

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

A Statement from ArtFields©

After months of silence we have a message from ArtFields©.

\$110,000 Art Competition Welcomes Submissions from All Southeastern Artists

Lake City, South Carolina— ArtFields®, the community-focused art festival that awards \$110,000 to artists from the twelve Southeastern states each year, will begin accepting submissions for the competition on September 14, 2015, through the ArtFields© website (www.artfieldssc.org). Running until 11:59pm on November 13, 2015, this submission period is open to all interested artists who currently live in the Southeast (defined as Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia) and offers all artists a shot at winning their share of \$110,000 in cash prizes during the ArtFields© Finale party, to be held on April 30, 2016.

Since 2013, the ArtFields© competition has offered life-changing amounts of money to talented artists as diverse as experimental environmental master Craig Colorusso, assemblage artist Kirkland Smith, and denim topography artist James Arendt. During the nine days of the festival, 400 works of art are hung in local venues—ranging from restaurants to boutiques to pottery studios—and open for the public's vote. In incorporating art into the daily life of Lake City, ArtFields© enriches the lives of residents and visitors, as well as artists—indeed, the average sales of art during ArtFields© stands at \$22,000. The ArtFields© festival (running from April 22-30, 2016) draws thousands of visitors

from across the Southeast and beyond, all of whom can vote in the People's Choice 2-D and 3-D prize category and the \$50,000 Grand Prize. Jurors award the \$25,000 prize and select ten artists for The Citizens Bank Merit Awards of \$1,000 each. Each year, ArtFields© receives submissions from students, industry professionals, renowned artists, and amateur strivers, so no matter what level of recognition or attainment, all artists are encouraged to submit; your single submission to ArtFields© may yield benefits beyond your expectations.

Submissions will be accepted between 12:01am on September 14 through 11:59pm on November 13, 2015. Please visit (www.artfieldssc.org) for more information.

ArtFields® is a charitable enterprise supported by the Lake City Community Foundation and the Lake City Partnership Council and through collaboration with the Community Museum Society and the City of Lake City. For more information about the ArtFields® or the submission process for artists, please contact Sandy Cook, ArtFields© at 843/374-0180 or e-mail to (artteam@artfieldssc.org). For more about the community of Lake City, please contact Rob Bockman at 843/374-0138.

Pay Attention to This

If you haven't already started working on your entry for the 2016 ArtFields© - get started. Register your entry early not later. Be a pal and tell your artist friends about this opportunity - you can only win one prize.

If you make the 400 cut, you may not win a cash prize, but you could end up selling your work or getting an exhibit.

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