

Howard County Fair

2026 Fair Catalog Cover Art Competition

80th Annual

\$250.00 Award

Deadline: August 3rd

The Howard County Fair Board announces a competition for the 2026 Howard County Fair Catalog cover art. The winning art work will be used to design the catalog cover, posters, T-shirts, and other items to publicize the 80th Howard County Fair at the Howard County fairgrounds in August 2026. The winning artist will receive a check for \$250.00, plus a Season Pass to the 2026 Howard County Fair. This information is also available on the website at <https://howardcountyfairmd.com>

COMPETITION RULES:

1. Each entry must include a completed entry form. **Artist must sign the release on the entry form.**
2. A qualified panel will select the winning entry. All decisions are final.
3. Criteria for selection:
 - a. The subject should express the Howard County Fair experience.
 - b. The art should be suitable for use on the 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" fair catalog cover, as well as on T-shirts, posters, advertisements, etc.
4. All two-dimensional media are acceptable, including paintings, drawings, collages, photographs, tapestry, computer-generated art, giclee etc., in vertical, horizontal or square formats. Entries should be no larger than 8-1/2" x 11".
5. Entries should not be framed. Entry forms should not be attached to the art work. Do not send slides. Entries may not be submitted by mail or email. Please include name, address and telephone number on the back of the art work.
6. Text regarding the Howard County Fair name, time and place **should not be** included in the art work. The cover designer incorporates this information. Artists may sign their work.
7. Collaborative efforts will be accepted; however, all collaborators must sign the release on the entry form.
8. The winning entry will become the property of the Howard County Fair Association, Inc. The winning artist(s) must sign a transfer of ownership and copyright document within ten (10) days of notification.
9. Entries will be accepted at:

Howard County Fair Office
Saturday, August 2nd from 9 am - 7 pm
Sunday, August 3rd from 9 am - 9 pm
10. If the entry is to be returned, it can be picked up on Sunday, August 10th between 10 am and 12 Noon at the Fair Office.

The winner of the contest will be announced on Saturday, August 9th in the Show Pavilion before the premiums are awarded.

All reasonable care will be taken in the handling of entries; however, the Howard County Fair Association, Inc., cannot be responsible for loss or damage.

**2026 Howard County Fair Catalog Cover Art Competition
ENTRY FORM**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Additional Name(s) (if collaboration): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Cell:** _____

Email: _____

Media: _____

Size: _____

☐ I will pick up my entry

☐ I do not want my entry returned

RELEASE

I hereby release and hold harmless the Howard County Fair Association, Inc., and their employees, officers, agents, volunteers and assigns, from all liability for any damage whatsoever or loss of the art work I have submitted for the 2026 Howard County Fair Catalog Cover Art Competition.

I certify that my entry is my original work and it has not been used for any commercial or public purpose prior to this competition.

In the event that my entry wins first place in the 2026 Howard County Fair Catalog Cover Art Competition, I hereby agree to convey any ownership interest and copyright that I may have in my entry as its creator to the Howard County Fair Association, Inc. The conveyance shall be executed through a document provided by the Howard County Fair Association, Inc. Failure to transfer ownership interest, including copyrights, within ten (10) days of notification will result in disqualification of my entry.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(If Collaboration)