

2025 Chesapeake Spring Art Festival Artist Prospectus

Event Info

The Chesapeake Rotary Art Show is produced by the Chesapeake Rotary with close partnership with the City of Chesapeake and the Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission.

All proceeds from the Chesapeake Rotary Art Show directly support the Chesapeake Rotary, a non-profit institution which provides hundreds of thousands of dollars to local charities and grants to community organizations and projects that benefit Chesapeake, VA. This event particularly is geared toward promoting the Arts in Chesapeake and Coats for Kids, a program giving winter coats to children in title 1 schools.

General Information

Dates and Deadlines

April 26-27, 2025 (Show Hours 10a-6p Saturday and 11a-5p Sunday)
Chesapeake Rotary Art Show

August 1, 2024
Applications accepted

December 31, 2024
Application deadline (late applications possible as space permits)

January 15, 2025
Finals confirmations sent to artists

March 15th, 2024
Deadline to pay invoices and turn in liability insurance and pay fees

The show will be located at the Chesapeake City Park at 900 City Park Dr, Chesapeake, VA 23320. A beautiful 60 acre park located in the heart of Chesapeake.

Artist Services/Security

Chesapeake Rotary and Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission will be providing booth sitters as needed for breaks. We will also distribute drinks and snacks periodically throughout the show. There will be 24/7 roving security provided by Chesapeake Sheriff's Deputies from 8 PM Friday evening through 5 PM Sunday evening. Limited secure/locked storage will be available on a first come-first served basis. All items must be boxed and labelled with artist's information. Access will be available for the hour prior to and after closing on the days of the show.

Work Sample Images

Artist applications will be juried by the Chesapeake Fine Art Commission. If you have a website with examples of your work, this will suffice as part of your application and just be sure to include your web site in the appropriate field of the application for judging. Minimum of five work samples must be available on your site.

Artist Awards

There are nine awards given out for our show:

Best in Show: \$1500

Best in Metal/Sculpture: \$500

Best In Jewelry: \$500

Best in Painting: \$500

Best in Glass: \$500

Best in Clay/Ceramics: \$500

Best in Wood: \$500

Best in Photography: \$500

Best in Other: \$500

Judging happens in two phases. An initial judging happens during the Jury process, so be sure to include good representations of your works in your application. These photos can be updated after the application is submitted if necessary. The top five artists in each category will be notified as finalists and in person judging will be held from 10 am to 12 pm on Saturday morning. Awards will be presented Saturday afternoon after the main entertainment act finishes.

Liability Insurance

Artists are required to show proof of liability insurance, naming Chesapeake Rotary and the City of Chesapeake as an additional insured. For those without liability policies, short-term event policies can be purchased from Many different vendors. One such vendor that many of our artists have used in the past is ACT Insurance. Our show information is pre-loaded and can be purchased directly from here: <https://app.actinsurance.com/events/9679>. Use coupon code CSAF5 to get the price of event coverage down to \$44! Chesapeake Rotary and City of Chesapeake are not responsible for breakage/loss. If you are bringing your own policy the following additional insureds must be amended to your policy for the duration of the event:

Chesapeake Rotary
P.O. Box 15466
Chesapeake, VA 23328

City of Chesapeake
306 Cedar Rd
Chesapeake, VA 23322

Sales

Artists retain all revenue from the sale of their work. Chesapeake Rotary will not receive commission on sales. Artists are responsible for collecting and filing Virginia Sales Tax. The show will provide a vendor permit that covers all vendors.

Electricity

Chesapeake has a multitude of power boxes available for your use, at no extra charge! However, due to spacing of the pilons and the booths, if you plan to use power, please plan to bring a 100 foot outdoor rated extension and a splitter in case you have to share an outlet with another booth. These are also available for rent.

Hotel Information

I'm sorry to say that we had no luck getting a block of rooms this year. Many calls to various hotel sales departments were never returned. I do have a few suggestions as to where to stay. As of March 18th, for stays checking in 4/25/25 and checking out 4/27/25 I am seeing the following good options:

Extended Stay America - \$81/night - +17574248600

Comfort Suites Chesapeake - \$151/night - +17574201600

Homewood Suites by Hilton - \$158/night - +17572130808

In Google, you can search for hotels in 23320 to get a complete list, there are a LOT of hotels to choose from. Mostly right up by the I64 Greenbrier Exit which is only about five minutes from the Venue.

Parking

The Chesapeake Rotary Art Show is located at the Chesapeake City Park. There is ample free parking in the facility.

Load-in and Drive-on

Artists will be permitted to begin set up of their space Friday April 25th, 2025 from 10 AM to 5 PM and Saturday April 26th, 2025 from 8 AM to 9:30 AM. While there is no road along which the spaces will be set up, there is a perimeter parking and sidewalks available. We will also have cargo golf carts and volunteers available to assist. You may also dolly on from nearby parking lots. Rotary volunteers will be coordinating these efforts and providing assistance. **ABSOLUTELY NO CARS/TRUCKS ARE PERMITTED ON SIDEWALK/GRASS AREAS PER CITY RULES.**

Rules and Regulations

1. All work must be original and made by the artist's hands.
2. Artist statements describing technique, materials and processes should be displayed in the booth.
3. Artists must be present with their work for the entire art show.
4. All work exhibited must be of the quality, category and body of work of that shown in the juried images.
5. No work may protrude outside of the artists booth space or inhibit a neighboring booth.
6. This is a rain or shine event and no refunds will be given for cancellation due to weather. The decision to close the show due to weather is at the sole discretion of the City of Chesapeake and Chesapeake Rotary staff.
7. Chesapeake Rotary reserves the right to remove any artist from the show for any reason without notice or refund.
8. Original work must comprise 75% of your booth, and only original work and artist signage is permitted to be displayed on the walls of your booth.
9. Reproductions must be clearly labeled as reproductions and paper reproductions must be matted.

Exhibition Space

Each exhibitor will be provided with a 10x10 or a 10x20 space in Chesapeake City Park. Artists are to provide their own tent, heavy weights, and/or tables and display materials in order to display their work in an outdoor environment. Tents, tables, and chairs are available to rent directly from Chesapeake Rotary.

Chesapeake City Park can be a windy location. As such, Tent weights are required for all vendors and a tent is required for all spaces. Tents are available for rent through the event coordinators.

Fees

\$25 Application fee

10' x 10' exhibition space

Regular (Apply by 12/31/2024): \$200

Late (Apply by 1/31/2025): \$225

10' x 20' exhibition space

Regular (Apply by 12/31/2024): \$350

Late (Apply by 1/31/2025): \$400

\$275 Optional 10' x 10' tent rental with sidewalls installed

\$475 Optional 10' x 20' tent rental with sidewalls installed

\$25 Optional 6 or 8 ft. banquet table

\$10 Optional folding chair