INFORMATION FOR ARTISTS - HAWKER MEN’S SHED

ART SHOW

Brief background of the Hawker Men’s Shed

Hawker Men’s Shed (HMS) started several years ago in the grounds of Softball ACT in Hawker. An incorporated association with an ACN, it is a registered charity with deductible gift recipient (DGR) status.

HMS quickly outgrew its initial facilities, which involved several shipping containers and a small demountable. This proposed exhibition marks the end of nearly five years of concerted fundraising with the opening of a new purpose-built shed.

HMS undertakes a range of member and charitable activities around the Belconnen area, such as building wicking beds for the Hawker Community Gardens and planter boxes for local schools. In addition, the shed runs well-received quarterly ‘repair cafes’ when locals can bring along a variety of broken or damaged belongings, such as gardening equipment, hand tools, household furniture and electrical items, which members will endeavour to fix and bring back to life.

Even though that’s not their primary intention, the repair cafes are a source of fundraising along with Bunnings BBQs. These ventures, with generous donations from the Snow Foundation and the ACT Government, allowed the construction of a new metal shed incorporating a community room and a workshop at the end of 2024; members have been busy since then undertaking a fitout.

Opening Ceremony and Art Show

To celebrate the official opening of the new shed, to thank donors and raise funds for costly new essentials (such as dust extractors and other safety equipment), HMS is holding an opening ceremony centred around an exciting art show scheduled for 2-5 May this year.

Friday 2 May 2025

· paintings and other artworks (such as pottery and photography) to be delivered and in place, with artists assisted by HMS members

· 16:00 – 19:00 opening ceremony with invited guests only (including participating artists, volunteers, major sponsors, politicians and HMS members)

· canapés and wine to be served at the opening ceremony

· during the opening ceremony, there will be a silent auction of single artworks by some of Canberra’s leading artists (these artists will either donate this single artwork, or pay the HMS 20% commission on its sale)

· there may be a reserve placed by the exhibitor; if the reserve is not reached by the end of Friday evening, the work will remain for sale for the rest of the exhibition

· artists who are displaying multiple artworks will be represented in a longer silent auction, which will take place from the start of the opening ceremony on Friday 2 May, closing at the same time as the exhibition on the afternoon of Sunday 4 May

· the second silent auction will give exhibiting artists more exposure to the public for their artworks

· any item donated to HMS and not sold by the end of the event will remain the property of HMS

Monday 5 May 2025

· by 12:00 artists to collect all works not sold

· HMS members will be on hand to assist

Artists can visit the proposed hanging space well in advance of the art show. This will allow them a clear idea of the space they will be allocated and the method of hanging. The best time for artists to visit the site will be from early February 2025, on either Wednesday or Friday mornings between 10:00 – 12:00.

Entry terms and conditions

There are two options for intending exhibitors. Each artist must select which of the following options they prefer by placing an X in the relevant box below.

ARTIST’S NAME…………………………………….

Option one: Entry by donating a painting, which will be sold over the weekend by silent auction. No hanging fee or commission will be charged for those artists who choose Option 1. The donated work should be valued at a minimum of approximately $200 to $300 and be representative of the artist’s work.

Option 1

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Option two: Entry fee of $2.50 for each painting, plus a 20% commission on the sale of each work.

Option 2

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The HMS committee would appreciate if artists could indicate their willingness to participate by 1 March 2025. We have space for about a dozen exhibitors and, if the initial number of interested artists turns out to be fewer, the HMS will need to approach other artists.

Publicity

The HMS reserves the right to photograph and / or reproduce any entry for promotional, educational or review purposes.

Hanging Space

Each artist will be allocated hanging space of approximately 2.1 metres height and 2.4 metres width. Wire screens will be attached to the walls, allowing artists to hang their works easily (hanging wire will need to be attached to the backs of the exhibits).

Bearing in mind the allotted hanging space, the number of paintings per artist may vary depending on the size of the works.

Each artist is encouraged to visit the shed prior to the event. This will allow them to see the available hanging space allotted and to be familiar with the hanging method.

Artists’ profiles and artwork labels

Each artist is encouraged to supply a one-page statement of achievement to accompany their artworks. Excerpts from this statement may be used to promote the event and as handouts.

Exhibitors need to supply labels for each work containing the following information:

· the artist’s name

· the medium used

· the sale price

For consistency, it would be preferable if labels are in 14 point bold, Arial black.

Security

HMS is in the grounds of Softball ACT in Hawker, which has perimeter security fencing. The main softball building has security cameras and a back to base alarm system. The HMS committee is also looking at additional appropriate security measures.

Other details

The HMS committee reserves the right to reject any artwork. Paintings must be hung for the duration of the art show and may be collected only after the event winds up on the afternoon of Sunday 4 May 2025 (by 17:30), or on the morning of Monday 5 May 2025 (by 12:00).

Applications should be submitted in writing from 15 February 2025 until 1 March 2025 as follows:

· Jenny Mason: jennetmason@ gmail.com · Isla Patterson: isla@patto1.id.au or

· Jon Wells: hawkermensshed@gmail.com

It would be helpful, closer to the exhibition time, if each artist could supply the HMS with a list of their artworks, including the price of each piece, and which entry option they have chosen.