

Call for Entries

Art of Fire Art Fair

June 12-13, 2021

The Michigan Silversmiths Guild (MSG) was founded in 1948. Guild members include craftspersons proficient in the field of metalsmithing and serves to broaden the knowledge of its members craft and to facilitate communication with other metalsmiths.

In accordance with this mission, MSG and the City of Royal Oak will again sponsor two booths for the 2021 Art of Fire Art Fair. In return for a reduced booth rate, MSG has agreed to provide metalsmithing demonstrations for the general public.

ELIGIBILITY: All MSG members are eligible to apply, and members who are interested in learning about art fairs or may be considering this as a career path are especially encouraged to apply. NO PREVIOUS ART FAIR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. All work submitted must be made by the applicant.

If you are not currently a member or are not current with your dues, please fill out the MSG membership form available on our web site (misilversmith.org) and include it (with membership fee) along with this application.

EXHIBITION RULES: Four artists will be selected to participate in the fair. Accepted artists are required to be in attendance for the duration of the 2-day fair and to work together as a group to carry out all aspects of the art fair booth. They are also required to participate in setup and tear down of the booth. Other tasks could include: creating publicity, transferring booth materials to/from storage, daily display setup, selling the art work of all accepted artists, promoting the Guild and answering questions, etc.

NOTE- ONLY CLAY, GLASS, AND METAL ARE ACCEPTED FOR THIS VENUE. WORK MAY INCORPORATE OTHER ELEMENTS BUT MUST BE PRIMARILY CLAY, GLASS OR METAL - NO POLYMERS SUCH AS PRECIOUS METAL CLAY WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Additionally, as noted above, all accepted artists will participate in demonstrations of various metalsmithing skills, and applicants will be asked to provide information on the planned demonstrations and equipment needs as part of the application process. Artists should plan for a minimum of two-hour demonstrations each day. Note: demonstrations that include audience participation and 'make-n'take' activities are encouraged.

SHIPPING, LIABILITY, AND SALES: While MSG has event insurance, each artist is still responsible for their own insurance and will be asked to sign a waiver. Instructions for submitting work will be included in the acceptance letter.

MSG will not take a commission, and in return for providing demonstrations, MSG is not being charged a booth fee.

ENTRY PROCEDURE: This application is specifically for selling work at the MSG Booth at the 2021 Art of Fire Art Fair in Royal Oak, MI. Applications can be submitted either electronically or by mail. Please note that electronic submission is preferred.

- **Electronic:** Submit up to 4 images of your work along with a scanned image of the completed application via e-mail to misilversmith1949@gmail.com, and forward the \$25 application fee via mail to the address on the application form.
- **Mail:** Submit up to 4 images of your work along with the completed application form and \$25 application fee.

Applicants will be notified electronically of acceptance. Please note that applicants will not be considered without receipt of the application fee.

All images will become property of MSG and may be used for publicity purposes. Mailed applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2021. E-mailed applications must be received before midnight, April 30, 2021.

Images should be representative of the body of work you plan to sell at the MSG booth.

FORMAT: Images must be submitted on a CD or as an e-mail attachment - TIFF and JPG files at 300 dpi only. Files should be no larger than 10 MB. Digital images must be labeled with last name and entry number (e.g., Smith1.jpg).

CDs must be labeled with the artist's name and phone number. CDs will not be returned.

PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS: As your photographs are the ONLY way the jurors can judge the quality of your work, please use the following tips when taking your images.

- Focus. Make sure your work is in focus. The jurors will want to be able to see the quality of your finishing.
- No signatures/watermarks. The jurying process is supposed to be based solely on the quality of work presented; marks identifying an artist could consciously or unconsciously lead to bias.
- No black and white photographs. Grayscale filters might make for dramatic images, but it is not representative of how your work will look to most people in real life.
- Minimal backgrounds. The emphasis of your photographs should be solely on the work, itself; anything that might distract from that should be kept to a minimum. This means no textured, patterned, or colored backgrounds, and no props beyond those you might need to support your work (for instance, a neck form for a necklace). Think more "clinical documentation" and less "artistic advertisement." When in doubt, plain black, white, or gray paper are always safe background choices, and furthermore can be curved to create that "seamless" look.
- Good lighting. Lighting is arguably the most complicated part when it comes to getting a good photograph, but some simple guidelines are to make sure you have plenty of it (ideally from more than one direction), and only one type of it (for instance, don't mix daylight with a soft white halogen bulb).

THE JURORS: Current and past MSG board members, along with the Art Fairs Committee, will act as the jurors of this show.

CALENDAR:

April 30	Application due - (postmarked or received electronically by this date)
May 15	Acceptance/Rejection notifications e-mailed
June 11	Booth set-up
June 12-13	Art Fair
June 13	Booth tear down

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail misilversmith1949@gmail.com, or contact either Doug Bowman or Charlotte Allen at:

- **Doug: 734-377-1854**
- **Charlotte: 734-417-0069**

Application Form
Art of Fire Art Fair
June 12-13, 2021

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
E-mail: _____

Send application to:
Mail: MSG c/o D. Bowman
11440 Loveland St
Livonia, MI 48150
E-mail: misilversmith1949@gmail.com

ARTIST IMAGES:

Image 1:
Title: _____
Medium: _____
Size: _____
Cost: _____

Image 2:
Title: _____
Medium: _____
Size: _____
Cost: _____

Image 3:
Title: _____
Medium: _____
Size: _____
Cost: _____

Image 4:
Title: _____
Medium: _____
Size: _____
Cost: _____

VENUE:

I am interested in participating in the Royal Oak Art of Fire Art Fair if the venue is:

Outdoor venue: _____ Virtual venue: _____ Both venues: _____

ARTIST DEMONSTRATION:

During the fair, I plan to demonstrate the following metalsmithing technique(s):

For these demonstrations I will require the following tools/equipment: -

I can provide all the tools/equipment needed

I will need MSG to provide the following tools/equipment:

ARTIST CHECK LIST:

- Application Form
- Membership/renewal form (if needed)
- Up to 4 images, labeled
- Check or money order for \$25, payable to Michigan Silversmiths Guild (MSG)

I hereby comply with the provisions of this application -

Signature: _____

Date: _____