

## Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum



### 2026 Spring Exhibit

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Sat. <b>Mar. 21</b>              | <b>Registration/entry fee postmark date</b> |
| • Wed. <b>Apr. 15, 6-7:30pm</b>    | <b>Drop Off/Referee night</b>               |
| • Fri. <b>Apr. 17, 10am-4pm</b>    | Exhibit Opens, Cudahy Room                  |
| • Fri. <b>Apr. 17, 4:30-7pm</b>    | Artist Reception, Cudahy Room               |
| • Sat. <b>Apr. 18, 10am-4pm</b>    | Exhibit continues, Cudahy Room              |
| • Sun. <b>Apr. 19, 10am-4pm</b>    | Exhibit continues, Cudahy Room              |
| • Sun. <b>Apr. 19, 4:15-4:45pm</b> | <b>Pickup (No storage of artwork)</b>       |

#### Requirements for show participation:

- Annual NAG membership current at registration deadline.
- Each member may submit up to three pieces of framed/3D artwork and up to three pieces of bin art. Framed artwork previously shown in a Nature Artists' Guild exhibit will not be accepted. Bin art will be accepted from previous exhibits. Artwork must have been completed in the last five years. The referees will check the artwork for compliance with the guidelines and have the right to refuse any entry that is deemed unsuitable.
- Complete entry forms for framed/3D art and/or bin art by March 21.
- Registration is available online through the website with \$10 payment (online or by mail) or mail the entry form with payment to Alice Wych. Make checks payable to the Nature Artists' Guild.
- No changes will be made after submitting the registration form.
- Due to the Arboretum's non-profit status, no sale or removal of any artwork or bin art will be permitted during the exhibit. Prospective buyers may fill out a sales
- inquiry at the Information Table. Arrangements for sales may be completed after the show. Artists are asked to donate 15% of any sale resulting from the exhibit. Make checks payable to the Nature Artists' Guild and mail to the Treasurer.
- **ALL EXHIBITING MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO VOLUNTEER TIME AT THE SHOW. Sign-up sheets will be available at guild meetings or contact: Lisa Kanellos or use the link below:**
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E45AFA622A6FE3-61788748-volunteer>
- Neither the Nature Artists' Guild nor the Morton Arboretum will be responsible for the loss or damage to artwork. All reasonable care will be taken to protect the work.

Questions? Contact Lisa Kanellos or Alice Wych, 2026 Exhibit Co-chairs

## GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF ART INTO NATURE ARTISTS' GUILD EXHIBITIONS

The requirements for exhibition with the Nature Artists' Guild have a unique natural history focus.

### SUBJECT MATTER

- All work submitted must show some aspect of nature with minimal human influence. Trees, plants, flowers, birds, insects, animals and natural landscapes are acceptable subjects. Pets and domesticated animals are unacceptable. Text, man-made objects and structures should be avoided, but a subtle reference may be acceptable pending referee review. The primary focus must be botanical/nature.
- Art must be original from the artist's own observations.
- No mechanically reproduced prints are eligible for exhibition as framed art. Hand pulled prints and engravings are acceptable.

### SCIENTIFIC CRITERIA

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

### ACCEPTABLE ART STYLES

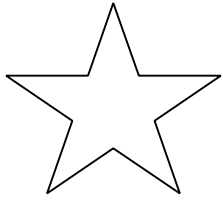
- **Scientific illustration** which states genus and species.
- **Landscapes** can range from realistic to impressionistic, but need to show correct form and shape of plants and animals.
- **Design art** that incorporates plants, animals and natural forms.
- **Colorist work** which uses color to convey thoughts and emotions, but still have recognizable natural forms.
- **Impressionistic art** which consists of small brushstrokes that offer the bare impression of form.
- **Digitally painted artwork** that is original. Digital art needs to be professionally printed using archival ink and materials. The manipulation of scanned photographs or other digital images is not acceptable, unless traditional artistic elements are added.
- **Other acceptable styles** are at the discretion of the guild board and/or exhibit chairs.

### MATTING AND FRAMING

- Matting and framing must be clean and of professional quality, using archival materials. No plastic or acrylic frames. The sides of canvas or wooden panels must be finished.
- 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.**
- **ATTACH BUMPERS TO THE BACK OF EACH ART PIECE.**
- Bin artwork must use quality matting, backing and polypropylene bags. No frames or plastic wrap.

### SIZE REQUIREMENTS

- Framed artwork using glass or plexiglass: outside dimensions may not exceed 28" x 36". Canvas maximum outside dimensions: 40" x 30". Bin art may not exceed 30" x 30" including matting.
- 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.



## Nature Artists' Guild of the Morton Arboretum

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Email 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 are permitted after submission.**

### 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. 21, 2026 to Alice Wych.**

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## BIN ART REGISTRATION FORM

Bin art may be repeated from a previous exhibit. Art is accepted for exhibition after compliance with requirements as determined by the referees on Referee Night. Neither the Nature Artists' Guild nor the Morton Arboretum will be responsible for the loss of or damage to artwork.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email 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 are permitted after submission.**

(A) Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Media: \_\_\_\_\_ Value: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

(B) Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Media: \_\_\_\_\_ Value: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

(C) Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Media: \_\_\_\_\_ Value: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form and entry fee postmarked by Mar. 21, 2026 to Alice Wych.**

## Attach one label to each piece of art.

Please print or type all information

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Must be included even if artwork is not for sale*