



**Be part of The MAX Project: Murphy Art Xplosion!** Valley River Arts Guild at The MAC, Murphy Art Center, has partnered with Town of Murphy “Main Street America” to install an exciting creative Outdoor Art Gallery all over downtown Murphy, NC. Large framed canvas art panels displayed in a big seasonally-changing art gallery are installed on outside brick walls & fences of historic buildings throughout downtown. Artist Reception Grand Opening is First Friday Art Walk on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, for the “Appalachian Creatures, Big and Small” show, featuring our 31 Top Features.

A jury committee will select the top 31 images to be part of this special highly-competitive show. Each artist, whose art file is accepted for this show as a Top Feature, will be paid a \$100 licensing fee, sponsored by Valley River Arts, in our final show made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts grant.

The Valley River Arts Guild (VRAG) invites you to submit 1 or 2 digital files of your own art, to be featured in this prestigious display of the living creatures of the region. Submissions can be landscapes, waterscapes, valleys, mountains, florals, botanicals, the people or culture of the Smokies, as long as the image has some type of animal featured in it as a close-up or as part of a larger scene! (insect, butterfly, mammal, big or small). We can accept 2D digital files of paintings, mixed media art, and photography/digital art. **Prior MAX submissions will not be accepted.** Image files will be printed by VRAG on weather-resistant canvas in a 5 foot x 3 foot size, one time only for *The MAX Project*. Submitted files should be in horizontal mode and not vertical mode, in the best highest quality file of **at least** 4000 pixels or larger, Jpeg format. You as the artist, retain the copyright of your image. Submit only your very best art to be considered by the jury. A label will be attached to each artwork frame including name of artist and title of artwork.

All canvas art panels become the property of the VRAG and may be featured in later displays as we rotate the art throughout downtown in future displays. Canvas art panels may be included in an art sale as a future fundraiser at The MAC. We may also feature your image in our promotional materials and social media. Submission deadline is November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Early submissions are appreciated! Artist reception will be held at the Murphy Art Center, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 5-8PM, First Friday Art Walk evening, and is open to the public. Invite your friends and family! **Appalachian Creatures, Big and Small** show will be on display Dec, 2023 - March, 2024.

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There is no cost to the artist to be part of the Creatures show. You may submit up to two image files for this show. **Deadline to submit artwork files is November 5, 2023.** Keep in mind that VRAG may need to crop the image or add a border to fit the 5'x3' format of the panels. Please include your name as you want it on the label, as well as the title of your artwork.

Questions, please email VRAG president, Debra Vanderlaan, [debrav@bellsouth.net](mailto:debrav@bellsouth.net) or call 561-601-6484. Your artwork file can be emailed to that same email address. Please join us and have your artwork featured in the Murphy Art Xplosion!!

Artist name \_\_\_\_\_  
Artwork title #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Artwork title #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email image files and entry form information to: [debrav@bellsouth.net](mailto:debrav@bellsouth.net) or mail entry form to Valley River Arts Guild, Murphy Art Center, 12 Peachtree Street, Murphy, NC 28906, and email your hi-resolution files to [debrav@bellsouth.net](mailto:debrav@bellsouth.net) Include title and artist name in image file name: example--- D.Vanderlaan-Horse on the Farm.jpeg  
You will be notified by November 15th if your artwork will be featured in the Appalachian Creatures Show.

*The MAX Project, Murphy Art Xplosion, is made possible through grants by the Cherokee County Tourist Development Authority, the Cannon Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.  
All work is done by a committee of Valley River Arts Guild volunteers from the Murphy Art Center.*