie Art Alliance. The following are the guidelines for artwork you can submit to the jury for application approval:

- **Work must have been completed within the past two years.**
- Pieces should be of original design and execution. ***No student work or work created in workshops will be accepted for jurying or exhibited in the gallery. When considering the application, make sure the work is original, not purchased. For example, in beaded jewelry the beads should be hand made.***
- An artist resume and artist statement (do not submit a resume of non-art experience).
- **A \$50 jury fee for one medium and \$20.00 for each additional medium** (make checks payable to Prairie Art Alliance; Visa and MasterCard are also accepted).

Please submit your application and supporting documents during regular gallery hours or by mail. The Prairie Art Alliance Gallery is open Tuesday--Friday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

***Applications submitted after the deadline will not be evaluated until the next jury date.***

**Jury Dates for 2010**

**Spring 2010**

March Submit application no later than 5:00 PM, March 26.  
Decisions mailed on or before April 30.

**Summer 2010**

June Submit application no later than 5:00 PM, June 25.  
Decisions mailed on or before July 31.

**Fall 2010**

September Submit application no later than 5:00 PM, September 24.  
Decisions mailed on or before October 23.

Full member dues are \$240 per calendar year. MasterCard, Visa, and Discover are accepted. Artists who join during the year pay for the remainder of the year.

In the event an applicant's work is not accepted, Prairie Art Alliance retains the jury fee.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Prairie Art Alliance  
420 S. 6th St.  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 544-2787

## **PRAIRIE ART ALLIANCE ARTISTS MEDIA**

**Ceramics** - Artwork created with fired clay including both functional and decorative pieces.

**Drawing** - Two-dimensional artwork created with graphite, charcoal, ink, colored pencil, etc.

**Fiber Art** - Artwork created using hand-made or commercial fibers. Includes work in stitchery, weaving, papermaking, etc.

**Glass Art** - Hand-made artwork created by melting, fusing and assembling glass.

**Jewelry** - Hand-made jewelry in metal, glass, semi-precious and precious stones, etc.

**Mixed Media** - Two and three-dimensional artwork created by combining a variety of media.

**Multiple Media** - Artists who are represented in a variety of different media.

**Multi Media** – Artwork that combines the use of auditory, visual, and tactile media.

**Painting - sub-divided into separate categories:**

**Acrylic Painting** - Two-dimensional artwork created using acrylic based materials.

**Oil Painting** - Two-dimensional artwork created using oil based materials.

**Watercolor Painting** - Two-dimensional artwork created using water based materials.

**Pastel** - Two-dimensional artwork created using pastel media.

**Photography** - Two-dimensional images created with camera using film or digital media.

**Printmaking** – Two-dimensional images created through use of relief, intaglio, or planographic printmaking techniques.

**Sculpture** - Three-dimensional artwork created in wood, clay, metal, plastic, etc.

**Woodworking** - Original pieces created in wood both functional and decorative. Includes work in furniture, sculpture, vessels, etc.

Updated 04/09