

MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



**ARTIST APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in being a Milton Public Library Art Walk artist!

Here at Milton Public Library, we aspire to bridge the gap between local artists and the Milton community by bringing the two together in our Story Gardens space through an Art Walk that is free and accessible to all visitors. **We are excited to share that this year's shape is a poppy.** The library will be hosting a community-wide read for the book *Wizard of Oz*, and we're excited to include the Art Walk as part of this initiative.

Hundreds of people are expected to view and engage with the Art Walk while visiting the Milton Public Library and Story Gardens. We see this as an exciting opportunity for local artists to gain recognition and to participate in and elevate the local arts culture. Artists and their work will be promoted in print and social media, at events, and on public display with their art pieces.

All the pieces will be on display in Story Gardens during the month of August and auctioned off on **Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 5:00 pm**, as a fundraiser for the library to support the continued development and maintenance of Story Gardens. Pieces WILL NOT be returned to the artists.

Artists who would like to participate must submit:

- A template illustrating their proposed design (see attached for template)
- Digital files showing up to 3 examples of their previous work
- The Artists Application form (see attached)

Eighteen (18) artists and their designs will be chosen for the 2026 Art Walk exhibit.

#### **Application Dates:**

- All materials can be submitted via email to [colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org](mailto:colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org) or dropped off at Milton Public Library, 430 E. Hight Street, Milton, WI 53563 by **Friday, March 13, 2026**, for review by the MPL Art Walk Committee.
- Selected artists will be contacted directly and announced the week of **March 30, 2026**.

#### **Art Walk Committee Selection Considerations:**

1. The Art Walk Committee is looking for pieces that demonstrate originality, artistic excellence, and are visually compelling.
2. The Art Walk Committee is looking for artists who have a connection to or roots in **Milton, Wisconsin**.

#### **Art Walk Dates:**

- **Week of January 19, 2026**
  - Applications will be available for download or pick up.
- **Friday, March 13, 2026**
  - All applications must be submitted to the library or to [colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org](mailto:colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org).
- **Week of March 30, 2026**
  - Selected artists will be contacted directly and announced.
- **Monday, April 20 – Friday, April 24, 2026**
  - Poppies will be available for artists to pick up during library hours upon receipt of completed artist agreement.

- **Friday, July 17, 2026**
  - Completed pieces must be returned to Milton Public Library by this date.
- **Friday, July 31, 2026**
  - Poppies will be set up for public display in the Milton Public Library's Story Gardens.
  - 5:00 pm - Artists Reception to be held in the Milton Public Library's Story Gardens.
- **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**
  - 5:00 pm - Poppies will be auctioned off at Milton Public Library's Story Gardens.

#### **Design Criteria for Art Walk:**

1. Designs must be appropriate for public display. Designs that are religious, political, or sexual in nature, or use corporate logos or advertising will not be accepted.
2. The MPL Art Walk is a public art exhibit. The art pieces will be in an outdoor location where the public may touch the designs. Designs should be created with durability and safety in mind.
3. One side of the art piece must be decorated, but both sides will be sanded and primed. The artist is welcome to paint both sides of the piece, however, please note that the back would be partially obstructed by rebar.
4. Artists may alter the basic form but cannot compromise its structural integrity.
5. To see previous pieces of art featured in our Art Walk, please visit the library's website at [www.miltonpubliclibrary.org/art-walk](http://www.miltonpubliclibrary.org/art-walk).

#### **Technical & Materials Guide:**

- If chosen, every artist will be provided with the same approximately 3'x3' pre-sanded and primed, plywood cutout of a poppy.
  - The inside center or circle of the poppy will be a 3D layer of wood
- Be advised that all art pieces will be sprayed with a weatherproof clear coat before being put out for public display OUTDOORS. The Milton Public Library Art Walk committee will cover the costs of this step. Please plan your art medium and design with this in mind.
  - Please note that certain materials used in past years did fade from the sunlight. These materials included light colored acrylic paint (particularly oranges and pinks) and colored paper.
  - If your proposed piece has 3D elements, it may be determined that a clear coat cannot be applied. If no clear coat is applied, it'll be recommended at the auction that the piece stays indoors.
  - Artists may choose to seal their piece themselves if they wish.
- **Holes will be pre-drilled for the brackets at the approximate locations displayed on the template below. Please do not fill in these holes.**
- Brackets and rebar for the installation of the piece will be provided by the library.

If you have any questions about the application, the selection process, or the Art Walk in general, please reach out to Ashlee at [kunkel.ashlee@miltonpubliclibrary.org](mailto:kunkel.ashlee@miltonpubliclibrary.org) or Ashley at [colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org](mailto:colstad.ashley@miltonpubliclibrary.org).

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**Artists Application** *Deadline for Submission – Friday, March 13, 2026*

*Please Print Clearly.*

**Name:**

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**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

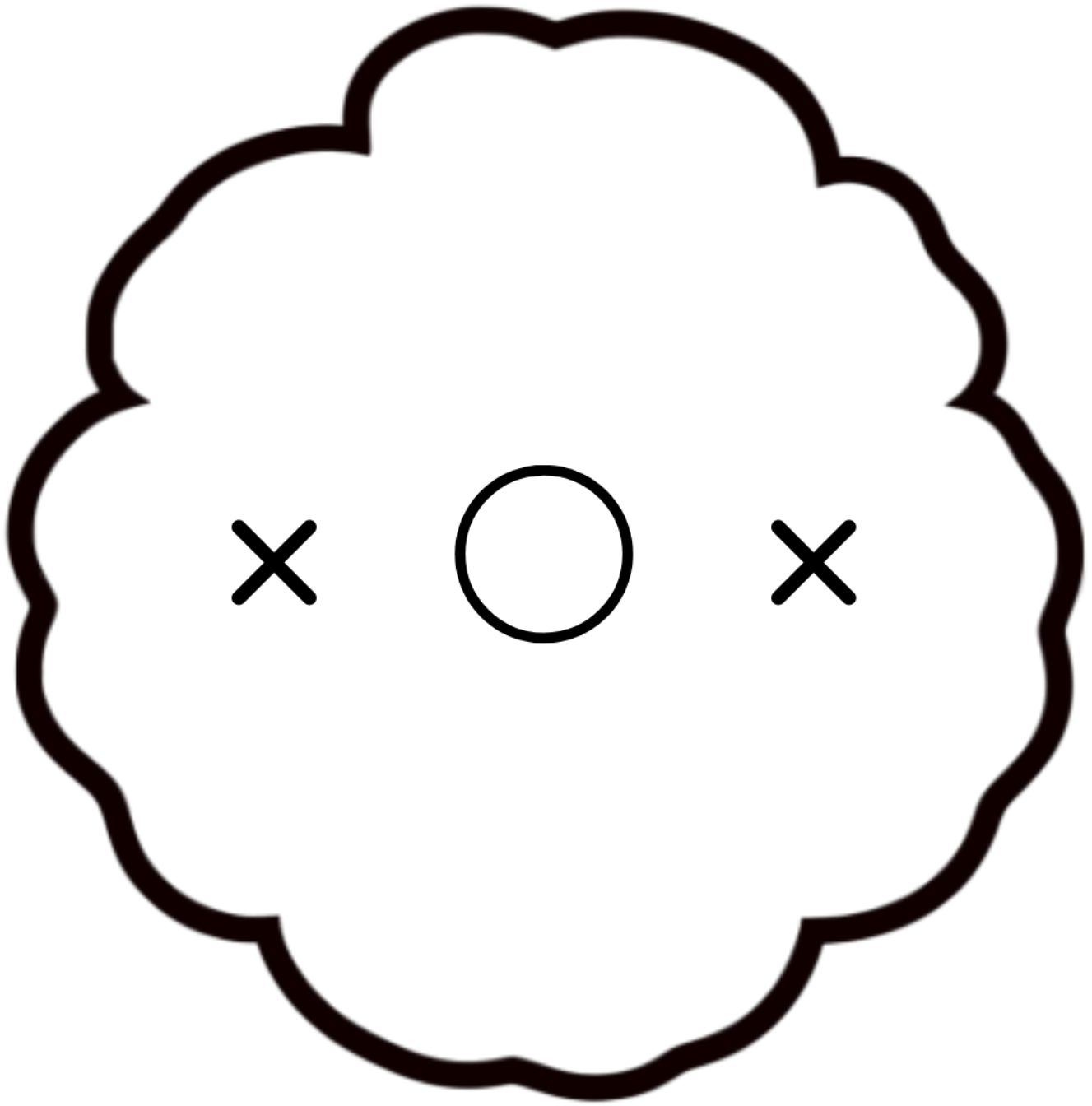
**Title of your proposed art piece (if known at this time):**

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**Design Statement:** *(Brief description of design, how it will be made, and the materials you intend to use.)*

Please sketch or draw your concept in the outline below. You may provide additional sketches or illustrations if necessary to show detail.

The X's indicate hole placement for the brackets. Dimensions are approximately 3' x 3'.



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_