



Marketing & Downtown Development
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CALL FOR ENTRY

Macomb, IL Downtown Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition *Brought to you by City of Macomb, Western Illinois University Art Department, and the Performing Arts Society*

Exhibit Opening: June 10, 2026 **Deadline for Receipt of Entries:** April 13, 2026

OVERVIEW

The City of Macomb seeks submissions for its sixth edition of the Downtown Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition. The exhibition will feature two new sculptures installed around the Downtown for a twenty-four-month period.

The purpose of the exhibition is to enhance public engagement with contemporary sculptures while ensuring public safety, structural integrity, and compliance with applicable law.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to artists 18 years of age or older. Each artist may submit up to three (3) sculptures. All entries must be original work and of safe design and construction. Acceptable entries must be existing works, completed prior to the submission. The selected works are to be on display in Macomb, IL from **Wednesday June 10, 2026, to Friday May 26, 2028**

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All entries must include:

1. Completed Entry Application Form
2. Digital images (maximum six per sculpture)
3. Artist statement and biography
4. Current resume

Submission deadline: Monday April 13, 2026 at 5:00pm

SELECTION CRITERIA

Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- Artistic merit
- Structural integrity and durability
- Suitability for outdoor public display
- Public safety considerations

- Appropriateness for a municipal public setting

The City reserves full discretion in selection as part of its curatorial function.

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

Selected works must:

- Be capable of secure anchoring to a City-provided 4'x4'x4' pedestal or foundation
- Withstand weather, temperature extremes, wind, and public interaction
- Be free of sharp edges, unstable components, climbing hazards, or breakable elements
- Be maintenance-free for the duration of the exhibition
- Comply with applicable safety standards

The City reserves the right to inspect all works and require modifications to address safety concerns.

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

The City maintains general liability insurance coverage for its operations. Coverage is subject to the terms, conditions, and exclusions of the City's insurance policies and does not insure against theft, vandalism, or damage to artwork.

Artists are solely responsible for insuring their artwork for its full value during transportation, installation, exhibition, and removal.

Artists must execute an Artist Agreement, including indemnification provisions compliant with Illinois law, prior to installation.

INSTALLATION

Artists are responsible for delivery, installation, and removal. Installation must comply with all applicable safety standards. The City reserves the right to require structural documentation for large or complex installations.

Artists are responsible for the delivery, installation, and removal of the artwork according to the timeline agreed upon with the City of Macomb. The City of Macomb will provide limited assistance and supervision of the installation and de-installation of artwork. Sculptures must be installed no later than Wednesday June 10, 2026 and must be removed within 90 days following the conclusion of the exhibition period. Any sculptures that cannot meet the scheduled installation and de-installation dates will be disqualified and an alternate piece will be chosen.

HONORARIUM

Selected artists will receive a \$1,500 honorarium. The honorarium covers transportation, installation, removal, and all associated costs. Any additional expenses are the responsibility of the artist.

SALES

Artwork may be offered for sale during the exhibition. The City shall receive a 20% commission on all sales initiated during the exhibition period. Commission terms will be governed by the Artist Agreement.

Artwork may not be removed prior to the close of the exhibition without written approval from the City.

PURCHASE BY CITY

The City may purchase exhibited artwork subject to City Council approval and appropriation. Terms will be established by written agreement.

COPYRIGHT

Artists retain full copyright ownership. Artists grant the City a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to photograph and reproduce images of the artwork for promotional, archival, educational, and governmental purposes in perpetuity. No commercial reproduction rights are transferred.

SELECTION PROCESS

All entrants will be reviewed by a panel of Macomb community leaders and artists. Judging will be based on the Selection Criteria stated above.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All entries must include the following:

1. Completed Entry Application Form.
2. Digital images of submitted work. Maximum of three entries per artist. Maximum of six images per entry. Each image should be labeled with image number, artist name, and entry title (ex: 1.Artistname.title.jpg).
3. Artist statement and brief artist biography.
4. Current professional resume.

* Deadline for submission is Monday, April 13, 2026 by 5:00 pm. All entrants will receive email notification of results by Friday May 8, 2026.

All submissions mailed must be mailed with a data lash drive. All submissions by email must be in word document or PDF file.

Submit materials to:
City of Macomb – Office of Marketing & Downtown Development
Attn: Savannah Ballard
232 E. Jackson St.
Macomb, IL 61455

Or email to: sballard@cityofmacomb.com

Any incomplete entries will not be considered.