

WATER BARREL WONDERS

Transform a Rain Barrel into a Functional Work of Art!

Artist Application Packet



Deadline for Submission is Wednesday, April 29th, 2026

Concept and Theme

Transform a rain barrel into an original, functional work of art and help spread the word about the benefits of using rain barrels to conserve water and reduce the amount of run off sent to our beautiful Lake Erie.

The rain barrels will be a delightful and educational piece of art and part of a city-wide scavenger hunt throughout the summer.

Benefits of Participation

- **Showcase Talent:** Displaying artwork in prominent locations provides an excellent platform to showcase the artist's skills.
- **Increased Exposure:** The scavenger hunt aspect of the project will bring much attention to, and make each barrel, memorable.
- **Media and Social Media Attention:** The project will receive coverage in local media, enhancing the artist's profile and reaching new audiences through social media platforms. The barrels will be sold through an online auction that will expose the work to an extensive audience.

How to Apply

- Complete and submit application form along with a \$10.00 application fee, proposed design, resumes, and work samples. Multiple submissions will be accepted. Each submission will require a separate application and fee.
- Please complete your proposed designs in full color using the provided templates. Please do not submit designs larger than a standard 8.5 x 11 piece of paper.
- Your application must be accompanied with a resume, and/or printed samples of your work.
- Submissions open to artists 18 and older.
- All submissions must be received by Wednesday, April 29th, at 4:00 PM.
- Send via email to Wildwood@cityofmentor.com or in hard copy form to Wildwood Cultural Center, ATTN: Rain Wonders Project, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor, Ohio. 44060. Checks should be made payable to the City of Mentor.

For questions or additional information, contact
Wildwood Cultural Center at 440-974-5735 or wildwood@cityofmentor.com



Brought to you by the City of Mentor and the Mentor Community Arts Commission.



Criteria

- Originality of design concept (must be your own design).
- It is forbidden to duplicate copywritten material.
- Design must reflect imagery that is appropriate for all audiences.
- Designs that are religious, political, or sexual, in nature will not be accepted. Corporate logos and advertising are not permitted.
- The selection committee reserves the sole discretion to accept, or reject, any design.
- Designs cannot be changed from the initial proposal; if the artist wishes to make changes, a new design specification must be submitted and approved.
- All submitted designs will be judged by members of the Community Arts Commission along with professional artists.
- Application fees are NOT refundable.
- Selected artists will be notified of acceptance.
- Artists must meet all contractual obligations and adhere to the project timeline.
- Artists must send progress photos on a weekly basis to (potentially) be used in advertising.
- Artists must supply their own materials and paints.
- Selected artists will receive detailed instructions for the pickup and delivery of the barrels.
- Barrels are approximately 35 inches high. The diameter at the top and bottom is approximately 20 inches around; the center diameter is 23-24 inches.
- Barrels will be displayed throughout the city of Mentor from June through August of 2026.
- Artists should consider the weather and other elements, including sun, rain, wind, and dirt.
- Artists will receive a preliminary payment of \$75.00 for production materials. An additional \$50.00 will be paid upon delivery and approval of the finished barrel.

Important Dates*

- Deadline for submission is Wednesday, April 29th, 2026.
- Selected artists will be notified on or before May 4th, 2026.
- Artists must pick up their barrel from the Wildwood Cultural Center between May 6th and May 8th, 2026.
- Artists must deliver completed barrels on June 17th to Wildwood Cultural Center.

**The city of Mentor reserves the right to change project timeline, as necessary.*



Water Barrel Wonders Project ARTIST APPLICATION

Deadline for Submission is Wednesday, April 29th, 2026

Entry Fee \$10—Checks payable to the City of Mentor

Artist Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business Website if applicable: _____

Business Facebook/Instagram Page: _____

Below write the title of the design and a brief description of the art piece. This will be used during the review of the submission, and if chosen it will be used in public relations/media announcements regarding the project (attach a separate page, if necessary):

How I plan to take my design from concept to completed work; materials used, process etc. (attach a separate page, if necessary)

Entry Deadline: Application forms, design diagrams, resume and/or samples of your artwork must be received by 4:00 PM on April 29th, 2026. Send your submissions via email to wildwood@cityofmentor.com or by mail at to: Wildwood Cultural Center, Att. Water Barrel Wonders 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor, Ohio 44060. Make checks payable to City of Mentor. Contact Wildwood cultural center at: 440-974-5735

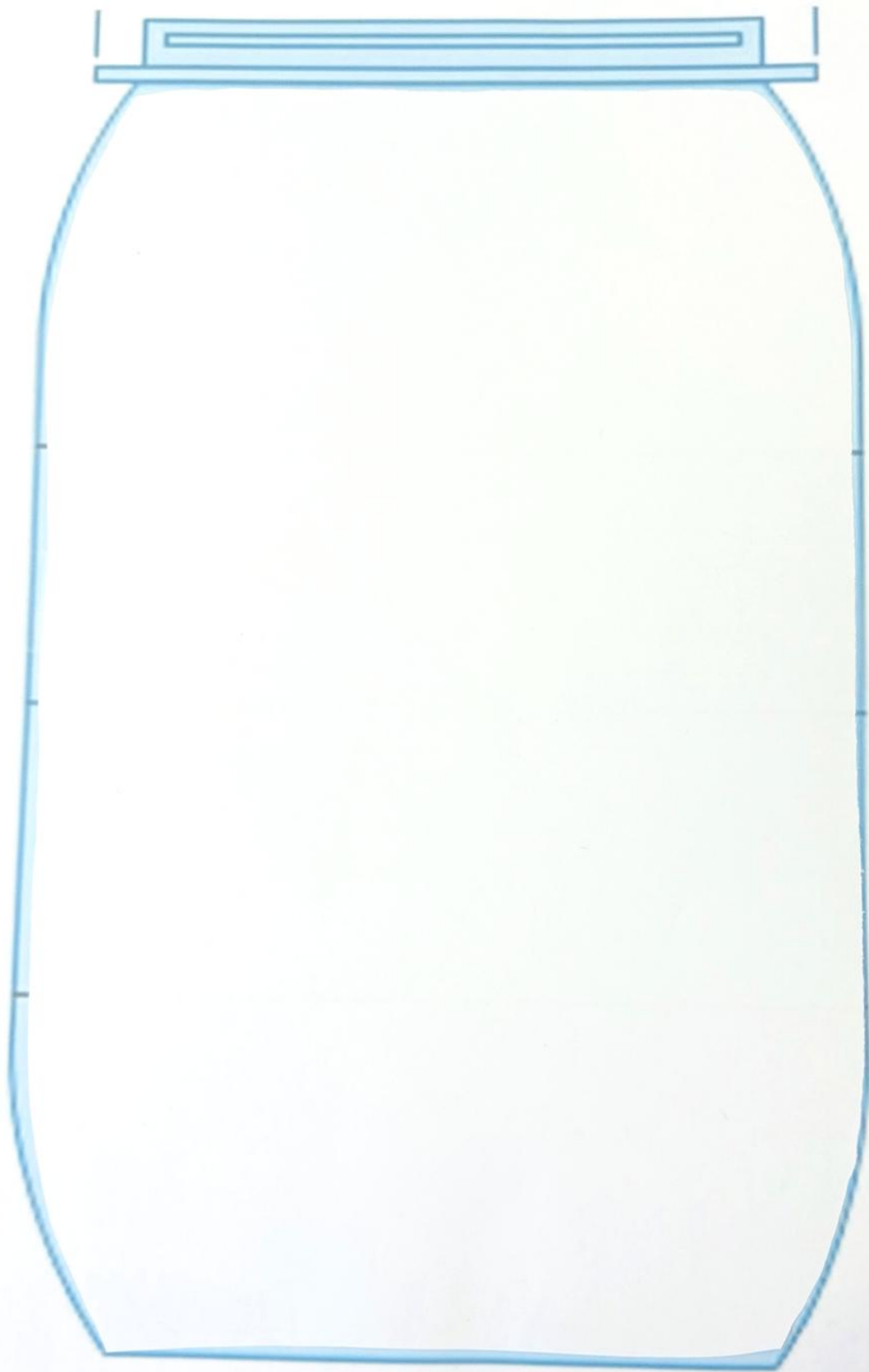
I _____ (applicant's printed name) understand that if my submission is selected and I design a book bench, all rights, title and interest to the submitted design will become the sole property of City of Mentor and I relinquish all rights, title and interest in the design and the finished book bench sculpture.

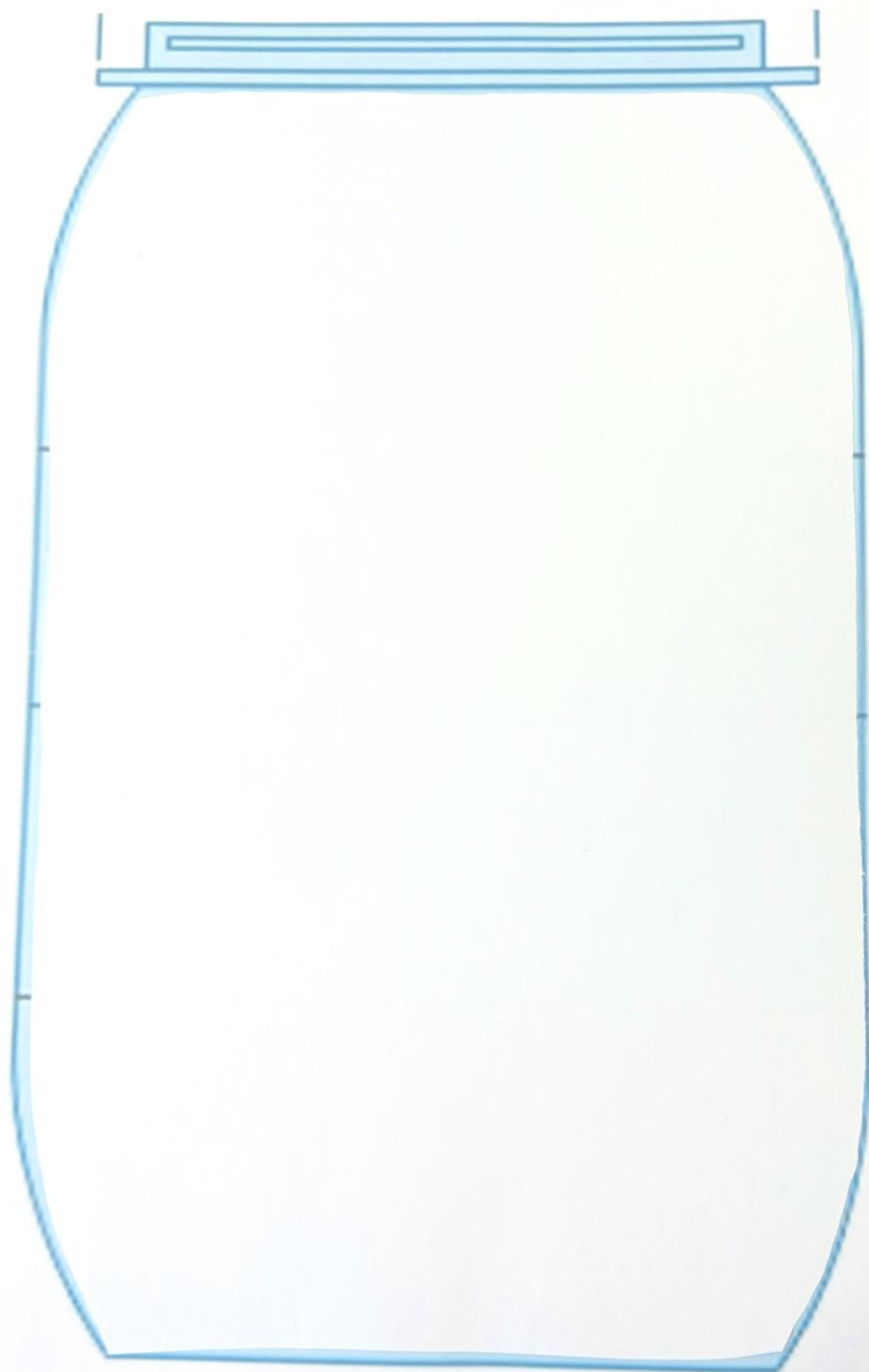
Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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For questions or additional information, contact
Wildwood Cultural Center at 440-974-5735 or wildwood@cityofmentor.com.





COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, _____ [Artist Name], an individual having an address of _____ [Artist Address] is the author of the design and sketches (collectively referred to as the “Design”) attached to the application submitted to the City of Mentor on the same date as the date of this Assignment;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, as part of the application process, it is intended that the City of Mentor, with an address of 8500 Civic Center Blvd. Mentor, OH 44060 own the entire right, title and interest in and to the Design;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, if the Design is approved, he/she shall apply that design to a water barrel provided by the City of Mentor thereby creating a painted rain barrel.

WHEREAS, Artist desires to transfer all of his/her right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works which are based on the Design to the City of Mentor.

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that City of Mentor shall continue to be the sole and exclusive owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works based on the Design if the water barrel is approved for exhibition, as described in detail in the Request For Proposals and Application for the city of Mentor’s project and that in such case the City of Mentor shall pay to Artist an honorarium of \$75. total, paying \$35 of that upon design acceptance for production costs, with the final \$40 paid upon completion of their barrel .

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, Artist hereby assigns to City of Mentor all his/her right, title and interest in and to the Design, and to any derivative works based on the Design including but not limited to any rights it may have in the painted water barrel, together with any and all copyright applications and registrations, therefore. Artist acknowledges and agrees that, due to the nature of the public display of the painted water barrel the City of Mentor shall not be liable for any distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction of the finished painted water barrel by accident, act of God or person. Artist hereby waives his/her rights under the Visual Artists Rights Act (“VARA”), 17 U.S.C. '106A, as against City of Mentor in the event of such distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction. Artist further acknowledges and agrees that if the painted water barrel is vandalized, damaged, or otherwise modified and the Artist is unable or unwilling to promptly repair such alteration, City of Mentor shall have the right to make, or have made, such repairs, even if the repairs would constitute a distortion, mutilation, or modification under VARA. Artist hereby waives his/her rights under VARA in the event and to the extent City of Mentor deems such repair necessary. Artist represents to painted water barrel that he/she is the sole author of the Designs and that the Design is an original work of authorship which does not infringe upon the copyright rights or any intellectual property rights of others, and that he/she has the unencumbered right to make this assignment. In the event the Design is not approved or selected for exhibition, as described in the Request for Proposals, the City of Mentor shall assign [and hereby does assign] back to Artist all its right, titles and interest in and to the Design.

Artist Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Water Barrel Title: _____

Date: _____