

Chico ART Festival 2026

Friday, May 8, 4 pm - 8 pm & Saturday, May 9, 10 am - 4 pm

2026 Prospectus

ChiVAA, the Chico Visual Arts Alliance, is excited to announce our 13th Mother's Day Weekend Art Festival Extravaganza. The **Chico ART Festival** will be held on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Chico. This will be our thirteenth year hosting a spring festival that unites artists, art organizations, and the public, and our fourth year at St John's. Its serene setting includes beautifully landscaped grounds, picnic tables, a labyrinth, and plenty of parking. Demos, live music, a margarita bar, food trucks, and children's art activities will enhance this family friendly event.

Our two-day, one-stop festival has four goals: to showcase our local artists, to promote Chico as an art destination center, to educate the public about the variety and value of art in our community, and to throw a really great Chico-style party.

We at ChiVAA will continue to garner support from Chico businesses to offset expenses and will promote our artists in print, on the air, and through social media. Participating artists will have the opportunity to transform their assigned spaces into living galleries where they can meet the public, market their wares, and be inspired by each other. Participating artists will automatically become ChiVAA members for a year.

Participation Requirements

- This show is juried by the Chico ART Festival committee. We will review your application, with its accompanying images and descriptions, to ensure that your art meets exhibition-quality standards. No imports or resale items are allowed.
- You must be present to interact with the public during event hours and may only show your own art.
- If you share a booth with other artists, each artist must submit a full application with images and information.
- All participants must have a valid CA Seller's Permit or team up with a participant who has one. To obtain a CA Seller's Permit contact the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration at 800.400.7115 or go to www.cdtfa.ca.gov and register online.
- The event will take place rain or shine with no refunds or alternate dates in the event of a natural disaster.

Security

Onsite security is provided Friday night after the close of the show until 8:00 am Saturday morning.

Booth Rates & Payment Schedule

Booth spaces are 10 feet by 10 feet outdoors. You provide your own tent, tables, and display furniture. The booth fees are tiered as follows:

- February/March - \$175 - Apply and make booth payment by March 30.
- April - \$200 - Apply and make booth payment by April 30.

Cancellation and Refund Policy No refunds after April 15, 2026.

Application Checklist - To be valid, your application must contain all items on this list:

1. Apply online on the [Artist Portal HERE](#) or download a paper application.
2. Pay booth fee.
3. Submit 4-5 images of your work, 1 photo of your booth, and 1 artist photo. You can submit digital images or hard copy photos. Digital images must be in jpeg or png format. Printed photos sent by mail will be used for screening only, but not for promotional purposes, and they will not be returned.
4. Name your image files as FirstLastName_Title.jpg or FirstLastName_01.jpg 02, 03 etc, FirstLastName_Booth.jpg, and FirstLastName.jpg for artist image.
5. Artist statement. Tell us about your art and let us know if you are planning something special at your booth. Past exhibitors have added to the excitement of the show with special events and/or live demos.

How to Apply

- **Online:** Apply via the [Artist Portal HERE](#). It's easy.
- **By Email:** Email application and images to festival@ChiVAA.org, pay online or by mail.
- **By Mail:** Send application and payment to ChiVAA, PO Box 1967, Chico, CA 95927

Media Campaign

This includes radio, newspapers, TV, web & social networking. It is also important for you to use your social media to help promote your work and the show. Make sure to post regularly leading up to the days of the Chico Art Festival. Connect your social media with ChiVAA's website, posts about your work and the show, and the Chico ART Festival Facebook page and event. We encourage early applications –Your art gets a better chance of getting featured in the media.

Want to join the Chico Art Festival Team? We are looking for additional team members to help set up the show.

Questions? Email: festival@ChiVAA.org or call Cynthia Sexton at 530-318-2105 or Pat Koszis at 530-514-0459.