Bel Air Festival for the Arts

September 17, 2017 Rain or Shine
9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Shamrock Park behind Bel Air Town Hall 30 Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, Maryland
www.belairfestival.com

Please read the following carefully to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings. Print and save for your records to avoid questions later.

Welcome Exhibitors: Each year the Bel Air Festival for the Arts draws about 20,000 visitors who select handcrafted items, fine arts, and photography from 350 exhibitors. You are invited to apply now for participation in our 2017 Festival.

Please Note: The Bel Air Festival for the Arts is a *RAIN OR SHINE* event. **If you are not equipped to exhibit in inclement weather, do not apply to this show.**

Registration: To apply, print and fill out the application form and return it with your check and photos (if required) to:

Bel Air Festival for the Arts
30381 Temperanceville Rd.
Temperanceville, VA 23442

Applications will be accepted until all booths are filled. Jurying and booth assignments will begin April 15th.

- If you participated in the 2016 festival, you will have first preference to remain in that booth if you apply by April 15th. After that date, returning to the 2016 booth assignment cannot be guaranteed.
- If you are requesting an end booth or preferred area, applying by April 15th will give you the best chance of having your request honored; however this cannot be guaranteed.

ATTENTION: Festival acceptance information is no longer mailed. On May 1st, a link will be available on the Bel Air Festival for the Arts homepage, directing you to a list of accepted applicants in booth number order, by **program name.** During the first week of May, all accepted applicants will receive an email notification of their acceptance. **Please 'reply' to this email to confirm that your email address is correct.** *Applicants who are not accepted into the festival will receive notification via US mail along with their booth fee check by May 1st.

Fees: The fee for a single 10' x 10' space is **$125.00**. Double spaces, 10' x 20' are **$250.00**. This fee is non-refundable after July 1st**.** Youth spaces are **FREE**.

- The significant increase in booth fee this year was caused by unexpected 2016 festival expenses related to security which were beyond the committee's ability to plan for. As a result, this year, festival sponsorships will be sought to defray these costs. It is a committee goal to lower the booth fee in 2018. Your understanding of this year's dilemma is appreciated.

Please make your check payable to: Bel Air Festival for the Arts

Do not send applications by certified or registered mail, as post office pick-up cannot be guaranteed. To assure that your application was received, you may include a self-addressed stamped postcard that we will mail back to you when your application is opened.

Eligibility: Recent years have seen an increase in the attempt to display and sell "Buy Sell" items—goods purchased by the crafter and then sold under his/her name. Sale of this merchandise is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** in our show. **All items must be hand made by the person(s) signing the**

application and that person must be in attendance the day of the Festival. In addition, **NO** commercially produced items will be accepted. The festival committee reserves the right to pass judgment in regard to both of the above rules of eligibility not only when reviewing applications, but also on the day of the show. Those found not to be in compliance will be asked to leave. **All craft items for sale at the festival must be completed craft projects. No unfinished products will be allowed**. This includes unfinished wood items, bunches of dried/fresh flowers and kits. This applies to youth exhibitors as well. Again this year we are asking each exhibitor to help us police our "buy/sell" policy by looking at adjacent booths and reporting to us any exhibitors suspected to be in violation of the rules.

Jurying: Craft category applications will be juried to insure a broad variety in the show and to include the best quality and most originality in each category. Artist, photography, and youth spaces are not juried and will be filled in the order in which they are received.

- In the past few years the jewelry category has filled quickly. If you plan to exhibit jewelry, you are encouraged to apply early, before the category is 'closed'.

Photos: Decisions of the jury are based solely on photos submitted with each application. Craft applicants must submit three photos (3 ½ X 5 or 4 X 6 inch size) with each application. Do not submit slides. Two of the photos should show items in enough detail to convey the quality of work. The third photo must show the complete display, preferably as it will be arranged in a show. Drawings will not be accepted. All crafts applicants must submit photos, even those who have been in the show previously. Applications without photos will not be accepted. Photos should highlight what is unique to your work, be recent and accurately show each type of work you display. Please note: photos **will not** be returned to any applicant. All decisions of the jury are final. **Artists and photographers** must send one photo representing their work. **Youth applicants** do not need to send photos.

Judging: Judging will be done in the Art and Photography categories only. 1st place--$250.00, 2nd place--$100.00, 3rd place--$50.00. (If any category has fewer than 5 entries, that category will not be judged.)

Youth Spaces: Fifteen spaces are reserved for youth artists or craft persons, age 16 and under. There is no jurying in this category, which is filled on a first come, first served basis. Youth spaces are 7 feet wide by 10 feet deep and the space is free. Face painting is permitted and will be limited to the first two requests. Please list the kind of items that you will be bringing (artwork, jewelry, etc.). All items displayed must be made by the youth exhibitor named on the contract. The youth exhibitor must man his/her booth. Photos are not necessary.

Space Preferences: Every effort will be made to honor requests for specific spaces or general locations. If you have a preference, please mark it on the application form. **Space preference cannot be guaranteed**.

Returning Exhibitors: Assignment to last year's booth cannot be guaranteed after April 15th.

Tax Numbers: If you do not have a tax number from the State of Maryland, write "none" in that space on the application form. We are required to provide this information to the State. You will be issued a temporary tax number to use the day of the show.

Alternates: A list of alternates to be used to fill in cancellations will be selected during the jury process. **EVERY GUARANTEED ALTERNATE SELECTED WILL BE IN THE SHOW**.

Please Note the Following:

1. The use of microphone or voice projection equipment is prohibited on the Festival grounds.

2. If you require a generator for use during the show, you must **indicate** and **highlight** this request on the application. You will be placed in an area that will cause the least disruption to the other exhibitors. Any generator must be classified as being a silent or quiet type.

3. Set-up begins Saturday September 16th at 12:00 noon.

4. Smoking is prohibited in or around the exhibitor booths.

5. Books for sale at the Bel Air Festival for the Arts must have a direct tie-in to Harford County. (Historical or historical fiction, compilations of photographs or art of or from Harford County, etc.)

6. Exhibitors may not sell food or beverages in any form. This includes but is not limited to dips, soups, oils/vinegars, mixes, nuts, sauces, jams, jellies, candies, honey, etc.

Questions? Email: paintedstitches@aol.com or call 443-616-6708.