

# Summer Visual Art Showcase

## 2026 Submission Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Piece: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Medium (List ONE Main Category): \_\_\_\_\_

### Artist Statement (100 Words or Less)

Please explain the connection between your submission, the media you chose and what inspired you to make it. This may include vision, theme, context, technique, influence, etc. **Tell us "What, Why, & How" of your artwork in approximately 3-5 sentences or no more than 100 words.**

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### Releases (Please Initial Each Box)

- I, if 18 or older, or the parent/guardian of the child named above, do hereby give permission to the New Lenox Public Library to display my submitted artwork at the library.
- I declare that this submission is entirely my own/my child's work and adheres to all the rules and guidelines provided by the New Lenox Library.
- I give permission to reproduce my work/my child's work (giving due credit to myself/my child) on the library's website and in other library publicity or publications.
- I agree to release the New Lenox Public Library from any liability for any loss or damage that may occur while my child's/my work is at the library.
- I also agree to release the New Lenox Public Library, its employees, agents and representatives, from any and all liability, claims or damages which in whole or in part result from, or arise out of, or are claimed to result from or arise out of participation in the Summer Visual Art Showcase.
- I give my permission to the staff of the New Lenox Public Library to use, reproduce, publish, and redistribute the photograph(s) from the Summer Visual Art Showcase, either complete or in part, alone or in connection with the press releases, promotional or publicity publications, reports, and pages of the website, whether now known or later invented, of the New Lenox Public Library. I understand that I do not own the copyright of the photograph(s).
- I acknowledge my art must be retrieved by 4 PM on Friday, September 4. Unclaimed artwork will not be stored at the library and may be discarded after that time.
  - Optional: I wish to display my art but remain anonymous.**
  - Optional: I wish to participate in the art contest but I do not wish to display my work in public.**

Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer Visual Art Showcase



## Important Dates

- Submissions Accepted Starting: July 1
- Artwork Must Be Received By: July 31
- Gallery Exhibition: From August 5 – August 25
- Gallery Reception: Thursday, August 27 at 6:00pm; Meeting Room AB

The Library will display your art through the month of August. Please make arrangements to pick up your art after the Art Gallery & Reception on Thursday, August 27. Art must be retrieved by 4 pm on Friday, September 4. Unclaimed art will **not** be stored at the library.

## Enter our Summer Visual Art Showcase

We believe in the power of creativity to inspire change, ignite new ideas, and strengthen the bonds of community. The Summer Visual Art Showcase is a celebration of imagination, self-expression, and the stories that connect us all. Art challenges us to see the world through different lenses, share our experiences, and build a future shaped by creativity, hope, and collaboration.

As a place where stories are shared, ideas are explored, and creativity is celebrated, the library is proud to support artists of all backgrounds and experiences. Every work of art has the power to spark conversation, open minds, and inspire new possibilities. By sharing your voice through art, you help build a vibrant and inclusive community where creativity and connection thrive.

**We invite you to create and submit your original paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, digital art, and more. Share your vision, explore new techniques, and let your creativity shine. Every submission will add a new perspective to our gallery and help celebrate the talents that make our community stronger.**

- Open to teens entering 9th Grade - 12th Grade and Adults age 18+.
- **The artwork must be original. All submissions must be your own original concept, design, construction, and execution.** It may not be a copy of anyone else's copyrighted material. This includes unauthorized derivative work such as reproductions and tracings. You must be the creator of the artwork that is submitted to the contest.
- In light of the evolving understanding of AI generated art and the ambiguity regarding its copyright, any artwork that relies heavily on generative fill, is a tracing, redraw or reproduction of an AI generated image or is entirely AI generated is prohibited. Digital images and photographs may be altered or manipulated, but you must be the originator or have obtained the proper permissions. If your image infringes upon another's copyright, it will be disqualified.
- Entry forms must be legibly completed, signed, and turned in with the artwork. Submissions by a minor must include a parent or guardian's signature.

## Entry Process

Complete this entry form and return it with your submission to the Adult & Teen Services desk on the 2nd floor of the Library.

- **All submissions must be received by 4 pm on Friday, July 31 2026.**
- You must be entering 9th–12th Grade or be an Adult to be eligible.
- All submissions should be dropped off at the Adult & Teen Services desk on the 2nd floor.
- A completed form must be turned in at the time of submission. **Entries without accompanying forms will not be accepted.**
- Only 1 submission per individual can be entered.

## Art Guidelines

- Any original medium will be accepted, including, but not limited to, sculpture, photography, watercolor, chalk, digital art, ink, etc.
- Wall & 2D Pieces: Finished pieces must be no larger than 12"x 16" **including any frame or backing.**
- 3D items must be no larger than 1 ft x 1 ft x 1 ft and able to sit level on a shelf.
- The art/object must be gallery ready. **Unframed artwork should be mounted onto matte board or other sturdy background within the size limitations.** 3D objects should be able to sit level on a shelf or arrive with an appropriate stand, plinth, or display case within the size perimeters. Framed artwork should be able to sit level on a shelf.
- Artwork should be practical for a space that is open and available to the public. Please avoid submitting items that are too fragile, sharp, or small to be safe in such an environment. Understand the library does not assume responsibility for loss of or damage to your artwork or frames.
- Artwork must be "appropriate," as it will be displayed in the library building. The library reserves the right to reject work deemed unsuitable for display in the library building.
- Artwork must not have been submitted to a previous Visual Art Showcase at the New Lenox Library.

## Judging Criteria

- Craftsmanship & Technique
- Creativity & Originality
- Personal Voice
- Guideline Adherence