

Call for entries guidelines



Please read guidelines carefully as some rules have changed.

Entries may be disqualified if not properly submitted.

1. ELIGIBILITY

Open to artists with physical, cognitive, visual and hearing disabilities. To be eligible for submission, the work must have been created after the onset of a disability or injury. Each work must also have been created within the last five years to be eligible. All work submitted must be available for sale. Please do not submit work that has sold or will be unavailable when decisions are announced in late July. Art previously exhibited in Art Ability is not eligible for submission. Original work only; reproduction prints will not be accepted.

Guidelines:

Acceptable media: Painting (acrylic, oil, gouache, tempera, etc.); Watercolor & Wash (ink wash, alcohol ink, etc.); Drawing & Fine Printmaking (pencil, charcoal, crayon, pastel, ink, marker, woodblock, etching, silkscreen, etc.); Photography (analog or digital); Mixed Media (2-dimensional: collage, mosaic, fiber art, etc.); Sculpture (must weigh under 25 lbs.); Jewelry, Fine Crafts & Functional Art.

Size: No dimension should be less than 12" or more than 48" including the frame. Each piece is not to exceed 25 lbs. in weight.

Finishing: Any works selected by judges must be sent ready for display. All flat works may require appropriate framing and hanging hardware. Presentation guidelines:

- All works on paper, cardboard, foam core, scratchboard, flimsy materials and/or delicate surfaces must be protected with Plexiglas and framed. Plexiglas and proper wiring are required for all framing. **No glass will be accepted.**
- Frames must be used to protect soft and/or sharp edges. All flat works that are metal, ceramic or any delicate materials, as well as those that use Plexiglas, must be framed.
- Wraparound canvas must be on sturdy stretcher bars. Unfinished or sloppy edges will not be accepted.
- All wall art must be properly wired for hanging. Sawteeth, French cleats, nail holes and nail rings will not be accepted.

Stipulations: Work that arrives damaged will be returned to artist. We are not financially responsible if it arrives damaged.

2. SALES AND LIABILITY

Artists earn 80% of the sales of exhibited work, multiples and those commissioned in the 12-week show. Unsold works are returned after the exhibit closes. Artists may be invited to take part in Art Ability's ongoing sales and exhibition programs. A consignment agreement would then be sent for artist approval. For work sold during Art

Ability's ongoing sales and exhibition programs, artists receive 80% of the sales. All payments are made by check in U.S. dollars after the close of the exhibition. By applying to this exhibition, permission is granted to allow Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital (BMRH) to photograph, publicize and reproduce the works submitted for the show, in whole or in part, for various types of publicity, educational or public relations purposes or otherwise for the hospital's benefit. This right is perpetual and non-royalty bearing.

3. REVIEW AND NOTIFICATION

Review of submissions will be conducted by a jury of art professionals and the exhibition coordinator. Artists whose work is accepted will be asked to send actual work at the expense of Art Ability or, if more convenient, to personally deliver the work to our Malvern location, by appointment. We reserve the right to finalize selection for the exhibition upon arrival of the work. More shipping details will be mailed to accepted artists. Artists will be notified of preliminary acceptance in late July 2026. Artists whose work has not been selected will also be notified by email.

4. JUDGING AND AWARDS PROCESS

Distinguished members of the Greater Philadelphia arts community award prizes in each media category. Each accepted work is eligible for prizes of up to \$1,000 per piece. \$8,000 in prizes will be awarded.

5. ARTIST STATEMENT

Please provide an artist statement that will be used on an artwork label and displayed with your work. Due to the size limitation, this statement should be no longer than 125 words and should include the following information:

- A brief description of yourself and your art (mediums, techniques, subjects, etc.)
- Your source of inspiration and motivation to create
- The role art has played in living with your disability or impairment

If you were an exhibiting artist in the 2025 exhibition, please open the PDF of the 2025 program book to read your artist statement. It can be found at mainlinehealth.org/artabilityprogram. If everything still applies, simply indicate that you want us to use the statement on file.

We no longer request that your resume or professional art biography be submitted with your application.

DEADLINE: JULY 5, 2026



Instructions for submitting entries



Please read instructions carefully BEFORE beginning the application process.

SUBMISSION

Each artist should submit work through the Artwork Archive website: artworkarchive.com. Interested artists are required to create a free Artwork Archive profile to apply. There is no entry fee for the Art Ability call and artist profiles can be created and saved for future use. Artists with saved profiles should check to confirm contact information is still accurate.

Applicants are invited to submit up to six separate works of art for consideration, uploading one JPEG (.jpg) image of each to the Artwork Archive site. If necessary, a detail may be uploaded as one of the six. Images must be uploaded to the artist's profile prior to completing a call for entry. Applications also require title of work, medium, size, year completed and price. **Be sure the size and selling price are a reflection of the artwork framed. Refer to specific finishing guidelines under the Eligibility section of this document.**

Depending on a variety of factors, the online submission process may take up to two hours to prepare images and submit the application. Applicants are strongly urged to allow time for any unforeseen technical difficulties.

Art centers and groups:

A separate profile and valid email address are required for each submitting artist. Each artist's submissions should reflect the person's individual creativity. Multiple renditions of the same subject matter, such as a class assignment, will not be accepted. In addition to the artists' contact information, please include the name and address of the art center or group on application.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR WORK!

For additional information or questions, contact the Art Ability office at **484.596.5607** or artability@mlhs.org.

USING THE ARTWORK ARCHIVE SYSTEM

1. Go to artworkarchive.com
2. Register on Artwork Archive to create a username and password, which allows you to save information and return to it at any time. NOTE: You **do not** need a paid Artwork Archive account to submit to the call.
3. Create an artist portfolio by inputting art information and uploading images of work
4. When logged in to Artwork Archive and in your dashboard:
 - Scroll down and select **Find New Opportunities** under the **Call Submissions** section
 - Search **Art Ability** in the Filter column on the left of the page
 - Select **VIEW > APPLY > SUBMIT TO CALL**
5. Complete application form
6. You will receive a submission confirmation email from Artwork Archive

NOTE: If you already have an Artwork Archive account, please confirm your contact information is correct before submitting.

ARTWORK ARCHIVE TROUBLESHOOTING

Artwork Archive has an extensive learning center with how-to documents on applying to calls, uploading images, etc., as well as video tutorials. You can also contact their live chat via the chat icon on the bottom right of the page. BMRH is not responsible for submissions that are incomplete or that fail to upload as an Artwork Archive profile.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A COMPUTER

The preferred method of submission is online via Artwork Archive. If you do not have computer access, please call 484.596.5607 for the mail-in form and further instructions.

Selected artists will be notified with preliminary review results and additional instructions for submitting work. Any supplemental information should be sent to:

Art Ability
Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital | 414 Paoli Pike | Malvern, PA 19355



Main Line Health®
Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital