



VALLEY RIVER ARTS GUILD (VRAG) PROSPECTIVE MEMBER APPLICATION

- **Would you like to become a member of Valley River Arts Guild and support the arts in the Murphy, NC, area?**
- **For a Regular Membership: Are you willing to work a minimum of 1 day per month (12 days per year) in the Guild's store, promoting sales and the art community, and serve on at least 1 Standing Committee? (\$60 per year)**
- **For a Double Art Membership: Are you willing to work a minimum of 2 days per month (24 days per year) in the Guild's store, promoting sales and the art community, and serve on at least 2 Standing Committees? (\$120 per year)**
- **If you are an artist in this region, and would like to join us in making Murphy an art destination:**
 - 1. Read the attached information.**
 - 2. Complete the attached application, and return it to the VRAG at The MAC**
 - 3. Contact Membership Chair, Kimberley Packard 239-272-1850, or by email at, KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com to schedule a Training/Orientation session.**
 - 4. Bring your art work to hang or display to the Training/Orientation.**

VALLEY RIVER ARTS GUILD

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER PACKET

(Please read before submitting work)

If you have questions, please contact: [Kimberley Packard 239-272-1850](mailto:KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com).

KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com or stop by the MAC, Murphy Art Center, and ask the volunteer on duty for a packet.

Things you need to know as you consider application to the Valley River Arts Guild:

- The mission of the Valley River Arts Guild is to showcase regional arts, provide opportunities for regional artisans to showcase and sell their work, develop an artists' network and to establish the region as an arts destination by sponsoring monthly art events.
- As a Guild, we must work together in all activities involved in the display, selling and promoting of the work in the gallery, and that the look and feel of the gallery is a group effort.
- The Valley River Arts Guild is a co-operative venture. This means we rely on our members to staff our gallery store, actively serve on our committees and attend our monthly meetings.
- **All membership dues are non-refundable.**

Types of Membership

We offer 3 types of memberships. Choose the one with best suits your situation.

Regular Membership

\$60 per year

You must work a minimum of 1 day per month (12 days a year) in the gallery.

You must select a minimum of one Standing Committee by choosing at least one task or job from the list at the gallery on which to serve.

Your art will be displayed by the Store Committee, at the committee's discretion for allotting available space. (Typically, if you have two forms of art, you will be allotted a smaller wall display area for your 2D art, and a ½ of an A-frame display for your 3D art, space permitting.)

You may also display prints in a bin.

Artists presenting 3D artwork must coordinate with the Shop Committee to see if they will need to provide their own display units.

We encourage you to attend the monthly meetings (1st Tuesday evening each month, unless the 1st Tuesday falls on a holiday).

Double Art Membership

\$120 per year

For Members who want to display two types of art and have a full space for each type:

For double art membership, member is required to work 2 days per month and work on at least two committees. **For two full spaces and double responsibilities, dues are \$120 per year.**

Associate Membership (One-time annual fee, not prorated.)

\$20 per year

Support VRAG with your associate membership dues.

You will receive our monthly emailed newsletter.

You are not required to be an artist to support the Arts at the VRAG as an associate member.

You will not be able to display any art in the gallery, **but you may be invited to participate in special exhibits.**

You are not required to work in the gallery, but with training, may work in the gallery as volunteer. We also invite you to volunteer to work on any of our committees.

Active participation in the success of the Guild comes with no voting rights in the General Membership Meeting, but we invite you to attend our monthly meetings.

PROCESS:

After reading this document thoroughly, please contact Membership Chair, Kimberley Packard 239-272-1850 or KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com to arrange for a training/orientation session. At this training session bring 2 or 3 pieces representing your **BEST** current work, and, in the case of 3D art, a photograph of how you might display your art. (Coordinate with Store Committee whether a display is already available.)

PARTICIPATION:

Participation is an integral part of how a Guild works. In order to continue to work towards our goals (see mission statement above) it is imperative that new members are willing and able to participate.

Each Standard Member is required to work in the gallery a minimum of 1 day per month (or two half days per month) during the current fiscal year, attend the monthly meetings, and actively participate on and attend the meetings of at least one (1) Standing Committee to help promote this Guild and its members' work. Members are required to attend at least five (5) general meetings per year. Quarterly Committee Meetings have mandatory attendance for the committee or committees that you belong to.

Each Double Art Member is required to work in the gallery a minimum of 2 days per month (or four half days) during the current fiscal year, to attend the monthly meetings, and actively participate on and attend the meetings of at least two (2) Standing Committees to help promote this Guild and its members' work. Members are required to attend at least five (5) general meetings per year. Quarterly Committee Meetings have mandatory attendance for the committee or committees that you belong to. Each member is expected to contribute/participate in some way that they are comfortable with and capable of performing. The Valley River Arts Guild is a co-op. We have no paid staff, so each member must cooperate with each other to keep the gallery, building and grounds, and the Guild's community projects, all operational.

Some of the other nuts and bolts of how this Guild works:

- Gallery is open Mon – Sat 10am to 5pm, Sundays 11am to 4:30pm, with extended seasonal hours, adding Friday evenings.
 - The annual Standard membership fee is \$60. Double space (with double responsibilities) fee is \$120. The Annual Associate membership fee is \$20. All fees cover the time period between September 1st – August 31st, our fiscal year. Fee is prorated for standard and double-art memberships, if you join during the year:
 - | Standard Membership | Double Art Membership | Associate Membership |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ Sept 1 – Nov 30 = \$60 | Sept 1 – Nov 30 = \$120 | Sept 1 - Aug 31 = \$20 |
| ○ Dec 1 – Feb 28 = \$45 | Dec 1 – Feb 28 = \$90 | |
| ○ Mar 1 – May 31 = \$30 | Mar 1 – May 31 = \$60 | |
- Commission of 35% is taken on the price of the item sold (65% to the artist, 35% to the Guild). Checks are issued monthly to the artist, for any sales that occurred, after the end of each month.
- **Sales tax is collected and paid by the Guild.**
- Sales and inventory will be tracked by a Point of Sale (POS) system. Sales are tracked by inventory number; therefore, when bringing items into the store, each artist is responsible for entering new work into POS, assigning an inventory number and tagging the item with a bar code or label. When items are removed from the store, the POS system must be updated to reflect that the item(s) are no longer in inventory.

Display of art will be determined by size of space available, as well as size of artworks. Larger artworks may need a larger space while smaller artworks may look better featured in a smaller space. The Store Chairman and/or Store Committee Member will be notified upon your selecting a membership type and will help place your art in the store. Be aware that the Store Committee Chairman and Store Committee may

often change your location in the store. This will also help keep a fresh appearance in the store, to the advantage of all the artists and the gallery.

CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING ART WORK TO SUBMIT FOR DISPLAY IN THE GALLERY

General Criteria (All Mediums)

Craftsmanship: Work should show the highest level of your technical proficiency.

Artistry or Vision: Work should show creative application of the skills used.

General Appeal: Work must be tasteful and have a broad appeal in order to be placed in a public gallery setting.

2D Wall Art (all painting, photography, mixed media, etc.)

- Properly finished and "Sales Ready."
- Framed with an appropriate and professional looking frame.
- If unframed (canvas wrapped, metal, or wood print), edges (if any) should be appropriately finished.
- All art should be ready to be hung with picture framing wire attached (No saw-tooth hangers or ring hangers are accepted.) We have a gallery-type hanging system that will only accept the wire hangers and professional woven wire is the most stable (no string or cord). No nail holes, thumbtacks, push pins, or adhesive on the wall or wood panels, please.
- Prints are accepted, but each print should be matted and in a plastic protective sleeve. You may need to provide your own print bin stand if you have prints to sell. To keep the quality look of the gallery, bins should be of similar type and color as the other print bins in the gallery.

3D Art

- Jewelry, sculptural, cloth, stone, woodturnings or carvings, pottery, glass, baskets, leather, fiber arts, published books, metal, multi-media, puzzles, cards, etc.
- Items that could be used for food should be marked "food safe, dishwasher, microwavable, etc."
- **All pieces of art must be handcrafted. Buy/sell items are not accepted.**
- No kits; work must be original
- Wearables must have tags on each item which should include: Care instructions, Size, Fiber content.

If you have any questions please contact:

Kimberley Packard 239-272-1850 or email, KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com

Due care will be taken by the Valley River Arts Guild (VRAG) to safeguard the artwork you are submitting. However, neither the Valley River Arts store, the Valley River Arts Guild and its members, the board members of the VRAG, nor the Murphy Art Center (The MAC), are responsible for any loss due to theft, vandalism, breakage, fire, water damage or other hazards. Submitting artist hereby agrees to relieve and hold harmless these named parties of all financial responsibility and liability.

ANNUAL ARTISAN GALLERY AGREEMENT – 2023 - 2024

This agreement sets forth the understanding between Valley River Arts Guild, the Murphy Art Center, and the artist signed below for participation in the Valley River Arts gallery.

Valley River Arts Guild is committed to providing fine arts and quality handmade fine crafts for sale. All items placed for sale in the Valley River Arts gallery must be hand crafted and in good taste. Valley River Arts Guild reserves the right to be final arbiter of what is acceptable for display and sale in the gallery.

Artists understand that any work submitted to the gallery is subject to being photographed for promotional purposes. Artists contact information will be made available to other Members.

Each Standard Membership member must work 1 day per month in the store (or two half days/month), sign up for at least one job on a committee and be an active participant on that committee. Double Art Membership members requiring two full spaces must work two days per month and work on at least two committees as an active participant. If a member is behind on work days or not active in their committees, they will be asked to remove their work at the timing and discretion of the Membership Committee Chair.

All members are asked to cooperate with each other in the gallery and within and between committees. Slander, harassment, or threats toward other members will result in immediate loss of membership and removal of your art.

A commission of 35% will be charged on the sales price of the item sold, with the split being 35% to gallery, 65% to artist. Sales Tax will be charged and paid by the Guild. All monies owed will be paid after the end of the month.

Due care will be taken by Valley River Arts Guild to safeguard artwork in the gallery. The Valley River Arts Guild and its members, The Murphy Art Center, building owner, or board members, are not responsible for any loss due to theft, breakage fire, water damage, or other natural or other hazards. Participating artists hereby agree to relieve and hold harmless these named parties of all financial responsibility and liability.

If you have any questions call: Membership Chairman:

Kimberley Packard: 239-272-1850 or KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com.

Check one: New Membership Renewal Membership (Please note: All dues are non-refundable!)

Name: _____ **Medium** _____
2nd Medium if more than one _____

Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____

Telephone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Is it OK to send Text Messages to your Cell Phone? YES NO (Circle One)

Is it OK to send out your information to other Artist YES NO (Circle One)

Email: _____

Emergency Contact/Phone: _____

~I have read this entire Membership Application document and agree to all guidelines and rules.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I would like to make an additional Charitable Contribution to VRAG of: \$ _____

This Contribution will be used exclusively for VRAG Debt Reduction in our Legacy Program.

Return this page with the membership payment to the Gallery, cash or check only.

Office use only: Training Date: _____

Amount Paid: _____ **Received By:** _____