

Dear fellow artist,

Here are the important dates for 2023 Spring Exhibit:

- Mon. **Mar. 20** Registration/entry fee postmark date
- Wed. **Apr. 12, 6-7:30pm** Drop Off/Referee night
- Fri. **Apr. 14, 4:30-7pm** Artist Reception, Cudahy Room
- Sat. **Apr. 15, 10am-4pm** Exhibit continues, Cudahy Room
- Sun. **Apr. 16, 10am-4pm** Exhibit continues, Cudahy Room
- Sun. **Apr. 16, 4:15-4:45pm** Pickup (No storage of artwork)

Requirements for show participation:

- Annual NAG membership current at registration deadline.
- Complete entry forms for framed and 3D art and/or bin art.
- **The Guild is offering the option to either submit the registration online through the website and pay the \$10 exhibit fee (online or by mail) or mail in the registration and payment.**
- **Mail forms plus \$10 registration fee** by Mar. 20.
Make checks payable to the Nature Artists' Guild.
Registration questions: Alice Wych: Phone: 630-416-3468, Mobile: 630-301-0291,
Email: awych@comcast.net.
Volunteer for a shift during the exhibit.
Lisa Kanellos: Phone: 630-254-7976, Email: lkanellos1@gmail.com.

Enclosed are:

- Detailed prospectus and guidelines for show participation.
- Registration forms: Framed and 3D art and Bin art.
- Labels for the back of art work.

Even if you are not exhibiting, we can use your help!

Lisa Kanellos and Alice Wych
2023 Exhibit Co-chairs

What artwork is eligible?

- Each member may submit up to three pieces of framed artwork or 3D art and up to three pieces of bin art. Diptychs, triptychs, etc., to be counted as one piece.
- Artwork must comply with the Nature Artists Guild Exhibition Guidelines.
- Artwork previously shown in a Nature Artists' Guild Exhibit may not be shown again.
- Artwork must have been completed in the last five years.
- On referee night, the referees will check the artwork for compliance with the guidelines. The referees have the right to refuse any entry for any reason.

3D Artwork

The registration form for 3D artwork must include a photo of the work and description of proposed display requirements. Artists are responsible for providing a protective display case, if appropriate.

Other requirements

- Each piece of art must be labeled: 2-D works on the back, 3-D work where best suited. Please use the enclosed labels. You must include the dollar value even if the item is not for sale.
- All exhibiting members are required to volunteer time at the show. Sign-up sheets will be available at Guild meetings or contact: **Lisa Kanellos at 630-254-7976, Email: lkanellos1@gmail.com.**
- There is a \$10.00 registration fee. Please mail it with the registration form(s).
- Artists are asked to donate 15% of any sale resulting from the exhibit.
Make checks payable to: Nature Artists' Guild, indicating an exhibit sale.
Mail to: Irena Gintilas, 507 Union St., St. Charles, IL 60174.
- Members are invited to submit an optional Artist's Statement which will be kept in a binder for viewing throughout the show. The statement should be a maximum one page typed and may not include references to pricing or sales. Guides to creating an Artist's Statement are available online or contact an exhibit co-chair for suggestions.

Sale information:

Due to the Arboretum's not-for-profit status, no sale or removal of any artwork, including bin pieces will be permitted during the exhibit. Prospective buyers may leave their name, address and phone number at the Information Table. You may arrange for sales to be completed after the show, with clients purchasing artwork from you at the Arboretum.

How to register

- Complete the registration form(s): there are separate forms for framed art, bin art and 3D art.
- Mail by **Mar. 20, 2023:** registration forms, \$10 registration fee, new or revised Artist's statement.
Mail to: **Alice Wych, 1038 Augustana Dr., Naperville, IL 60565.**
- Should you be unable to participate in the exhibit following submission of your registration or need to withdraw a piece of artwork, please contact **Alice Wych** by **Mar. 27, 2023.**

Note: No changes will be made after submitting the registration form.

Liability

Neither the Nature Artists' Guild nor The Morton Arboretum will be responsible for the loss of or damage to artwork. All reasonable care will be taken to protect the work.

INTO NATURE ARTISTS' GUILD EXHIBITIONS

The requirements for exhibition with the Nature Artists' Guild are special. We have a unique natural history focus that distinguishes us from other fine art groups. At the same time, we recognize and support the need for each individual to follow her or his own artistic path. Artwork shown in Guild exhibitions is subject to special guidelines, outlined below. All work is refereed for compliance before the exhibition.

SUBJECT MATTER

1. Major emphasis should be on subjects in nature, such as trees, flowers, birds, insects and natural landscapes.
2. Only artwork less than 5 years old will be accepted. As a guild, we all take pride in our artistic growth and we would like to exhibit artwork that is fresh and current.
3. Man-made objects, surfaces and backgrounds may be a part of the composition in an exhibited art work when the primary intent and focus of the work is to portray botanical or nature-related material. Examples of objects that may be included using this guideline are vases, table tops, fences or other non-natural backgrounds.
4. Text may be included as a design element of the artwork. The text should not be the focal point or stand alone. Text may also be included as the title, artist's signature or scientific nomenclature.
5. Artwork must be original, from the artist's own observations.
6. The final decision of acceptance of the artwork will be at the discretion of the exhibition referees.

SCIENTIFIC CRITERIA

1. Nomenclature, if used, must be accurate and correctly spelled.
2. Plants and animals must be identifiable as to genus.
3. Careful attention should be paid to appropriate natural history features such as ecological associations, animal behavior, scale relationships, and color.

The referee will base his/her judgment on the artist's intent: to describe the natural element accurately or to use its form in a design.

GUIDELINES FOR SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF ART

- a) **Scientific illustration** (for example, illustrations in monographs or field guides, often black and white). In this category the scientific referee is looking for the "typical" specimen, the "average" plant, insect, or other animal. She/he does not want one of the numerous variations occurring in nature. (Remember, such things as numbers of petals, sepals, legs.) The scientific name (genus and species) is usually used.
- b) **Depiction of subjects around us.** You may be painting from a specimen in your yard, at the zoo, or at a vacation site something that stimulated you. The subject might not be "typical" (a crooked elm, for example, or a leaf with interesting holes). If your intent is not strict scientific illustration, you can use the common name or a nonscientific title.
- c) **Landscapes.** Because plants and animals are often distant in a landscape, the scientific referee looks more at overall form and shape than at detail. The style might range from realistic to impressionistic. In loose or impressionistic styles, the artist still needs to pay attention to the overall shape of the natural form. In a style that is mostly loose with a little tight detail, be sure the detail is rendered accurately. A typical Guild landscape might approach realism in the foreground, show basic shapes and forms in the middle ground, and soft impressionism in the background.
- d) **Design art.** Plants, animals, and natural forms may be used stylistically in design pieces, as in a scarf, a stained-glass window, or a silhouette. The referee will still need to recognize the general shape of a grape leaf or bluebird, but would accept the piece as long as he could determine the genus.

- e) **Colorist work.** Here, the intent of the artist is to use color to convey thoughts and emotions. There is some leeway to move from the accurate color of a scientific illustration - to use color to accomplish a specific artistic goal. However, the scientific referee still looks for recognizable forms in the subjects - the genera depicted.
- f) **Impressionistic art.** Some impressionistic works, like Monet's early water lilies, are acceptable. It is obvious to the scientist that Monet studied the shapes and habits of water lily leaves and flowers to show real lilies in their natural environment.
- g) **Oriental-style pieces.** Painting the spirit or gesture of nature. Some oriental-style pieces are acceptable. Most traditional oriental pieces show great care in the study of nature. Details, though stylized, are recognizable natural forms,
- h) **Digitally painted artwork** will be accepted subject to the following criteria:
 1. Artwork must be original.
 2. The manipulation of scanned photographs or other digital images is not acceptable, except for use as a background or texture. For example, a scan of textured paper for use as background texture is acceptable. Scanning a photograph of a plant and applying Photoshop filters is not acceptable.
 3. If the work is for sale, it must be printed on archival paper using archival inks or dyes.

MATTING AND FRAMING

The best presentation for exhibition should keep the focus on the artwork, the framing secondary in terms of visual order. Please use good judgment when choosing a frame, keeping in mind the overall size, weight and bulk of your framed artwork that will be hung for display during the exhibition.

1. **Matting and framing must be clean and of professional quality, using archival materials. No plastic or acrylic frames.**
2. All work to be hung must have firmly attached screw eyes or D-rings and picture hanging wire. The wire should NOT be flat and taut, there needs to be enough slack so that when you lift the wire with your finger, it forms a slight "tent" shape. Screw eyes or D-rings should be placed approximately one third of the way down from the: top of the frame. **No saw-tooth hangers are allowed.**
3. Attach bumpers to the back of each art piece.
4. Bin artwork must use quality matting, backing and wrap. No frames or plastic wrap.

SIZE REQUIREMENTS

Framed Work

1. Framed artwork using glass or plexiglass: outside dimensions, including frame, may not exceed 28" x 36".
2. Canvas maximum outside dimensions: 40" x 30"

Acceptance of any framed artwork that exceeds size limitations or is overly heavy with respect to the display panels will be at the discretion of the Exhibition Committee.

Bin Art:

- Size may not exceed 30" x 30" including matting

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

No mechanically reproduced prints are eligible for exhibition as framed art. Hand pulled prints and engravings

are acceptable. Prints will be accepted for bin art provided that they are of commercial, archival quality and are prominently labeled as such. Prints not meeting this standard will not be accepted.

Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum Exhibition of Natural History Art

FRAMED AND 3D ART REGISTRATION FORM

Art is accepted for exhibition after compliance with requirements as determined by the referees on Referee Night. It is anticipated that all entered artwork will be exhibited, but the committee reserves the right to exclude entry (C) if space is limited. Neither the Nature Artists' Guild nor the Morton Arboretum will be responsible for the loss of or damage to artwork. Please indicate if 3D art needs special display.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

My signature indicates that I understand and accept the exhibition procedures, requirements and waiver of liability in the Prospectus for this exhibition:

Signature: _____

Titles are limited to 28 characters including spaces. A value must be included even if the artwork is not for sale.
PLEASE ATTACH BUMPERS TO THE BACK OF ALL FRAMES.

(A) Title: _____ Size: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ For sale: Y _____ N _____

(B) Title: _____ Size: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ For sale: Y _____ N _____

(C) Title: _____ Size: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ For sale: Y _____ N _____

Mail this form and entry fee postmarked by Mar. 20, 2023 to:

Alice Wych
1038 Augustana Drive
Naperville, Illinois 60565

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Apr. 16, 2023: My artwork has been returned to me. I am aware that it is my obligation and responsibility to

donate to the Guild 15% of any sale resulting from this exhibition.

Signature:

Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum Exhibition of Natural History Art

BIN ART REGISTRATION FORM

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

My signature indicates that I understand and accept the exhibition procedures, requirements and waiver of liability in the Prospectus for this exhibition:

Signature: _____

Titles are limited to 28 characters including spaces. A value must be included even if the artwork is not for sale. No Changes after submitting the registration form.

(A) Title: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ Size: _____

(B) Title: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ Size: _____

(C) Title: _____

Media: _____ Value: _____ Size: _____

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1038 Augustana Drive
Naperville, Illinois 60565

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Signature: _____

Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum Exhibition of Natural History Art

Attach one label to each piece of Art,

Please Print or Type all information

Artist	Artist
Address	Address
Phone	Phone
Title of Work	Title of Work
Medium	Medium
Value \$	Value \$
<i>Must be included even if artwork is not for sale</i>	<i>Must be included even if artwork is not for sale</i>
Artist	Artist
Address	Address
Phone	Phone
Title of Work	Title of Work
Medium	Medium
Value \$	Value \$
<i>Must be included even if artwork is not for sale</i>	<i>Must be included even if artwork is not for sale</i>
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