



# OLDER ADULT ART CONTEST & SHOW 2024

The Middlesex County Office of Aging and Disabled Services welcomes you to our 2024 Older Adult Art Contest and Show.

This annual contest is to showcase and promote the many creative talents of older adults (age 60+) residing in Middlesex County. The contest is open to both professional and non-professional arts and crafts enthusiasts. To learn more about the contest, including eligibility requirements and registration, please visit [middlesexcountynj.gov](http://middlesexcountynj.gov) and search for “Older Adult Art Contest”.



*Registration is required by July 1st*  
If you have questions, please call or email:  
(732) 745 3295  
[mcoads.events@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:mcoads.events@co.middlesex.nj.us)

**Works on display from  
July 24 – August 22**

**The Studio Art Gallery  
Performing Arts Center  
Middlesex College**

2600 Woodbridge Avenue  
Edison NJ 08837

**See Back for  
Eligibility Guidelines**

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES - NJ State Senior Citizens Annual Juried Art Contest & Exhibition

**County:** Any artist residing in New Jersey, age 60 or over, may submit artwork to her or his County Senior Art Show. Work must have been completed within three years immediately prior to the Show (to enter the 2024 Senior Art Show, work must have been completed between April 2021, to the present). Entries may **not** have been entered or shown in prior County Senior Art Shows or in prior New Jersey Senior Citizen Art Shows. **[NOTE: Some counties allow artists enter more than one piece in their County Shows. That's fine. However, please note that only ONE ENTRY per artist may be entered in the State Show.]**

**State:** All artwork awarded First Place in your 2024 County Senior Citizen Art Shows is automatically eligible to advance to the New Jersey Senior Art Show. (If an artist has won First Place in more than one category in a County show, they may only submit ONE piece to the State show).

**County Coordinators** must submit the County's artwork to the State Senior Art Show. Only **1st place winners** from a County's 2024 Senior Art Show may be entered in the State Show.\*\* **One** professional and **one** non-professional entry in each of the following 11 categories may be entered: acrylic, craft, digital art, mixed media, oil, pastel, photography, print, sculpture, watercolor, and works on paper (drawing, etc.) may be entered per County.

### CATEGORIES

1. Acrylic Painting
2. Craft - one-of-a-kind original creations only, no craft kits or molds
3. Digital (Computer) Art - artwork created using computer graphics software (does not include digital photographs)
4. Mixed Media - art that combines two or more media (often non-traditional), and not one of the media clearly predominates; includes collage and assemblage
5. Oil Painting
6. Pastels - includes chalk (soft) and oil pastel
7. Print - all print forms including - but not limited to - etching, linoleum block, lithograph, woodcut, monoprint, silkscreen
8. Photography - includes color, black & white or tinted photographs taken with a film-based or digital camera
9. Sculpture - work designed in 3-dimensions, carved or constructed in any medium, abstract or figurative
10. Watercolor Painting - includes gouache (note: traditional watercolor often includes light pencil work and/or ink. They are still considered "Watercolor" - NOT "mixed media")
11. Works on Paper - includes hand-drawn works in mediums including: charcoal, pencil, colored pencil, graphite, ink, pen, crayon, or stylus of any sort

### ARTIST CLASSIFICATION - Professional or Non-Professional?

**Professional:** any artist who meets 2 or more of the following qualifications:

- a) sells or has sold artwork through commercial channels (including galleries, on-line galleries, craft shows, art shows, etc.);
- b) has been exhibiting their work for 2 or more years in professional galleries and/or in professional art exhibits; ••
- c) has had work selected in 2 or more Juried art or craft shows; \*\*
- d) has received 2 or more awards for their artwork; \*\*
- e) holds (or has held) professional membership in an artist or craftsperson's guild or association.

**Non-Professional:** an artist who does not meet 2 or more of the above criteria.

**\*\* EXCEPTION:** Artists who only enter their County Senior Art Show and **NEVER** exhibit their work in any other show or venue do not have to identify themselves as a Professional Artist **unless they have won 1st Place in their category 3 or more times** - in that case, they should identify themselves as "Professional."

### ARTWORK/DISPLAY RULES

- All 2-D artwork (framed art, photos or crafts wired to hang) **may be no larger than 30" or smaller than 10" in any dimension.**
- Sculpture or other 3-D crafts **may not exceed 20" In any dimension** (measurements must include any base for the sculpture), and may not weigh more than 30 pounds.
- All art must be the original work of art. No reproductions of paintings, drawings, etc., will be accepted (including giclee or other digital print copies\*). [\* Of course, entries in the Photography or Digital Arts categories may be digital prints.]
- No work made using kits or direct copies of another person's artwork can be accepted.
- All 2-D work must be framed, wired and ready to hang.
- Any 3-D piece with a base, **must be securely fastened** to that base in order to be entered.
- It's recommended that artists photograph their 2-D work before it is framed, to avoid a glare. Artists should try to photograph both 2D and 3D work against a neutral background so the work shows up well.
- Every effort should be made to ensure that work is correctly categorized. Work that is incorrectly categorized may be moved to the correct category (or risk being taken out of competition altogether) at the discretion of the State administrators.
- Participating artists must submit a photo of their work either with their online application or by email. All artwork will be displayed online.

**IMPORTANT:** Work may be listed for sale. No commission is charged. The NJSAS staff will email any purchase inquiry directly to the artist. Artist assume complete responsibility for sales (including - but not limited to: payment arrangements, plans for shipping/pick-up of purchased artwork and any sales taxes they may incur from sales and/or sale negotiations.)