



## 2026 ALABAMA WILDLIFE FINE ART COMPETITION

Brought to you by Alabama Wildlife Federation | LIV Development | The Kelly

The Kelly, in conjunction with the Wetumpka Wildlife Arts Festival, is excited to announce year four of our juried fine art competition sponsored by The Alabama Wildlife Federation and LIV Development. The contest will be held at The Kelly Fitzpatrick Center for the Arts and will coincide with the Art Gone Wild exhibition running from September 25<sup>th</sup> through November 13<sup>th</sup>. The goal of the competition is to increase awareness and appreciation of Alabama's wildlife as well as recognize outstanding artistic talent. The total awards this year will be approximately \$26,000, including a \$12,000 Best of Show purchase award.

### CRITERIA:

We are seeking representational artworks that highlight Alabamian native species. Artwork should depict at least one of the species listed under "Categories" below in natural landscapes/settings and may incorporate fitting outdoor sporting activities/sporting dog elements when appropriate for the species selected.

All artworks will be juried and judged based on the following criteria:

- **Accuracy of the chosen species.** We accept a broad range of artistic styles and interpretations; however, artistic liberties must still allow for easy identification of the exact species selected. We also encourage artists to consider their chosen animal's natural habits and behaviors in their depictions as well, as unnatural depictions may result in entry rejection.
- **Composition that highlights the animal.** While the animal does not need to be centered or even a large portion of the artwork, the composition of the piece must ultimately focus or bring focus to the chosen animal. Artists depicting their chosen animal with other species (such as dogs, predators, or hunters) should be particularly mindful of this.
- **Artistic merit and quality.** Artworks will be judged based on design, skill, visual appeal, and quality of artistic merit.

### CATEGORIES:

New this year, we are introducing another category of avian species alongside the main category of native wildlife. Art must represent one or more of the below native species from either category. The Song & Shorebird category has differing awards and size limitations, further explained below.

#### Main Category: Game Species

- Green-Winged Teal
- Mallard
- Hooded Merganser
- Wood Duck
- American Widgeon
- Mourning Dove
- American Woodcock
- Eastern Wild Turkey
- Bobwhite Quail
- White-tailed Deer

#### Secondary Category: Song & Shorebirds

- Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher
- Swallow-tailed Kite
- Cedar Waxwing
- Scarlet Tanager
- American Goldfinch
- Snowy Egret
- Least Tern
- Sanderling
- Wilson's Plover
- American Avocet

**The Kelly Fitzpatrick Center for the Arts**

301 Hill Street | PO Box 641, Wetumpka, AL 36093

Exhibits@TheKelly.org | TheKelly.org | (334)478-3366

## AWARDS

### Main Category: Game Species

- “Best of Show” Purchase Award: \$12,000
- “Award of Excellence” Purchase Award: \$7,000

### Secondary Category: Song & Shorebirds

- “Best of Song & Shore” Purchase Award: \$5,000

### Merit Awards:

- Three Overall Merit Awards (either category): \$750

Game species purchase awards become the property of The Alabama Wildlife Federation and LIV Development, including copyright and all that it entails, such as marketing and reproduction rights. Award-winning artwork may be used in future promotional materials or for use in fundraising campaigns by the Alabama Wildlife Federation. The Song & Shorebird Purchase Award will become the property of The Kelly Fitzpatrick Center for the Arts and will likewise be used in future marketing and promotional materials for the Wetumpka Wildlife Arts Festival and future Kelly wildlife art exhibitions. (Please note that the merit awards are not purchase awards, rather they are purely monetary awards recognizing outstanding artistic achievement.)

## JUDGING:

**First Round – Jurying:** Artwork applications will be reviewed by a team of jurors consisting of art professionals in the River Region and a wildlife expert from the Alabama Wildlife Federation. Please understand that the competition is highly competitive, and the jurors will be asked to select no more than fifty (50) artworks from all the entries we will receive, due to space limitations. These jurors will jury all entries based on the above judging criteria. We hope the competition will challenge and inspire artists to push themselves and grow artistically, regardless of whether their entry is ultimately accepted or not.

**Second Round – Judging:** Judging will be conducted at The Kelly after the exhibition opens by a panel consisting of a representative from Alabama Wildlife Federation, LIV Development, and the Wetumpka Wildlife Arts Festival.

*Note: Artist names will be hidden from the jurors and judges during both judging rounds.*

**Winners’ Announcement:** The winner shall be publicly announced during the Wetumpka Wildlife Arts Festival on October 24, 2026 at 9:00am on the main stage outside of The Kelly.

## ELIGIBILITY:

- Open to all U.S. residents at least 18 years of age.
- Work must be original, signed by the artist, produced within the last two years, and not previously reproduced.
- Artwork cannot be copied from copyrighted materials. Please refer to the “Originality and Copyright Infringement” language below for more information.
- The Kelly reserves the right to disallow the exhibition or sale of any item, which in the opinion of The Kelly is detrimental to the show’s image or does not comply with show rules.

## RULES:

- **Mediums:** Artworks must be two-dimensional in traditional mediums, such as oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastels, gouache, graphite, ink, etc. No digital media, photography, 3-D mediums, or prints or reproductions.
- **Artwork Size Limitations**
  - Main Game Category: Artwork must be at least 16” by 20” and no larger than 60” by 60”.
  - Secondary Song & Shorebird Category: Artwork must be at least 10” x 10” and no larger than 36” x 40”.

- **Entry and Fees:** Artists may submit up to a total of two entries, regardless of category. There are no submission or entry fees, thanks to LIV Development and Alabama Wildlife Federation's sponsorship.
- **Application and Photos:** The artist must fill out an application form with their entries' information and submit a labeled photo of each entry. Please label your entry photos with your name and artwork title via file name (ex. "John Smith – Mallard.jpg") or on the back of the physical photo. Do not add visible text on your entry photo. Please also ensure that your artwork photos are high quality, well-lit, in focus, not tilted, completely in frame, and with proper white balance set. These images should best represent your entries for the jurors' review, as bad entry photos may result in entry rejection. You may submit your application package online at <https://thekelly.org/exhibitions/application>, email to [Exhibits@TheKelly.org](mailto:Exhibits@TheKelly.org), or mail your application to PO Box 641, Wetumpka, AL 36092 by **August 9<sup>th</sup>**. Late entries will NOT be accepted. Please do not drop off or mail your original artwork as part of your application or for the jury process.
- **Notifications:** Artists will be notified by email of the jurors' decisions for this exhibition by August 14<sup>th</sup>. Every applicant will be notified of acceptance or rejection, so please contact us if you have not received any response after that date.
- **Wall Ready:** Each piece must be gallery-wrapped (at least 1.5 inches thick) or properly framed, if selected. In the case of gallery-wrapped art, all edges must be finished and dry. If the edges of your artwork are blank or raw, we reserve the right to refuse acceptance. Artworks must also have galley/picture wire installed to be accepted. Please ensure your D-rings and gallery wire are properly rated to the weight of your artwork and frame and are properly secured. The Kelly reserves the right to refuse artwork with improper gallery wire installation.
- **Artwork Delivery:** Art should be delivered to The Kelly at 301 Hill Street, Wetumpka, AL 36092 on September 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to deliver your art, please contact us to make alternate arrangements. If you are shipping your artwork, please note that your artwork must also arrive by Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, and that you will be responsible for the shipping costs to The Kelly as well as the return shipping costs if not selected as a winner or sold by the exhibition's end.
- **Commission:** Art will be held from sale until after the competition is judged and the winner is announced. A twenty-five percent (25%) donation to The Kelly will be deducted from any sales during this exhibition. Art should be priced accordingly. The 25% commission does not apply to the purchase or merit awards.
- **Artwork Pick Up:** Artwork that does not win a purchase prize or has not sold should be picked up on November 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. If you or an authorized person on your behalf are unable to pick up your art on those dates, please contact us to make alternate arrangements. Any artwork not removed within 90 days from the pickup date (February 16<sup>th</sup>) shall be considered an unrestricted donation to The Kelly.

## ORIGINALITY AND COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT:

- **Originality:** Artwork should be exclusively created by the submitting artist(s) from a concept or composition originally conceived by that artist(s) from draft to completion.
- **Copyright Infringement:** Copyright infringement of any kind is not acceptable. Due to the nature of this competition, artwork produced using imagery or materials from someone else's creation (drawings, painting, photographs, artwork created with classroom instruction, etc.) are not eligible to enter, even with the original artist's permission.
- **Acceptable Reference Photo Usage:** Artists may use their own photos or reference materials without restriction. Artists using other sources of reference materials (such as photos of a specific species) MUST ensure that they are using ethically sourced materials that are free of copyright, royalty, and all other intellectual property rights. No direct copies of reference images are allowed, even with permission or purchased license.

The Kelly will consider artwork using stock or reference images as transformative and thus eligible to enter if the artist:

- Significantly alters the artwork's final composition from the original reference photo, to be judged on a case-by-case basis. Generally, artwork should deviate from a single reference photo by at least 75%; OR,
  - Appreciably alter the artwork's final composition using multiple different reference materials to create an entirely original composition and creation.
- **AI Usage:** Artwork or reference imagery generated by Artificial Intelligence (AI) are not permitted. Entry/submission photos enhanced by AI are also not permitted.

**ARTIST INFORMATION**

Artist Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Online Portfolio (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred Way(s) to be Contacted:  Call  Text  Email

*We email all artists important reminders and notices, but if we need to contact you specifically, what are your preferred contact method(s)?*

Please note that we will not be accepting entries of artworks in progress. Thank you!

**ARTWORK INFORMATION**

Artwork Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Medium: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Year Created: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Artwork Size (HxW): \_\_\_\_\_ \* Frame Size (HxW): \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Sale Price: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_ *(25% commission will be charged, if sold)*

Artwork Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Medium: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Year Created: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Artwork Size (HxW): \_\_\_\_\_ \* Frame Size (HxW): \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Sale Price: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_ *(25% commission will be charged, if sold)*

I, the artist above, certify that I am the original artist and owner of the submitted artworks above, and I confirm that my entries are not copied from any copyrighted materials nor infringe upon any third-party intellectual property rights. I understand that I am submitting this application in a competition where the top three Awards are Purchase Awards. If awarded either the "Best of Show" or "Award of Excellence", I agree to give and convey the winning artwork to the Alabama Wildlife Federation (AWF), inclusive of the exclusive rights and privileges for AWF to use, reproduce, distribute, publicly display, and otherwise commercially and non-commercially utilize or sell the work, or any reproduction thereof, for any purpose without limitation. If awarded the "Best of Song & Shore", I agree to give the winning artwork to The Kelly Fitzpatrick Center for the Arts and transfer the title, right, and interest free of restrictions or encumbrances to The Kelly.

Artist Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_, hereafter referred to as the Exhibitor.

In consideration of The Kelly Fitzpatrick Center for the Arts (hereafter referred to as The Kelly) allowing the exhibitor to exhibit artwork either online or on the premises of The Kelly as a means of promoting the arts to the citizens of Wetumpka and the public, The Exhibitor, desiring to voluntarily participate in this Exhibit, does hereby acknowledge and agree as follows:

The Kelly has the right to deny the exhibition of any particular piece of art or artwork, if in its sole discretion, it is deemed unsuitable for any reason to be displayed online or on its property.

The Kelly will insure the Object(s) under its Fine Arts Insurance policy wall-to-wall for the amount specified on the attached inventory against all risks of physical loss or damage from external causes on location during the period of this loan; provided, however, that if the Object(s) shall have been industrially fabricated or fabricated with industrially manufactured parts, and can be replaced to the artist's specifications, the amount of insurance shall be limited to the cost of replacement. If no value is listed on the reverse side, maximum coverage shall be the fair market value of the Object(s) at the time of loss or damage as determined by an appraisal from a mutually agreed upon expert.

The Kelly's insurance policy contains the standard exclusions for loss or damage due to war, invasion, hostilities, rebellion, insurrection, confiscation by order of any government or public authority, risks of contraband or illegal transportation and/or trade, nuclear damage, wear and tear, gradual deterioration, moths, vermin and inherent vice, and for damage sustained due to and resulting from any repairing, restoration or retouching process unless caused by fire and/or explosion. The Kelly is not responsible for prior damage nor damage incurred from material defects present prior to physical receipt and acceptance of the artwork by The Kelly.

The Exhibitor agrees that, in the event of loss or damage, recovery shall be limited to such amount, if any, as may be paid by the insurer, hereby releasing The Kelly, each of the Participating Kellys, and the trustees, officers, agents, and employees of The Kelly and any Participating Kellys from liability for any and all claims arising out of such loss or damage.

If the Exhibitor chooses to maintain their own insurance, The Kelly must be supplied with a certificate of insurance naming The Kelly and each of the participating locations as an additional insured or waiving subrogation against The Kelly and each of the participating locations. If the Exhibitor shall fail to supply The Kelly with such a certificate, this loan agreement shall constitute a release of The Kelly and each of the Participating Kellys from any liability in connection with the Object(s).

The Kelly is not responsible for any error or information deficiency furnished to the Exhibitor's insurer or for any lapses in coverage. The Kelly will not be liable for any misrepresentation of ownership or attribution. Government regulations will be adhered to in international shipments. As a rule, each party is responsible for adhering to its country's import/export requirements.

The Exhibitor does hereby authorize The Kelly, and their agents and assigns, to take and use photographs of their artwork for the purposes of preparing a catalog (either printed or on-line) and publicizing this event, in such manner and at such times as it deems appropriate. No other reproduction of the artwork is authorized.

Furthermore, the Exhibitor, individually and their heirs and assigns, does voluntarily waive, release, hold harmless, discharge, and indemnify The Kelly, from any and all claims that the Exhibitor and/or their heirs or assigns, may have in the future, including but not limited to property damage, that the Exhibitor may incur as a result of their participation in the Exhibit, whether directly connected to these activities or not, however caused, or as a result of the condition of the premises where the Exhibit occurs.

Finally, the Exhibitor does hereby agree to remove their artwork from The Kelly's premises within 90 days from the last date of public display for the Exhibit. The Exhibitor's failure to remove their artwork in 90 days shall mean that they have decided to convey the artwork to The Kelly as consideration for their displaying the art during the Exhibit. Should that event so occur, the Exhibitor does hereby grant, bargain, sell, and convey all their right, title, and interest in and to the artwork which is subject of this agreement unto The Kelly outright and in fee simple absolute, for them, their successors and assigns, to have and to hold forever, free from all contingencies and encumbrances thereon. This paragraph shall be null and void and of no force or effect should the Exhibitor remove their artwork within the allotted time following the end of the Exhibit.

**I, THE EXHIBITOR, HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN ME AND THE KELLY.**

I, the exhibitor, am over the age of nineteen and am signing this Agreement voluntarily and of my own free will, fully intending to be bound by its terms.

Dated this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exhibitor/Artist Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature

# Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the  
requester. Do not  
send to the IRS.**

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9) for instructions and the latest information.

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Print or type.</b><br><b>See Specific Instructions on page 3.</b> | <b>1</b> Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.  |  |
|  | <b>2</b> Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above   |  |
|  | <b>3</b> Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only <b>one</b> of the following seven boxes.  | <b>4</b> Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate   | Exempt payee code (if any) _____   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____<br><b>Note:</b> Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is <b>not</b> disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. | Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____   | <small>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</small>   |
|  | <b>5</b> Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.  | Requester's name and address (optional)  |
| <b>6</b> City, state, and ZIP code                                   |   |  |
| <b>7</b> List account number(s) here (optional)                      |   |  |

## Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

**Note:** If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

|                                       |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Social security number</b>         |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                       |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                       |  |  |  | - |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |
| <b>or</b>                             |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Employer identification number</b> |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
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|                                       |  |  |  | - |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |

## Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

**Certification instructions.** You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

|                  |                                   |               |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Sign Here</b> | <b>Signature of U.S. person ▶</b> | <b>Date ▶</b> |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|

## General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

**Future developments.** For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9).

### Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

*If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.*