



Howard County Arts Council

Paint It! Ellicott City 2025

Request for Applications

Deadline: April 14, 2025

Howard County Arts Council

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hocoarts.org

The Howard County Arts Council (HoCo Arts) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich and uplift our communities by advancing the arts, artists, and arts organizations for the benefit of all. To fulfill its mission, HoCo Arts offers a wide variety of programs and opportunities - grants to local and regional arts and cultural groups; exhibits; affordable studio, performance and meeting space for artists; classes for children and adults; a quarterly newsletter; arts advocacy and awareness initiatives; and others that are essential to artistic development in Howard County. HoCo Arts also manages a 32,000 sq. ft. multi-disciplinary art center that provides opportunities in the arts for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The center features two professional galleries, a 100-seat black box performance space, meeting and classrooms, a dance studio, individual artists' studios, and administrative offices.



Howard County Arts Council receives major support from Howard County Government, Maryland State Arts Council, The Reis Foundation, Inc, COPT Defense Properties, Ellen Flynn Giles & Ronald H. Giles, The Isadore & Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, The Howard Hughes Corporation, Elizabeth & Ken Lundeen, M&T Bank, and SECU.

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Event & Exhibit Description

Paint It! Ellicott City is an annual event that brings artists and spectators interested in the plein air tradition to Historic Ellicott City in early June. Juried artists set up their easels around the historic district, enjoying a summer weekend as they capture the picturesque mill town and all its charms. Juried artists will paint in the historic district of Ellicott City, Maryland for three days, creating original artwork that will be shown in a six-week exhibit at the Howard County Center for the Arts' Gallery I. Juried artists will also enjoy a welcome reception, an exhibit reception, and juror's awards.

Due to venue renovations in 2025, there are no plans for an Open Paint event, however we encourage artists who are not juried in to come to Ellicott City for the weekend and participate.

Event Sponsors*

The Manelli Family, AARP of Maryland, Howard County Historical Society Flynn/Giles Family, Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Blossoms of Hope, Ellicott City Partnership, and the family of Carole Zink

**as of 3/24/2025*

Application & Eligibility Requirements

All artists working en plein air, in a variety of media including oil, acrylic, pastel, or watercolor, aged 18 years and older, are eligible to apply. Applications for digital work will not be accepted.

Artists wishing to be considered must submit an application via [Submittable](#) with the following:

- Contact information
- Artwork Portfolio: Up to 4 images of visual artwork examples including medium, dimensions, and year completed. Images must be submitted in .jpg format. Files must be labeled with the last name and corresponding entry number (Smith_1.jpg). Files should be less than 1 MB.
- Entries must be submitted digitally by 11:59 PM on April 14th.
- Artists must submit a non-refundable entry fee of \$30 at <https://www.hocoarts.org/exhibit/paint-it-ellicott-city/>

To apply, visit <https://hocoarts.submittable.com/>

Entry Fee

A non-refundable entry of \$30 is due with entry. All fees go toward awards and costs for the event. Submit fee [here](#).

Timeline

February-April 14: Call open for juried artist submissions

April 14: Deadline to apply

Late April: Acceptance notification

June 4: Artist kick-off reception hosted via Zoom

June 5-8: Paint Out in Ellicott City

June 9: Opening reception & award ceremony

June 9 - August 2: Exhibit open to the public

Juror: Crystal Moll

For over 30 years, Crystal Moll has painted on the East Coast of the USA. For half that time, she has run the Crystal Moll Gallery, which hosts other artists' works in addition to offering custom framing. Based in beautiful Baltimore, Maryland, Moll offers a distinct selection of plein air art paintings, limited edition signed prints, tiles, and posters of Baltimore's urban landscape. Moll has embraced her adopted home of Baltimore, where she paints strictly on location and explores cityscapes as her subject. She works hard to produce these on an ongoing basis, while sticking to attention to detail and subtle nuance that she hopes truly reflects the true nature of the attractive subjects she portrays.

Sales

A 20% commission will be retained by HoCo Arts on all sales of artwork included in the exhibit, as well as any sales during the plein air event. Work is not required to be for sale.

Awards

A minimum of \$5,000 in cash awards will be presented, including the \$2,000 Gino Award, named in honor of Gino Manelli (1915-2010), an avid artist and cyclist who established his art studio in Ellicott City in 1966. Over a 70-year artistic career, Gino created landscapes, portraits, and still lives in a range of media and styles

with dramatic color use and a dynamic palette knife, creating emotional, engaging artwork. His work is in galleries in the United States and Europe.

Agreement

The decision of the juror is final. All accepted work must remain in the gallery for the duration of the exhibit. HoCo Arts reserves the right to photograph artwork and artists for publicity and educational purposes and to use images of submitted work for the same purposes. HoCo Arts reserves the right to reject work not suitably presented. All work must be original, no reproductions (including giclee, commercially printed, or computer-generated reproductions of paintings, drawings, etc.) Submission of an entry constitutes understanding and agreement with all conditions mentioned in the prospectus.

Application

All application materials must be submitted online by 11:59pm on April 14, 2025. Faxed, mailed, emailed, or late applications will not be accepted.

Apply online at <https://hocoarts.submittable.com/>

Questions can be directed to exhibits@hocoarts.org