

South Dakota Arts Council Art For State Buildings ARTS COUNCIL Program



2026 Open Call For Art

The South Dakota Arts Council announces the 2026 open call for the Art For State Buildings Program. Artwork selected will be purchased for display in publicly accessible areas in state government buildings in and near the State Capitol Building in Pierre, SD. Purchase proposals are accepted on an annual basis.

Proposal Deadline: March 1, 2026

Submit to the call online via Artwork Archive

CRITERIA

Artwork submitted is scored based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence is evaluated based on the quality of the artist's proposed work and the relevance to the artist's career;
- The artwork's relevance to South Dakota's environment, history, heritage, or culture;
- The applicant's professional arts experience;
- The physical attributes of the artwork in durability of materials; including the safety of the artwork and the safety of the viewer in a public setting.

HOW TO SUBMIT TO THE CALL:

- 1. Create your free ArtworkArchive.com account and complete your profile. Include your contact information and bio (text input).
- 2. While in your profile, upload an image of the one artwork you plan to submit. The only other requirements are artwork title, medium, date of completion, dimensions, price (no negotiations). Include a caption/statement about the art (text input).
- 3. Now you are ready to submit. While you are logged into Artwork Archive, you may click on Dashboard, and locate Call Submissions at the bottom of the page and click on Find New Opportunities. Search for South Dakota and you'll see this call listing. You may also access the call for art by direct link. Click here: 2026 Call for Art
- 4. Review the criteria and eligibility, upload your one artwork, fill in any remaining fields relevant to item #2 listed above, and click Submit.

Anna Youngers Kevin Aker ordan Thornton

Eligibility

ARTISTS:

- Artists currently age 18 or older, who reside in South Dakota (or whose primary residence during the majority of their art career has been in South Dakota) are eligible.
- Artists whose artwork has already been purchased through this program are eligible, though preference may be given to artists new to the program.

ARTWORK:

- One original artwork may be proposed. This program invests in real South Dakota artists who create original artworks that reflect our people, our land, our history, and our spirit. At this time, artwork generated via artificial intelligence (AI) is ineligible.
- Artwork proposed for completion in the future (proposed frame selections, etc.) is ineligible. There are no negotiations. Artwork must be completely finished. including framing if applicable, ready for installation, and available for purchase. Proof of these requirements should be represented in the photo submitted. If an artwork proposed is currently being exhibited and the artist chooses to sell the artwork while scoring is still underway for this program, the artwork is deemed ineligible and the artist cannot propose more artwork.
- Artwork that is framed (excluding paintings with wrapped canvas) must be professionally framed with paper backing, finished edge, glazed, archivally matted, etc.
- Artwork (including photography) printed on canvas wrap or adhered to glass/Plexiglass/acrylic is ineligible due to lack of durability required.
- Artwork that is to be wall-mounted must be wired for hanging; no brackets are allowed.
- Artwork must be original and two-dimensional or threedimensional in form. Reproductions are ineligible (e.g., a print reproduction of a painting will NOT be considered.)
- Artwork cannot depict images with reproduction rights not held by the artist.
- Artwork completed within the last five years may given preference by the selection committee.
- Artwork price should also include any costs in framing if applicable. There are no price negotiations.

TIMELINE - 2026

March 1, 11:59 pm: Deadline for online submission

March 9: Selection committee begins review

March 27: Selection committee reports

April 10: Notification of acceptance/rejection

May 1: Purchase documents signed; art pickups complete

May 31: Payments received by artists.

Click here to create your profile and submit to this call today!

