PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES

Art on the Town is a new program, offered by the City of Lexington, to provide outdoor retail and demonstration space to artists along the new Town Branch Commons and other downtown locations.

Town Branch Commons is the dedicated park and trail system that is now winding through the heart of downtown Lexington. Roughly following the path of Town Branch, Lexington’s first water source, and adjacent to Vine St., the Town Branch Commons is providing new bike and walking paths, landscaping, benches and other amenities that connects the Central Bank Center, Financial Center, City Center, and restaurants and hotels.

Starting in June, 2022, Art on the Town began offering 8 mobile carts. The carts include shelving, racks for hanging work, an awning, counter space and lockable storage. Carts will also include lighting (for use if a power source is available.) Additional carts will be added to meet the demand.

Goals

- To provide Kentucky artists, craftspeople and authors with opportunities to market, sell and demonstrate their work
- To provide local residents, visitors and tourists with opportunities to purchase original local works of art and to engage with local artists and authors.
- To create a dynamic, active, and creative destination.

Eligibility

Artists that meet the following criteria may apply to participate in the Art on the Town Program.

- Participating artists must be full-time Kentucky residents.
- Artists who are currently juried into the Kentucky Arts Council’s Kentucky Crafted Program, Art Inc.’s program, or who have been selected for, and completed, a juried art show such as Woodland Festival, Woodland Arts Market, St. James Fair (Louisville), or Summerfair (Cincinnati).
- Artists who have received an Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council (any discipline).
- Authors who have been accepted to participate in the KY Book Festival, Southern KY Book Festival, Berea Artisan Center or similar type event or sales venue.
- Artists may participate in Art on the Town ONLY with the same work that was juried or selected into one of the above programs. All work must be original and/or digitally created or manipulated work that is derived from original work.
- Artists must be 18 years of age or older.
- Artists must have a current sales and use tax account with the Kentucky Department of Revenue for your art or craft business.
Artists must attend at least one LFUCG orientation session for the Art on the Town Program prior to participation.

Program Details and Guidelines

- 8 mobile art carts, will be available, at no charge, for artists meeting the eligibility criteria on the previous page and accepted onto the Art on the Town roster.
- Artists will have access to a scheduling calendar that will include information on upcoming conferences, conventions and other events in downtown Lexington. Carts will be available to artists on a first-come, first-served basis. Depending upon demand, some limits on reservations may be established to ensure accessibility of the carts to many artists.
- The art carts will serve artists of all media and disciplines -- paintings, sculpture, jewelry, books, broadsides, notecards, prints, woodworking, and other art forms.
- Artists will load their work into the cart and remain with it throughout their scheduled time and unload the cart at the end of the day. NOTHING will be stored on the cart overnight or when not in use.
- Artists must display their work and if for sale, be able to complete sales transactions and collect tax.
- To assist the development of the Art on the Town program, artists will be asked to provide monthly sales reports and program feedback for any months that they utilize an art cart.
- Carts may typically be scheduled for approximately 10 AM to 8 PM from May through October and from 10 AM to 4 PM November through April. Artists may schedule carts for partial or full days.

Logistics

- The carts will be located in the Commons plaza areas at major intersections along Vine Street, with two or three carts in close proximity to one another.
- Artists will be assigned specific carts and locations for each scheduled time.
- The carts will have locks on them that will be removed prior to use and must be returned to the cart at the end of use each day. Artists will be responsible for this.
- The carts will have some shelving, grid panels and hooks for hanging. Artists may provide special display hardware or materials --- and remove at the end of the day.
- Artists may add limited floor easels or tables to their cart, as long as it does not block sidewalks, businesses or access to other carts.
- Artists should try to reserve use of a cart at least one-week in advance. Cancellations of scheduled dates should be as soon as possible so that it does not take opportunities from others.
- No-Show artists (without cancellation) will be removed from the roster of eligible artists.