

Gosport Arts Festival  
Mother's Day Weekend May 9th and 10th, 2009  
Historic Olde Towne, Portsmouth, Virginia  
[www.GosportArtsFestival.com](http://www.GosportArtsFestival.com)

A Message from Millie Johnson,  
Executive Director, Gosport Arts Festival



Dear Artist,

Enclosed, please find an application for our 2009 show, which will be held Mother's Day Weekend, May 9th and 10th, in Historic Olde Towne, Portsmouth, Virginia. Our show has a long tradition in Tidewater, tracing its roots back more than thirty years. 2009 will be our ninth year in Portsmouth's beautiful downtown.

Our show consists of approximately 150 juried artists and artisans displaying both flat and three-dimensional work. We offer cash awards in excess of \$7,000 and traditionally have support and pledges from the community for several thousand more in purchase awards. We also have a reputation for treating our artists like kings and queens with free drinks delivered to your space throughout the show; volunteers to help you unload, set up, and man your booth during short breaks; a fantastic Artist's Reception and Awards Ceremony featuring complimentary beer and wine and a buffet dinner; as well as the friendliest volunteer staff of any show you've encountered. Just ask any artist who has done our show in the past. I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you this Mother's Day Weekend!

A rectangular box containing the handwritten signature of Millie Johnson in cursive.

### Important Dates

- 11/12/08** - Applications mailed
- 1/30/09** - Applications must be postmarked by this date to avoid the late fee
- 2/13/09** - Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on this date to be considered for jurying
- 2/21/09** – Jurying
- 2/28/09** – Notification sent to artists
- 3/2/09** – Booth fee checks deposited
- 4/4/09** – Final mailing to artists
- 4/11/09** – Last day to drop out and receive 50% refund
- 5/8/09 – Set up available from 6:30 to 9:00 pm
- 5/9/09 – Set up from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.  
Show open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Load out from 6 to 9 p.m.  
(Overnight security provided)  
Artist's Reception at 6:30 p.m.  
Award Ceremony at 7:30 p.m.
- 5/10/09 - Set up from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.  
Show open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Load out from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Additional information is available on our Web site:

[www.GosportArtsFestival.com](http://www.GosportArtsFestival.com)

# Gosport Arts Festival 2009

## About the Show

Traditionally, participating artists have represented a wide variety of mediums, styles, tastes and cultures. Past shows have included artists presenting oil, watercolor, jewelry, pastels, charcoal, pencil, pen & ink, mixed media, photography, pottery, sculpture, fiber, stained glass, metal, wood, clay, clothing, furniture, musical instruments, paper and much more. The show is juried to ensure the highest quality.

In addition to providing a valuable art venue for the region, our show also serves as a fundraiser for the EDMARC Hospice for Children. All proceeds of the show go to this worthwhile organization.

The Gosport Arts Festival is held in beautiful Olde Towne, Portsmouth, Virginia. A historic seaport city in southeastern Virginia, the City of Portsmouth is centrally located within the region referred to as South Hampton Roads. It is bordered by four neighboring cities: Chesapeake, Norfolk, Suffolk and Virginia Beach. It is also within easy driving distance of Newport News, Hampton, Yorktown, Jamestown and Williamsburg. The Norfolk - Virginia Beach - Newport News Metropolitan Area ranks as the 27th largest in the United States with a total population of more than 1.5 million.

The show is physically located on High Street, which is a four-lane asphalt-paved street with raised-curb grass median. Artist spaces are laid out with the back of the space against the center divider's curb. Spaces are 12' deep and 10' wide. This size allows artists with a standard 10' x 10' tent two feet of storage space behind their tent. Artist tents are grouped together in pairs, with at least a 4' gap between each pair. This layout allows every artist in the show to open their booth on two sides, if they so desire. Visitors to the show walk in the outside (or parking) lane or on the wide brick-paved sidewalks. Much of the street is tree-lined. The neighborhood consists of quaint shops, popular restaurants, the Tidewater Community College Visual Arts building, and the Virginia Children's Museum. Passenger ferries from Norfolk load and discharge at the entrance to the show.



EDMARC

Hospice For Children

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## Cost

An application fee of \$15.00 is deposited on receipt of your application. If your application is not postmarked by **1/30/09**, the application fee is \$30.00.

The space fee is \$100.00 for a 10' x 12' space or \$225.00 for a 20' x 12' space. You must include a separate check for your space fee with your application, but this check will only be cashed if you are accepted into the show. Post date this check to **3/2/2009**. Please do not include the space fee and application fee on a single check. **Applications received without two separate checks will be rejected and returned.**

Make checks payable to 'GOSPORT ARTS FESTIVAL'.

If you drop out of the show prior to jurying, we will refund your full space fee. Application fees cannot be refunded once deposited. If you drop out of the show after 1/30/2009 and by **4/11/09**, we will refund 50% of your space fee. After **4/11/09**, no refunds will be given.

Your space fee includes parking for one vehicle (with trailer) during show hours, access to the Artist Relations area, complementary refreshments during the show, and an invitation to the Artists Reception and Awards Ceremony for you and a guest.

## Rules

The applicant must be the exhibitor and the artist, and must be present during all hours of both days of the show. Work exhibited at the show must be consistent with the slides submitted for jurying. If the show staff deems that pieces being displayed are not consistent with the slides, they may bar those pieces and/or dismiss the artist without refund.

Reproductions and photomechanical reproductions are permitted, but must be clearly marked and must not comprise more than 20% of the total display; photography being exempt from this requirement. Consignments, imports, antiques, kit work, production work and/or any work which is not wholly the original design and work of the applicant are strictly prohibited. Art that includes any pre-manufactured components (such as jewelry made of manufactured or purchased components) must be fully disclosed in a statement attached to the application. The Gosport Arts Festival reserves the right to bar any particular piece from display at the show that does not meet these requirements and/or dismiss the artist without refund.

Show participants must comply with the written instructions provided in the final mailing regarding load-in and load-out procedures, restrictions on vehicle access and/or parking, scheduled opening and closing times, and instructions from Gosport Arts Festival Staff and/or Portsmouth Police.

Failure to comply may result in expulsion from the show without refund.

Applicants should note that this is an outdoor show and is therefore subject to the whims of Mother Nature. Should the show be cancelled due to a weather emergency, there will be no refunds. Applicants should arrive at the show well prepared to deal with the unique requirements of an outdoor show, to include a sturdy tent with proper weights and means of securing it against the elements, and all materials required to set-up and display their art. Take particular note of the fact that this show is presented near the water. Participants should be prepared to weigh down and brace their displays against the wind. Also, because the booths are set up on the asphalt street, there is no place to use stakes to secure your tent or displays — your display must be freestanding

and have sufficient weights to hold it securely in place against the wind. **The Gosport Arts Festival will not provide any weights or other means of securing your display; artists must bring everything they need with them.** To protect the property of nearby artists, the Gosport Arts Festival reserves the right to require an artist to alter or increase the weights or securing method of their display. Artists who cannot or will not comply with these requirements may be dismissed from the show without refund. Rental tents, professionally set up and fully weighted and secured, are available for hire for artists who wish to make use of that service. Details will be in the acceptance letter.

