

Heartland Art Club Signature Status Application Guidelines 2026

HAC will accept applications for Signature Membership through the online application form on the HAC website. The application period will open January 9th, 2026, and will close at 11:59 p.m. CT on April 26, 2026.

Applications are welcome from representational fine artists creating 2D artwork in the traditional drawing, painting, and/or printmaking (must be original, hand-pulled/colored) media, fine art photography, and 3D sculptures in the traditional casting, carving, and/or modeling techniques (sculptures that incorporate 3D printing will not be considered).

At this time, collages, paper cutting, assemblage/found object works, textile/fiber art, and computer-generated works such as fractal/algorithmic, 2D digital painting, manual vector drawing, 2D computer graphics are not eligible for Signature Membership.

If you have any additional questions regarding permissible media or any other aspect of this policy, please contact us at art@heartlandartclub.org.

Application Process

Applicants will submit ten samples of their finest representational artwork for evaluation by the jury panel. 2D artists should only submit 1 image of each entry – please do not submit detail views of 2D work. 3D artists should submit at least 2 views for each artwork (maximum 3 views per entry). While we are not asking artists to date their artworks in their applications, we request that they submit images that are representative of the body of work they are actively producing.

Images

All images for review must be entirely original works, from concept to creation, created by a single artist (i.e., no collaborative works). Copies of works by other artists, as well as work completed under the supervision or with the assistance of an instructor, are not eligible.

Images must be formatted according to the following specifications: JPG/JPEG; 1500 pixels max on the longest side; maximum file size 2MB per image. Please save your image files in the following format: Last Name_Title_Medium – for example: Smith_Harmony_Oil.

Applicants are expected to submit images that accurately represent the actual artworks and to ensure that the presentation of their images adheres to professional standards (i.e., straight, without glare, without frame or matting, etc.). Entries may not be digitally edited, enhanced, or altered in any way, except as necessary to ensure the most

accurate representation of the work in the submitted image (e.g., minor color corrections or minimization of defects, such as glare, straightening of format, that improve the accuracy of, but do not otherwise enhance, the image).

Application Fee

All applicants must pay the \$100 application fee. The fee funds judges' stipends. Any application that does not include the fee will be disqualified.

Membership

Applicants must be a current HAC member to apply for Signature Membership. Applicants accepted for Signature Membership will not be required to pay membership fees until January 2027.

Gallery Agreement

By applying for Signature Membership, the applicant agrees to the Gallery Agreement. The Gallery Agreement can be found on the website at <https://heartlandartclub.org/gallery-agreement/>