

Artfest's Art Show 2025

10th Anniversary Show!

Does your artwork communicate?

We think so!

Does your artwork provoke?

thought, emotion, action...

We think so!

CALL TO ARTISTS

Read on!



Crescent Fort Rouge

United Church

A festival celebrating art and spirituality

525 Wardlaw Ave. www.crescentfortrougeunited.ca

CALL TO VISUAL ARTISTS

Open to all painters, sculptors, assemblage artists, photographers, fabric artists, potters, printmakers – this is for professionals, amateurs and Sunday artists

Artfest 2025 10th Anniversary Art Show

'ART: THE POWER TO PROVOKE'

sponsored by
Crescent Fort Rouge United Church

Friday 9 May 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. (opening reception and performance by Café Rouge)
Saturday 10 May 11:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 11 May 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Deadline for written application: 1 April, 2025.

Drop off is Saturday 3 May between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. (or by arrangement). Pick up is 11 May between 3:15 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Artist attendance is not required but certainly welcomed. We request that pieces for sale are marked as such in your submission and that contact information is provided. CFRUC will not be handling sales transactions.

CFRUC has for many years, recognized that ART, both in its creation and its appreciation, is a special balm for the Spirit. Artfest is CFRUC's annual gift to the community of artists and art lovers, alike.

Artfest is a multi- week festival with theatre, dancers, musicians, writers, poets and visual artists. (p. 3)

For this event, CFRUC seeks submissions from visual artists across several disciplines, who wish to be considered through a committee selection process.

Artist Eligibility: Artists must reside in Manitoba.

Number: Although there is no specific limit on the number of pieces, space considerations may force jurors to choose some but not all from the selection of pieces, the artist submits.

Selection Process: A small committee who appreciate and have some experience with visual artwork, will review the applications and make selections. It is anticipated

that artists will receive notification of the committee's decisions with respect to submissions by 14 April, 2025. Only pieces selected by Artfest's Selection Committee will be displayed.

Health Regulations: The show will be governed by all current (show dates) health regulations and may be subject to cancellations. Artfest organizers will comply with all government health regulations, and as such, the show could be subject to cancellation

Selection Criteria: Applications will be considered based on the following considerations:

- relevance to our theme of 'Art: The Power to Provoke' (see below)
- Suitability of the work to this event
- Wall displayed works must be ready for hanging on pegboards with plastic hooks. In particular, pictures must be wired for hanging. Note: small metal hangers (as on IKEA frames) will not fit on to our plastic hooks. Hence, these pictures should be wired.
- Work previously displayed at Artfest will not be accepted.

No fees collected. No fees paid.

Application Format: Artist selection will be based on a written expression of interest and support material. Please include the following:

- 1) Brief description of your artistic practice – the "what and why" of the subject matter and media you choose.
- 2) Relevance to the theme of 'Art: The Power to Provoke' (see next page for more definition). More about this year's theme:

Max Wyman is "one of Canada's foremost cultural commentators." In his latest book, ***The Compassionate Imagination: How the arts are central to a functioning democracy*** (2023), he re-imagines the role of art and culture in "re-humanizing our way of living together" in a world that is becoming increasingly polarized politically, socially and economically. He states, "Institutions need to be reshaped. Inequities demand remediation. Justice systems must be recalibrated. We need a vision of a world beyond the balance sheet, beyond the creeping normalization of greed and mistrust." Wyman further holds that art lets us understand our interconnectedness, our commonalities. It engenders empathy and compassion. Art *is* "the humanizing core of civil society," essential to public policy and public service, and integral to real social change.

Whatever your preferred medium, we invite you to draw on your “compassionate imagination” to channel your inner activist, and to see this as an opportunity to think outside the proverbial box, to push the boundaries in order to help create a better and more just world. Some artists feel this is an obligation! Be a bit (or a lot) bold and edgy. Use your art to make an impact, to stimulate and provoke reflection and meaningful conversation. As artists, challenge us all to escape the chatter of our wired world, to think beyond our comfort zones about issues surrounding:

- Human Rights, Inequity, Oppression, Social justice...
- Homelessness, Affordable housing...
- Food insecurity, World hunger, Children and Youth...
- Displacement, Refugees, Migration, Immigration...
- Reconciliation (settler perspective if non-Indigenous), We are all treaty people...
- Discrimination, Racism...
- Gender, Identity, Diversity, Inclusion...
- Peace, Make art not war...
- Climate crisis, Environment (animals on the land, fishes of the sea, birds of the sky, everything that creeps on the earth, plant life), Clean water...

Artists have a "chance – to do better, to imagine and create a world that works for all of us."

3) *Each piece submitted should reflect the theme in a sentence.*

- Example #1: I am angry that this world is so addicted to plastics, which cause so much harm.
- Example #2: I am shocked constantly by endangered nature – flora and fauna. My art is intended to provoke awareness of the impact of humans.
- Example #3: My art (this piece) is intended to provoke public discussion around ending homelessness in Winnipeg.
- Example #4: As a settler on Treaty 1 Indigenous land, I know we need to fulfill our part of the treaties we made with First Nations people, as we are all treaty people.
- Example #5: The world today seems full of pressing issues. I am concerned about poverty, endless war, homelessness, racism... I paint to escape and to create a moment of peace and beauty for the viewer.

We look forward, as always, to the thoughtfulness you continue to bring to our themes through your art.

4) Please attach pictures of the work you would like to be considered.

5) **Include the dimensions** and media.

Security: CFRUC's Art Show Committee members will be in attendance throughout the show and will safeguard the artwork to the best of their ability. However, committee members are not able to guarantee the security of the artwork, and assume no liability for damage or theft to art pieces.

Insurance: Insuring art pieces for damage or theft is the sole responsibility of the owner/exhibitor.

Artists will be asked to sign a short letter of understanding indicating their agreement to the terms and conditions of the show.

Please send a complete proposal package by email to:

artistshowell@shaw.ca

(for questions also)

Crescent Fort Rouge United Church: Who Are We?

We have been church in the Osborne Village since 1883 – we have history and traditions. *AND* we are open-minded, open-hearted and open spiritually.

We belong to a denomination, The United Church of Canada (www.united-church.ca). However, we are a very diverse congregation: United Church lifers, folks “recovering” from socially stricter denominations, seekers, questioners, agnostics and the “I don’t know”. We take the Bible seriously but not literally.

We are from the pre World War II generation, boomers, young families, singles, multi-cultural, queer and queer- friendly. We embrace diversity. We aim to be intellectually and spiritually stimulating. As one person says, “I don’t know what I believe, but for an hour a week, this is a pretty good place to think about that.”

We care deeply about the world around us. This is demonstrated by our commitment to fair trade, our community compost, our refugee work (sponsorship and sanctuary), our support of our denomination’s outreach ministries (children, youth and families, seniors, and the arts community), our support for the broader church in its international service, and our focus on environmental concerns.

Why ART?

We care deeply about the arts. We are open to the strong connection between spirituality and the arts.. We are building community and deepening the lives of our members and our neighbours. At CFRUC, art helps us to connect with so many others to create new ways of thinking and relating to our world, and to develop new relationships. We are a welcoming place, where spirits are inspired and grow.

Our sanctuary is one of Winnipeg’s acoustical gems, being home to the Winnipeg Boys’ and ECCO choirs, the Wind Chamber Ensemble and a frequent venue for Dead of Winter, the MCO, and many others. As well as the classical performers, emerging bands like the Psychics and Cerulean Skies have found a place in our sanctuary. The Keep Theatre. under Sharon Bajer and associates, have performed here and given workshops, calling CFRUC their home. We have become a theatre rehearsal hall to others also.

Why this arts festival? We are in the business of transformation – spiritual, social, political, cultural, and environmental. *We believe artists have a great role to play in awakening us.* Since 2015, we have offered an annual Arts Festival over a number of weeks which offers theatre, music, literature, poetry, and more to the public largely for free. Donations are always gratefully accepted.