



WASHINGTON COUNTY Arts Council

September 2011

Dear Prospective 2012 Western Maryland Blues Fest Poster Artist,

The Washington County Arts Council, along with the members of the Western Maryland Blues Fest committee, are pleased to invite visual artists, including local artists of Western Maryland and the surrounding area, to answer a "Call for Artists" for the opportunity of becoming the 2012 Blues Fest Poster Artist. While determining a winner among close alternatives, preference may be given to an artist having (or having once had) a connection to the City of Hagerstown or to the State of Maryland, the "Call to Artists" is open to all, subject to the guidelines set forth herein.

The 17th annual Western Maryland Blues Fest is scheduled for May 31, June 1, June 2 and June 3, 2012. Every year the Blues Fest Marketing Committee finds an artist and presents his or her work to the WMBF committee which reviews the work and decides if that artist will be the Blues Fest's poster artist. Your original work of art will be commissioned by the WCAC and the City of Hagerstown, and will be used to create posters, t-shirts, programs and promotional materials. A raffle is conducted for the original piece throughout the 4-day festival to help raise funds for the Western Maryland Blues Fest.

Artists who are interested in having their work reviewed by the WCAC and the Blues Fest Committee for a chance at becoming the 2012 Blues Fest Poster Artist are encouraged to submit up to three entries. Images must be submitted in a jpeg format and files should be labeled: "Last Name, First Name, and Title of Work."

Please email images of the works to be considered to: gallerymgr@washingtoncountyarts.com. Include full name, address, telephone and email address.

Alternatively, artists may submit digital images by sending a CD, marked with the artist's name, and a completed entry form to:

Washington County Arts Council, Inc.
14 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740.

Artists who would like to have the CDs returned should include a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

All digital entries must be submitted no later than noon on **October 21, 2011**. Artists will be notified of selection by November 22, 2011. Submitting artists will be notified about the committee's decision the week of **October 28th** by phone and by mail

The final product selected from the proposed sketches will be due to the WCAC gallery by **Friday, November 18, 2011** no later than 5pm. The final product should be created based on the selected sketch. Approval of committee must be obtained in writing if the artist wishes to change the artwork's content significantly.

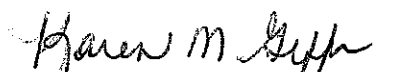
Please make note of the following detailed guidelines which apply equally to your sketches and, in the event that you are selected, your final poster image product:

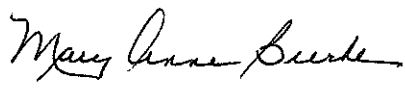
1. The artwork must be original, and not clearly identifiable as imitative of any existing art or artist. The artist hereby agrees to hold the City of Hagerstown and the WCAC harmless, and indemnify the same for any loss, damages or claims arising as a result of the style, content, subject or theme of the said artwork.
2. Keep in mind when creating your original work that it will be manipulated by a graphic designer.
3. The artwork should not represent tobacco, alcohol, or drug use, or, without express written permission from the subject or from his/her authorized legal representatives, a real identifiable personage, living or dead. Again, you hereby agree to hold the City of Hagerstown and the WCAC harmless, and indemnify the same for any loss, damages or claims arising as a result of the style, content, subject or theme of your artwork.
4. It is recommended that the artists visit www.blues-fest.org and search under history to view the posters from previous years.
5. There will be promotional efforts marketing the Blues Fest artist that will include a full-page article in the program booklet and news releases to regional news media.
6. There will be a gallery exhibit featuring your work at the Washington County Arts Council Gallery, 14 W Washington St. Hagerstown, MD 21740. You will need to provide a body of work to be hung at the art gallery on Wednesday, May 30, 2012. The exhibit will open on Thursday, May 31, 2012 with a reception on Thursday, May 31, 2012. The show will remain on display until Tuesday, July 3, 2012. Artwork must be picked up by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2012. All artwork on display in the Gallery must be for sale. Artist will be paid promptly after the close of their exhibit. The gallery is 51' x 24', providing 126 linear feet of exhibition space for paintings and wall installations and 1,224 square feet of display space for pottery, sculpture and locally produced crafts and gifts. Please be sure you have enough art work to fill the display space.
7. There will be a poster signing during the opening at the WCAC Gallery.
8. The artist will receive 50 posters for his or her own use.
9. The artist will receive 2 free VIP tickets for Friday, June 1, 2012 and 2 VIP tickets for Saturday, June 2, 2012 which provide entrance to the festival and VIP tent which includes food and beverages. If additional VIP tickets are needed, they can be purchased from the City of Hagerstown. Please call 301.739.8577 ext. 116 for more details and pricing.
10. The artist will be compensated \$500 by the City of Hagerstown for the artwork and all reproduction rights. The artwork becomes the property of the City of Hagerstown.

We are very pleased to offer this opportunity to the artists of our surrounding area and we look forward to reviewing your work.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact WCAC Gallery Manager, Ashley Durboraw at 301.791.3132 or email gallerymgr@washingtoncountyarts.com. Please note that the Washington County Arts Council Gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Very truly yours,


Karen M. Giffin
Community Affairs Manager
The City of Hagerstown


Mary Anne Burke
Executive Director
Washington County Arts Council, Inc.