

Call to Artists

Comic Arts & Manga Exhibition



The Salem Art Association's Bush Barn Art Center is excited to celebrate the creativity of young artists with a **Comic Arts & Manga Exhibition** in the Annex Gallery, on view **November–December 2026**.

Artists ages **8–18** are invited to submit original works inspired by **manga, comics, cartoons, and pop art**. We encourage bold colors, imaginative storytelling, and creative expression in this vibrant exhibition.

As part of our commitment to supporting young artists, this exhibition provides an opportunity for amateur, emerging, and established youth artists to showcase their work and share their unique artistic voices.

Artwork will be selected through a jury process based on **originality, craftsmanship, and overall presentation**. There is **no fee to apply**, but space is limited.

Entry Guidelines

- **Theme: Comic Arts & Manga**

Artists are invited to submit work inspired by manga, comics, cartoons, and pop art. This exhibition celebrates bold visuals, expressive storytelling, vibrant color, and the creative energy found within these styles. Submissions may explore any subject matter as long as the work reflects or is inspired by the Pop Art, manga, comic, or cartoon aesthetic.

- **Fan Art Policy**

Fan art submissions are welcome for this exhibition. However, all works must be reinterpreted through the artist's own creative style and approach. Artists should not replicate or closely imitate the original animation, comic, or show style. Submissions must clearly demonstrate personal artistic expression, originality, and a unique visual interpretation of the source inspiration.

- **Accepted Media**

Includes but is not limited to oil, watercolor, acrylic, charcoal, pastel, colored pencil, mixed media, printmaking, photography and digital illustration,

- **AI Policy**

AI generated artwork will not be accepted. All submitted work must be original and created entirely by the artist without the use of artificial intelligence image generation tools. This exhibition is dedicated to celebrating human creativity, originality, and personal expression.

- **Presentation Requirements**

- All 2D artwork and photography must be properly framed or gallery wrapped on canvas at a minimum depth of 1 1/4 inches with painted edges and no visible staples.

- Maximum size is 42 inches in either direction.
- All artwork must be wired for hanging. Sawtooth hangers are not permitted.

- **Sales & Commission**

- All artwork must be for sale.
- The Salem Art Association retains a 50 percent commission on all sales.
- Sold works will remain on display until the end of the exhibition and will be released to buyers after closing.

- **Additional Guidelines**

- Entries must comply with copyright laws.
- Accepted artwork must be hand delivered to the Bush Barn Art Center with a clearly labeled identification tag including artist name, title, medium, and price.
- Artwork not picked up within 30 days after the exhibition closes will become property of the Salem Art Association
- The Salem Art Association reserves the right to refuse any work that does not meet guidelines or is deemed inappropriate, offensive, or improperly presented.

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

- Each artist is responsible for insurance of his or her artwork. While all care will be taken while art is being exhibited in the Bush Barn Art Center, Salem Art Association and its members or anyone working on the exhibition, assumes no responsibility for any damage to the artwork during delivery, installation, and de-installation. SAA will not be liable for artwork not claimed after specified pick-up dates and times.

PUBLICITY

- Images of works may be used for SAA marketing and on social media.

ASSISTANCE

- Contact galleries@salemart.org

ENTRY FEE:

- **There is no fee to enter this juried exhibition**
- You will receive an email from galleries@salemart.org confirming your submission has been processed. You will be notified by email if your work has been accepted.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Digital file submissions.

- File Format: JPEG or PNG
- Resolution: 300 DPI (Dots Per Inch)
- 1920 pixels on the longest side. Approximately 6.4inches

What if I have physical artwork like a painting or ink drawing?

- You can use either a smartphone camera or a digital scanner (set to 300dpi) and crop as needed.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, September 25, 2026

- Submission Deadline
- Images must be uploaded and received by 11:59 pm.

Friday, October 9 2026

- Acceptance emails sent. You will not receive an email if your work has not been accepted. We would like to include everyone's work in the exhibit; however, space is limited.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, October 23 - 25, 2026

- Artwork delivered to Salem Art Association Bush Barn Art Center between noon and 4:00 pm
Please contact SAA if an earlier drop-off is required.
Late artwork will not be included as the exhibit as curating will be affected.

Friday, November 6, 2026 Opening Reception. 5:30 – 7:30 pm

- Open House Reception - View artwork, meet the artists, and enjoy light refreshments.
Free and open to the public.

EXHIBITION DATES

November 6, 2026 – December, 23, 2026

Open to the public | Wednesday – Sunday | 12 noon – 4:00 pm

Pick up work, January 6 - 10, 2027 between 12 noon and 4pm.