



2025 Poetic Visions of Mackinac Art & Poetry Exhibit

Exhibit Overview

Poetic Visions of Mackinac celebrates the beauty and unique culture of the island through the eyes of local artists. The exhibit is a true Mackinac showcase featuring art and poetry by Mackinac Island Public School students, as well as adult artists who work and/or reside on the island seasonally or year-round. Each piece of original art is accompanied by a poem inspired by/relatable to the piece.

Artist Categories

1. Mackinac Island Public School (MIPS) students (*unlimited number of featured artists*)
2. Adult Year-Round or Seasonal Residents

Art Exhibition

Both MIPS student and adult artists' artwork will be exhibited at the Center for the Arts located on the grounds of Mission Point Resort starting in mid- June. The official exhibit opening event will be held on Sunday, June 22 from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. with an awards ceremony for all categories.

Artwork

2-D art such as paintings, photography, block prints, etchings, drawings, pen & ink, alcohol ink, mixed media and encaustics.

Poetry

The poem must be inspired by/relatable to the art. The corresponding poem may be written by the artist, a poet commissioned by the artist, or a previously published poem (not generated by Artificial Intelligence). Poetry must NOT be more than 20 lines. Only original poetry accompanying accepted art will be eligible for poetry awards.

Entry Fees

Students - There is no fee for students. **Adults** - Current Mackinac Arts Council members: a non-refundable \$35 entry fee for up to three pieces. Non-members: a non-refundable \$60 entry fee for up to three pieces. Online payment must be paid when the art is uploaded via Mackinac Arts Council's website.

Entry Process

A Call for Entry application will be featured on the Mackinac Arts Council website.

Art: Upload a jpeg of the artwork (unframed). Name the jpeg the artist's initials and artwork title. (For example: JW.icebridge.jpeg). Max. file size: 10 MB.

Poetry: Upload a Word document of the poem. Name the document using the artwork artist's initials, artwork title, poetry (i.e. JW.icebridge.poetry.doc) DO NOT format the poem with bold text, paragraph indents, etc. Everything should be flush left.

Art Acceptance

Entries are reviewed with a corresponding poem. Poetry without artwork, or artwork without poetry, is ineligible for exhibition.

- MIPS Student art submissions and poetry will be reviewed for acceptance by MIPS teachers
- Adult art submissions will be digitally reviewed for acceptance by a jurist appointed by Mackinac Arts Council

Original artwork that is different from the submitted digital images will be rejected. MAC and the jurors' decisions are final. Participating artists in the Adult category will be notified of jury results by email.



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Jurist Selections

Art entries will be reviewed with a corresponding poem. Artwork without poetry, or poetry without artwork, is ineligible for exhibition. Art submissions will be digitally reviewed for acceptance by a jurist appointed by Mackinac Arts Council. If, in the opinion of the jurist or Mackinac Arts Council Board of Directors, accepted work is not suitably prepared for exhibit, or deemed to have been misrepresented in its submission, the work will be disqualified. Mackinac Arts Council and the jurist's decisions are final. Participating artists will be notified of the results by email.

2025 Jurists

Art: Laurén Gerig is a visual artist living in Lansing, Michigan. She received her Bachelor's degree in Painting and Writing from Indiana Wesleyan University and earned her MFA in Studio Art from Michigan State University. Laurén is the Director of Galleries and Outreach and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art, Art History, and Design at Michigan State University.

Poetry: Justine M. Defever serves as a Professor at Cleary University and teaches several classes, including The College Experience Retooled, Speak Up!, Discourse and Delivery, and Writing Composition. Defever earned a bachelor's degree in professional and technical writing from Saginaw Valley State University in University Center, Mich. She went on to obtain a master's degree in higher education, focusing on student affairs, from Northern Michigan University in Marquette. Defever also holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Arcadia University.

Awards

MIPS Student Awards

- \$150 Art & Poetry Best of Show
- \$25 Art Award of Excellence (one for each grade category: Pre-K & K, 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12)
- \$25 Poetry Award of Excellence (one for each grade category: Pre-K & K (no award), 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12)
- Student Participation Prize – Their artwork is professionally framed for them to treasure for a lifetime.
- Student Participation Prize – A gift certificate for an ice cream cone from Joanne's Fudge.

Adult (Year-Round and Seasonal Adult Residents/Employees) Awards

- \$150 Art & Poetry Best of Show
- \$25 Art Award of Excellence
- \$25 Poetry Award of Excellence

Adult Art Drop Off

Accepted art must be delivered to the attention of Laura Raisch, Executive Director, MAC, by June 1, 2025. The address is: Mackinac Arts Council, Center for the Arts, 6633 Main Street, Mackinac Island, MI 49757. Artwork must be framed and ready for hanging with wire securely affixed to the back. No saw-tooth hangers are accepted. All 2-D artwork must be labeled on the reverse side, upper righthand corner, using the printable labels provided with the acceptance email. Art by MIPS students will be professionally framed by Mackinac Arts Council/Main Street Art Gallery.

Student & Adult Art Pick Up

Artwork must be picked up by all artists from Mackinac Arts Council between September 1-27, 2025. If an artist prefers to have their artwork returned via mail, the appropriate packaging and return postage must be provided. Any



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art not retrieved by Sept. 27, 2025, becomes property of Mackinac Arts Council and will be sold to benefit the 2026 Poetic Visions Exhibit.

Sale of Art

This juried art show provides a forum for artists in CATEGORY 2 to show and sell their Mackinac Island inspired work while helping raise funds for the Mackinac Arts Council. Mackinac Arts Council will handle art sales, taking a 35% commission. Artists should price their work accordingly, or mark NFS (Not For Sale). If you do not include a price, Mackinac Arts Council will mark the work NFS. Artists may donate their art to be sold by Mackinac Arts Council to benefit the 2026 Poetic Visions Exhibit.

Submission Agreement

Submission of the application will constitute an agreement to all the conditions in the above Poetic Visions of Mackinac entry form. Non-compliance with conditions disqualifies an artist's entry. The artist understands that the Mackinac Arts Council and its staff and board members will not be held responsible for loss, theft or damage of the artwork.

The artist agrees to grant the Mackinac Arts Council permission to reproduce their artwork for publicity and/or educational purposes regardless of copyright. Images are assumed to be an accurate representation of the work. The jurist reserves the right to reject any submitted works not consistent with images submitted during application.

TIMELINE: MIPS STUDENT'S EXHIBIT

- **January - April 2025:** MIPS teachers work with students to create art and write corresponding poetry.
- **April 4, 2025:** Submission deadline. MAC will pick up finished artwork from MIPS. Teachers will submit poetry to MAC board member, Jennifer Wohletz, via email at mackinacmemoriesllc@gmail.com.
- **June 22, 2025:** *Poetic Visions of Mackinac 2025* exhibition opens to the public with an awards ceremony announcing the exhibition winners held at the Center for the Arts, Mission Point Resort, from 12pm – 2pm. All artwork must remain in the exhibit at the Center for the Arts through August 31, 2025.
- **Art Pickup:** Artwork may be picked up by artists beginning Sept. 1, 2025. Appointments for pick-up must be made between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

TIMELINE: ADULT YEAR-ROUND & SEASONAL RESIDENT'S EXHIBIT

- **Feb 1, 2025:** Mackinac Arts Council begins accepting online submissions from artists.
- **April 4, 2025:** Submission deadline. Any entries received after 8 p.m. Eastern Time April 30, 2024 will not be considered.
- **April 14, 2025:** Artists notified by email of juror results.
- **May 15 – June 1, 2025:** Ship artwork to the Mackinac Arts Council office at Mission Point Resort.
- **June 22, 2025:** *Poetic Visions of Mackinac 2025* exhibition opens to the public with an awards ceremony announcing the exhibition winners held at the Center for the Arts, Mission Point Resort, from 12 - 2 p.m. All artwork must remain in the exhibit at the Center for the Arts through August 31, 2025.
- **Sept. 1 – 27, 2025: Art Pickup:** Artwork may be picked up by artists. Appointments for pick-up must be made between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.