

# **THE KIRBY-HILL HOUSE**

## **2025 ANNUAL ART EXTRAVAGANZA**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Kirby-Hill House Educational Foundation, Inc. (the Kirby) is pleased to announce its 2025 Annual Art Extravaganza! This event will take place on Saturday, April 26th from 10am-4pm at the Kirby-Hill House and will showcase arts and crafts made by local artists and artisans.

One way you can participate in this event is through entering artwork you've created into the Art Show. The purpose of this document is to outline the rules and regulations for artwork entries. If this document fails to answer your questions, please view the other documents linked on our website or reach out to us with your questions via phone, Facebook, or email.

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS – ARTWORK ENTRIES**

### **SECTION 1: OVERVIEW**

Artworks submitted to the Art Show will be grouped, judged, and displayed at the Art Extravaganza in two divisions. One division will include artworks that are open themed/artist's choice and is available to artists aged 5+. The other division will include artworks that are in response to the theme "Through the Eyes of a Child" and is available to artists in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and adult entrants aged 18+. All artworks will be evaluated and ranked by a panel of judges. Individual artists may submit up to 3 artworks to the Art Show. If you submit more than 3 pieces, the judges will cull some of your pieces at random prior to judging.

### **OPEN THEME/ARTIST'S CHOICE**

Any artist aged 5+ may enter an artwork in the open theme division. This will mean you have the creative freedom to choose your own subject matter and may showcase your talents in nearly any media. While this will allow for maximum artistic expression, entries must conform to all rules and regulations outlined in this document and should be suitable for viewing by the general public.

## **THEMED: “THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD”**

Artists in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades and adult entrants 18+ may enter this division of the Art Show. Entering an artwork in this themed division will mean your work must address your thoughtful interpretation of the prompt “Through the Eyes of a Child” and may showcase your talents in nearly any media. Your work must also conform to all rules and regulations outlined in this document and should be suitable for viewing by the general public.

## **ENTRY FEE**

Adults 18+ will be asked to submit a fee of \$5 for each piece they enter into the Art Show. Money collected as entry fees will be applied to the cost of monetary prizes awarded during this event and to support the Kirby-Hill House Educational Foundation Inc. There is no entry fee for PK-12 students.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Accepting entries. Entries must be received by Kirby staff by 5pm on Tuesday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please call or email to make an appointment or discuss your options for how to get your work to us.

Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – The Art Extravaganza will be open to the public from 10a-4pm. Judging results will be revealed during the event via the ribbons, medals, and plaques displayed alongside the artworks. There will also be booths with handmade items for sale and artist demonstrations.

Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – Unless your artwork won a Gold Medal or Best of Show, you may pick up your artwork from the Kirby on these dates. Please call ahead to check our hours and to ensure someone will be there when you arrive. If you are unable to pick up your entries during these dates, please call or email to arrange alternate plans.

Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – Traveling Exhibition. Artworks that are awarded a Gold Medal or Best of Show award will be shown publicly in a traveling exhibition that will tour locations throughout the Southeast Texas area. (More information on this exhibition can be found in Section 4: Judging and Awards.)

## SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

### CLASSIFICATION

For the purposes of judging, artworks will first be sorted into “Open Theme” and themed “Through the Eyes of a Child” divisions. Each division will then be sorted into age groups and each age group further sorted into media categories.

### AGE GROUPS

Early Elementary: PK-2<sup>nd</sup>

Late Elementary: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Junior High: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade

High School: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

Adult: Ages 18+ years\*

PK-5<sup>th</sup> grade students aged 5+ may enter the open themed Art Show only. They are ineligible for the Best of Show award but may win ribbons and/or a Gold Medal.

6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students and adults may choose to enter either division of the Art Show (open or themed). Participation in either of these divisions qualifies them to win ribbons, a Gold Medal, and/or a Best of Show award.

\*NOTE: Those 18+ STUDENTS whose work is submitted by an art teacher are not required to pay an entry fee and their work will be judged alongside other high school entries. Those 18+ INDIVIDUALS entering their own work (not through an art teacher) will be judged alongside other adult entries and they are required to pay a \$5 per piece entry fee.

### MEDIA CATEGORIES

2D – Any artwork that is 2 dimensional in nature and employs drawing or painting techniques as its primary method of art making. Example media include (but are not limited to) colored pencils, pastel, crayon, ink, charcoal, paint, watercolor, printmaking, mixed media, tempera, airbrush, etc.

3D – Any artwork that is 3 dimensional in nature and employs additive or subtractive sculptural techniques as its primary method of art making. Example media include (but are not limited to) clay, paper mâché, wood, metal, stone, plaster, mixed media, concrete, wax, etc.

Photography/Digital Art – Any artwork that is created, rendered, or altered with the aid of a computerized or electronic device. NOTE: Photographic and digital artworks must be submitted to the Kirby as a printed hardcopy.

## **SECTION 3: ARTWORK GUIDELINES & ELIGIBILITY – ALL AGES**

### **ARTWORK RESTRICTIONS**

Artwork must be suitable for a general public audience, including young children. The Kirby has the right to reject any artwork for content or subject matter, regardless of the artist's intent. Artwork depicting subject matter that, at the judgment and discretion of Kirby leadership, is deemed to detract from the general character of the event will be disqualified. Artwork depicting violence, racism, prejudice, profanity, nudity, overtly political themes, or any otherwise controversial topics will be disqualified.

Additionally, artworks of the following types/styles are not permitted for entry into the Art Show for judging\*:

- Jewelry/wearable items
- Laser cut/engraved items
- Stained glass or other similarly fragile work
- Any artwork that is produced by tracing/projecting
- Items whose primary function is home décor
- Carpentry/woodworking
- Art that relies heavily on using stock imagery/tools (versus the artist creating their own graphic elements)

\*NOTE: While not suitable for the Art Show, many of these would make excellent craft booth ideas.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Artwork cannot have been entered in any previous Kirby Hill House Art Show.
- Students do not need to be enrolled in an art class to participate but are encouraged to visit with their campus art teacher for help and guidance with understanding the rules and regulations contained in this document. However, any student may bring their own artwork to the Kirby directly without needing the assistance of an area art teacher.
- Artwork entries must be accompanied by a completed entry form.
- Artwork must have a title. "Untitled" is not an acceptable title.
- Artwork must be completely dry.
- Charcoal, pastels, or any other media that may smear must be treated with fixative spray. Artwork that smears when subjected to reasonable, respectful handling will be disqualified.

## **ELIGIBILITY (cont.)**

- Due to the need for blind judging, artworks should not contain any identifying information. Identifying information includes names and signatures. If the work is already signed, please try to temporarily cover the signature in a way that does not damage/detract from the piece (i.e. a post-it note, the display mat covers the signature, etc). If this is impossible to achieve without damaging the artwork, leave the artwork as is.
- All 2D/photography/digital artwork must be framed or mounted/matted with a product sufficiently rigid to prevent sagging or bending when displayed upright. Acceptable mounting/matting materials include matboard, tagboard, illustration board, railroad board, cardboard, and some heavy weight posterboards. Artworks created on canvas that have been stretched over wooden stretcher bars or thick cardboard do not require any additional preparation.
- Framing is not required, nor will it affect the judging, but it is acceptable to submit work that is already framed. If submitting framed artwork, please ensure there is hanging hardware attached to the back.
- Minimum dimensions for 2D/photography/digital entries: 8" x 10" (not including mat/frame)
- Maximum dimensions for 2D/photography/digital entries: 36" x 48" (not including mat/frame)
- Maximum dimensions for 3D entries: must not exceed 36" in any dimension (height, width, or depth) and cannot exceed 25 pounds.
- 3D pieces must be sufficiently sturdy to withstand repeated, reasonable, respectful handling.
- Artwork must be the artist's original composition, content, and individual expression. Work must have been completed 100% by the artist.
- Reference material should NOT be from published or copyrighted imagery. Artists should create their own reference material and/or use public domain imagery. Artwork entered into the Art Show generally does NOT meet the requirements for "fair use" under copyright law.
  - For more information on copyright and fair use please visit:
    - <https://graphicartistsguild.org/fair-use-or-infringement/>
    - <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/paintings-from-photos-in-books-or-field-guides-2573675>
- Trademarked logos, slogans, and/or licensed characters are not permitted. This also applies to phrases used in the title of the artwork.

## **INELIGIBILITY**

Artwork that does not comply with these guidelines could be disqualified and not be judged. Disqualified work will not be eligible for prizes nor will it be displayed during the event. Disqualified student work will also not count towards the minimum totals required for the teacher awards.

## **CONSENT**

By entering artwork into this event, the creator of said artwork is agreeing to hold Kirby-Hill House and its affiliates blameless for any loss connected with artwork entered in this event. The creator of the artwork also agrees that any work submitted may be reproduced by the Kirby and its affiliates for advertising and/or promotional purposes. Should the artwork be chosen as a Gold Medal or Best of Show winner, the creator further agrees to allow the artwork to be shown publicly in a traveling exhibition that will tour the Southeast Texas area, after which the work will be returned to the artwork's creator or teacher.

## **SECTION 4: JUDGING AND AWARDS**

### **AWARDS**

Depending on the total number of entries the Kirby receives, up to twenty-four 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbons, twenty-four 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbons, and twenty-four 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons will be awarded for various division/age/media categories. Additionally, up to 8 Gold Medal awards and 2 Best of Show prizes will be awarded.

As well as awarding student entries, the Kirby would like to reward area art teachers for their commitment to promoting the arts in our community. For more information on how teachers can win money to support their campus or district's art program, please read the "Information for Teachers" section on our website.

### **TRAVELING EXHIBITION**

In addition to being on display at the Kirby-Hill House during the Art Extravaganza event, artwork that receives a Gold Medal or Best of Show award will participate in a traveling exhibition that will tour Southeast Texas locations from Monday, April 28th through Friday, May 16th. This traveling exhibition will be presented for a period of at least one week in each location before moving to the next location. A list of the exhibition locations will be published on our website.

## **TRAVELING EXHIBITION (cont.)**

Kirby staff will be responsible for transporting artworks to and from these exhibition sites and for working with representatives at these locations to ensure the artworks will be displayed in a reasonably safe and protected environment. By entering artwork(s) into the Art Show, the artist is agreeing to hold the Kirby-Hill House and its affiliates blameless for any loss connected with his/her artwork entered into the exhibition. Artworks chosen for this traveling exhibition will not be available for return to their owner earlier than Friday, May 16th. Artists whose work is in the traveling exhibition should be prepared to be without their artwork until that date and should not make any attempt to retrieve their artwork from any of the traveling exhibition locations. A representative of the Kirby will contact you near the end of the traveling exhibition timeframe to make arrangements for artwork return.

## **JUDGING PROCESS**

Before beginning the first round of judging, artworks will be sorted and separated by theme division, age group, and media category. Judges will carefully examine and consider all artworks before beginning the ranking process. All works, regardless of judging placement, will be returned to the artist with a judges' commentary card.

Round 1 Judging: Judges will choose one Best of Show winner from among all secondary school entries (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) and one Best of Show winner from among all adult entries. These two Best of Show awards represent the judges' favorite entries. Best of Show winners will each receive a \$25 Visa gift card and plaque to commemorate their achievement.

Round 2 Judging: Judges will select one Gold Medal winner from each age group in each of the open and themed divisions. These Gold Medal awards are considered Finalists and represent their position as "runners-up" to Best of Show.

Final Round Judging: Judges will select artworks in each division, age group, and media category and rank them for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbon awards. These ribbon awards represent the works the judges felt were worthy of special recognition.

Artwork that does not receive an award is still very much appreciated and artists are encouraged to read the judges' commentary cards for explanations and suggestions of how to continue their artistic growth.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

Judges assess the artistic merit of each artwork with the following criteria in mind:

Elements & Principles / Design / Composition: Does the piece show evidence of planning and intentionality? Is the picture plane used effectively? Does the arrangement successfully capture and hold the viewer's eye and interest?

Creativity / Originality / Complexity: Is the concept and subject matter original? Does it appear to be the artist's own work or is it derivative of another artist? Does the piece show imagination? To what degree is the "maker's hand" evident in the work?

Craftsmanship / Skill / Effort: Does the work show an appropriate level of achievement for an artist of this age? What role did the materials the artist used play in the success or failure of the work? Does it appear the student made efforts to minimize the effect of any mistakes or mishaps? Is the attention to detail adequate?

Interpretation and Clarity of Theme (Themed division entries only): Does it appear the artist carefully considered the theme? Is their interpretation of the theme communicated clearly? Can the judges form an opinion of the message?

## **SECTION 5: CONCLUSION**

The Kirby wishes to thank you for your interest in our Art Extravaganza event. If this document failed to answer any of your questions, please visit the other links and documents on our website or contact us via one of the methods below.

The Kirby-Hill House Museum  
210 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 592  
Kountze, TX 77625  
  
www.kirbyhillhouse.com  
KirbyHillHouseArt@gmail.com  
  
(409) 246-8000