



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?**
- **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?**
- **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 Guild 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.

Standard 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 Shop Committee.

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).

Enhanced Membership

\$80 per year

Similar to Standard Membership for Members who want to display both 2D and 3D art. (One-time annual fee, not prorated.)

Associate Membership

\$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 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 that represent your **BEST** current work, and, in the case of 3D art, a photograph of how you might display your art. (Coordinate with the Shop Committee to determine whether there might be a suitable display 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, make an effort to attend the monthly meetings, and actively participate on at least one (1) Standing Committee to help promote this Guild and its members' work. Each member can contribute/participate in some way that they are comfortable with and capable of performing.

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

- Gallery is open Mon – Sat 10am to 5pm, with extended seasonal hours, adding Friday evenings and Sunday hours.
- The annual Standard membership fee is \$60. The annual Enhanced membership fee is \$80. The Annual Associate membership fee is \$20. All fees cover the time period between September 1st – August 31st, our fiscal year. The fee is prorated if you join during the year:

Standard Membership	Associate Membership
○ Sept 1 – Nov 30 = \$60	Sep 1 – Jan 30 = \$20
○ Dec 1 – Feb 28 = \$45	Feb 1 – Aug 31 = \$10
○ Mar 1 – May 31 = \$30	
○ June 1 – Aug 31 = \$20	
- 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 after the end of each month.
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- **Sales tax is collected and paid by the Guild.**
- Sales and inventory will be tracked by a Point of Sale (POS) system. Each member is required to enter their inventory into the POS system before displaying. 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 space available. The Shop Chairman and/or Committee Member will be notified upon your selecting a membership type and will help place your art in the store. The POS system will keep track of the time each piece of hanging art has been placed in the store. If the piece has not sold at the end of 6 months, it should be refreshed by another piece of your art that has not sold (3D art will be considered on a case-by-case basis). This is to keep the displays always fresh and helps each artist determine which of their art sells the best. Be aware the Shop Committee Chairman may 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) the edges should be appropriately finished.
- All art should be ready to be hung with picture framing wire attached (No saw-tooth hangers are accepted.) We have a gallery-type hanging system that will only accept the wire hangers and the woven wire is the most stable. No nail holes or adhesive on the wall panels, please.
- Prints are accepted, but should be matted and in a plastic protective sleeve.

3D Art

- Jewelry, sculptural, cloth, stone, woodturnings or carvings, pottery, glass, baskets, leather, fiber arts, published books, etc.
- Items that could be used for food should be marked "food safe, dishwasher, microwavable, etc."
- **Coordinate with Shop Committee to determine if you will need your own display unit.**
- **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:

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

Due care will be taken by the Valley River Arts Guild to safeguard the artwork you are submitting. However, neither the Valley River Arts store, the Valley River Arts Guild and its members, 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 – 2022-2023

This agreement sets forth the understanding between Valley River Arts Guild 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. Display fixtures are the responsibility of the artist to provide if none are available in store.

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 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, or they will be asked to remove their work.

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 to the member will be paid after the end of each 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 and building owner 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. All members understand that membership dues are non-refundable.

**If you have any questions call: Membership Chairman:
Kimberley Packard: 239-272-1850 or KimberleyPackardPhotography@gmail.com.**

Check one: **New Membership** **Renewal Membership**

Name: _____ **Medium** _____

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: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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

This Contribution will be used exclusively for Debt Reduction.

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

Office use only: Training Date: _____

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