



Artists' Invitation from Volo Bog State Natural Area's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual



# Bogs in Art

## Celebrating the Beauty and Mystery of Bogs with Art

- Show Dates: June 8 – July 28, 2024
- Submit entries for consideration via email with photos of art: May 11 – June 1
- Notification of Acceptance: May 25 – June 1
- Delivery of Artwork: May 29 - June 2

Each artist may contribute three bog items including two already shown in prior BIA shows.

**The goal of *Bogs in Art*** is to encourage artists to learn about bogs around the world, and share their beauty, mystery, and culture through art. Artists have the option of offering their works for sale to support Volo Bog State Natural Area through Friends of Volo Bog.

### Any Medium Goes!

Metalworks   Photography   Jewelry   Sketching   Textile   Painting   Mixed Media   Ceramics   Crafts  
Pottery   Carving   Glass   Mosaic   Quilting   Poetry   More

All items must be original works of the artist. Works must be delivered in person.

**Space is limited – phone ahead (815-344-1294) to reserve space and arrange delivery time.**

**So, what is a bog?** Bogs are peatlands that receive primarily meteoric or ‘sky water’– rain and snow. They are found all around the world and especially in cooler climates of high latitudes, both in the northern and southern hemispheres, and at high elevations. Their stagnant, low oxygen water becomes acidic due to the presence of sphagnum moss and other plants like tamarack and black spruce. The low oxygen and high acidity limit decomposition causing peat to accumulate. When sequestered in a bog, peat does not release its nutrients, rendering bog soil rather stingy and sterile. These tough conditions limit the plants that can grow in bogs.

**Peatland cultures & climate** People have used peat sod to build homes and heat them, and more recently, as fuel in power plants. Bodies preserved in peat for over 2,000 years have been unearthed in peatland excavations in northern Europe. Peatlands comprise only 3% of earth’s land coverage, yet trap over 30% of our planet’s soil carbon, thus making them critical in mitigating climate change.

**Get Creative** – Maybe incorporate a bit of bog culture (perhaps a bog body or a sod hut, peat cutters or even a power plant?) as well as natural history, keeping true to our ONE RULE. As you contemplate the piece(s) you will create, keep in mind the meaning of ‘depict’ and ‘represent.’ One need not create a precise rendition. For example, a tapestry made of brown to represent peat, green for sphagnum moss, pink for orchids and red for cranberries. It is all in how you *tell the story* and demonstrate your understanding of a bog.

**Learn more about bogs** and other peatlands – Attend a weekend guided tour of Volo Bog. Look for books about bogs. Search the web. Visit [www.FriendsofVoloBog.org](http://www.FriendsofVoloBog.org) for links. If in doubt, call us at Volo Bog, 815-344-1294, for guidance.

### The ONE RULE:

**At least one bog plant (from first list below) must be depicted or represented in your work(s).**

<i>Sphagnum Moss</i>	<i>Northern Pitcher Plant</i>	<i>Grass Pink Orchid</i>	<i>Highbush Blueberry</i>	<i>Bog Birch</i>	<i>Little Bog Willow</i>
<i>Cinnamon Fern</i>	<i>Sundew</i>	<i>Dragon’s Mouth</i>	<i>Small Cranberry</i>	<i>Bog Fern</i>	
<i>Tamarack</i>	<i>Cotton Sedge</i>	<i>Pink Lady’s Slipper</i>	<i>Labrador Tea</i>	<i>Bog Laurel</i>	<i>Other? ASK first.</i>
<i>Black Spruce</i>	<i>Rose Pogonia</i>	<i>Leatherleaf</i>	<i>Sheep Laurel</i>	<i>Bog Rosemary</i>	

**Works that do not include at least one of the above will not be accepted in Bogs in Art.**

**Bogs share plant species with other ecosystems so you may also include one or more of the following:**

<i>Arrowhead</i>	<i>Blueberry</i>	<i>Cattail</i>	<i>Marsh</i>	<i>Pussy Willow</i>	<i>Sensitive Fern</i>	<i>Water Lily</i>	<i>Winterberry</i>
<i>Bladderwort</i>	<i>Bog Buckbean</i>	<i>Indian Pipes</i>	<i>Cinquefoil</i>	<i>Royal Fern</i>	<i>Starflower</i>	<i>Water Shield</i>	<i>Others???</i>

**Plants in italics (both lists) grow in Volo Bog.** Other plants occur in bogs around the world and can also be included. If you do, please take time to learn about them to be sure they are appropriate associates with the bog indicators of the first list.

**Silent Auction:** You may offer your work for sale in our Friends’ silent auction.

25 % of proceeds support Volo Bog through Friends of Volo Bog. Silent Auction Bidding closes at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, July 28.

### Artists’ Reception Sunday, July 28, 12:00 – 2:15 pm followed by LIVE MUSIC!

Payments will be processed and/or collected on July 28 or no later than August 2. Friends of Volo Bog will handle transactions & pay artists.



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# Bogs in Art

## 2024 Show Registration

**STOP!** Do not fill out this form until you have read and understood the other side.

Use **ONE FORM** for each entry.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age if under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Second Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Contact info need not be filled out multiple times. May we share your contact info with the buyer when applicable? \_\_\_\_\_

### Waiver Agreement:

By participating, the entrant agrees to grant the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Volo Bog State Natural Area Staff & Volunteers, and the Friends of Volo Bog (the "Sponsors") the right to display the artwork, and to reproduce the entrant's name, likeness, copies of the artwork, or any other image or information for purposes of promotion, publicity and/or display, either now or in the future. Sponsors are under no obligation to provide compensation or notice for any such use. The Sponsors, their agents and assigns, shall not be liable for any injury or illness to the artist or any damage or loss of the artist's work or other personal property arising out of this exhibit or other activities. Participant is responsible for their own insurance. Participant also authorizes the *Jewel Bake Shop* in McHenry to scan their piece to feature on a cake for the artists' reception for this show only.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to the above by my signature here.

Further, I authorize the purchaser (as applicable) or \_\_\_\_\_ to pick up my work for this show only. Piece picked up by \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ Vol/Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Parental Signature if artist is a minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Use **ONE FORM** for each entry.

Title of Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Medium: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

**If work is framed, please have it ready-to-hang with a wire a minimum of 5" in length.**

\_\_\_\_\_**YES** – I want to offer my work(s) for sale to support Volo Bog! (25% of proceeds go to the Friends of Volo Bog)

Estimated Value of Work: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum Bid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ OR - Please dedicate (> 25%) \_\_\_\_\_% to FOVB

**OR, Not for Sale/Check Here:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Required:** Using between 50 – 300 words, tell us how *this piece* was inspired by bogs. (What is a bog? See other side):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ attach additional narrative as needed

Curator may edit your words for clarity, accuracy, and educational purposes.

**Required:** What bog plant(s) from the list (see other side) are depicted or represented? (This can be loosely applied!)

**Required:** On a separate page using at least six sentences, **provide biographical information** we can share about you both personally and as an artist. Curator may edit your words for clarity and educational purposes.

**Will you be able to join us for our Artists' Reception on July 28?** \_\_\_\_\_

Email a copy of this registration form along with an image of your art piece(s) which can be a work in progress, to [dnr.volobog@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.volobog@illinois.gov) by June 1. Use one form/photo per email for each submission. You may drop off in person if that is easier.

Buyers and artists may take their piece(s) home at the close of the bidding on July 28 or arrange for pick up after the show no later than August 9.

Volo Bog State Natural Area is an Illinois Department of Natural Resources site located at

28478 W. Brandenburg, Ingleside, Illinois, 60041. Contact the site at 815-344-1294 or [dnr.volobog@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.volobog@illinois.gov) FriendsofVoloBog.org