

*National Black Bear Festival*  
*2026 Photography & Art Show*

The show is a judged art show that will be held June 5, 2026, through June 7, 2026 at the Roanoke River Maritime Museum located at 206 West Water St. in Plymouth, NC. The show is open to professionals, amateurs and 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

*Arts Show Calendar*

- May 21-23, 2026, May 28-30, 2026 or June 2-4, 2026: Submission of artwork between 11am & 3pm at the Roanoke River Maritime Museum (call if you need to make an appointment after hours).
- June 5, 2026, 3:30pm: Judging of artwork.
- June 5, 2026, 6:00pm -8:00pm Reception for Queens, Participating Artist and invited Guest.
- June 6, 2026, 10:00am – 4:00pm, exhibition open to public.
- June 6, 2026, Artwork may be picked up between 4:00pm- 5:00pm or on June 10-13, 2026, from 11:00am- 3:00pm. Please call the museum at 252-217-2204 before you come (10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>), to make sure someone will be there to meet you.

## Awards and Categories

Ribbons will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category. The Judge may withhold awards if he/she chooses to do so. (THE JUDGE'S DECISION IS FINAL)

### Awards:

- **Best in Show -----\$300**
- **First Place in each category -----\$100**

### Categories:

#### *Art*

1. Oils/Acrylics/watercolor
2. Drawing- pencil, colored pencil, oil paster, chalk pastel, pen and ink, etc. and Two-Dimensional Mixed Media.
3. Three- Dimensional Art: (Sculpture, Pottery, Handcrafted Jewelry, Metal and Glass, Fiber Arts, Wood & Papper; such as tapestry, quilting, basketry, wood & other fibers.)

#### *Photography* (Any size. Must be framed or on canvas)

1. Wildlife
2. Landscapes/Still Life
3. People

#### *Student Art & Photography*

For Students, the submissions listed previously will be combined into one category. There will be an overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize ribbon. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner will receive a \$100 cash prize.

## Rules of Exhibitors:

1. **Entry Fee:** A maximum of 4 works per artist may be submitted.  
A fee of \$25 for 1-2 works and \$10 for each additional work up to four pieces. (Student entries are free, up to four pieces)
2. **Eligibility:** Only original works completed within the last two years are eligible. No kit or commercial mold work will be accepted. Show organizers reserve the right to disqualify any work whose content in its judgement, does not meet generally accepted community standards of “good taste”.
3. **Framing:** Most 2-D work must be framed (see exception in #4). Framing must be sound & substantial for the artwork, **strung with wire** & ready to hang. That includes photography, oils, acrylics, watercolors, pen and inks, pastels, charcoals, mixed media, etc.
4. **Exceptions to #3:** Framing is not required for 2-D work on stretched canvas if painted and/or finished on all exposed sides. However, it must be **strung with wire** & ready to hang to be accepted. Saw tooth hangers are not acceptable.
5. **Set-Up:** All work will be hung and displayed by the Gallery Committee.
6. **Registration:** No pre-registration is required.
7. **Submission:** For each entry, fill out a 3x5 index card and affix to the artwork providing the information below. Please print clearly.
  - Name, Mailing Address, City, State
  - Category
  - Title of entry
  - Price (if not for sale, write NFS for price) At least one piece of artwork must be for sale.

8. **Pick-Up:** Artwork may be picked up between 4:00pm-5:00pm on June 6, 2026, or June 10-13, 2026, from 11:00am-3:00pm. Call first !!!  
252-217-2204
  
9. **Responsibility:** The National Black Bear Festival, Roanoke River Maritime Museum, Washington County Arts Council and the Washington County Waterways Commission are not responsible for loss or damage of artworks entered in the show. Exhibitors are solely responsible for their work and should ensure work if they desire. Submission of entries implies acceptance of all conditions stated in these rules.
  
10. **Sales:** At least one entry must be for sale. The Bear Festival retains 30% commission on all sales and artists should include this commission in the retail price.
  
11. **Agreement:** The listing of all entries and artist signature is required on a Separate Terms of Agreement form.