

2016 Minnesota State Parks and Trails License Plate Design Contest Rules and Entry Form

Dear Artist,

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota State Parks and Trails License Plate Design Contest. The following information provides you with all the criteria and application materials needed to submit an entry. Please read thoroughly and submit your entry with the forms provided. Best of luck on your design!

APPLICATION

The contest is open only to Minnesota residents who have maintained a legal residence in the state for 60 days immediately preceding the entry deadline date for the contest (May 6, 2016).

Entries for the 2016 Minnesota State Parks and Trails license plate design contest will be accepted beginning Monday, May 2, 2016 until 4 p.m. Friday, May 6, 2016. This means your entry must be delivered to the Parks and Trails Division or received in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) mailroom no later than 4 p.m. on May 6. Late entries will not be accepted.

Designs may be mailed to the Department of Natural Resources main office (500 Lafayette Road, Box 39, St. Paul, MN 55155-4020) or delivered in person.

The design should be submitted in an envelope or other packaging. The words "Parks Plate" should be clearly marked on the outside of the packaging.

Two completed forms must be included with the design:

1. Entry form (affixed to the back of your design)
2. Artist Agreement (completed and signed)

Both forms are required for eligibility. Failure to include these forms will render your entry ineligible.

Please ensure your entry has dried before wrapping for submission. Entries with wet paint can be damaged by sticking to wrapping or other objects.

The DNR will handle all entries with utmost care. However, contestants are advised that it is their responsibility to obtain adequate property insurance for their entry. **The DNR does not insure entries and assumes no liability for their damage, loss or theft.**

The winning artist will receive no financial compensation from the State of Minnesota.

The original of the winning design will be returned to the artist after processing and display. The enclosed Artist Agreement, granting the DNR the right to use the design for the license plate and other purposes, must be signed and submitted with the design to be considered for the contest. Designs submitted without a signed Artist Agreement will be ineligible for the contest and returned.

DESIGN STANDARDS

Designs may be done in one or a combination of media, e.g. oils, watercolors. The inclusion of any photographic product within the work is prohibited.

The design must capture the essence of Minnesota State Parks and Trails, such as iconic locations, representative scenery and recreational activities.

Designs resembling current Minnesota Critical Habitat license plates (e.g. prominently featuring a loon, moose, white-tailed deer or any of the other images currently in use) will not be accepted.

The design must be two-dimensional and horizontal (landscape) in orientation.

Because of the unique nature of the use of this design, artists should consider the following:

- The process used to produce this type of license plate is similar to a four-color printing process.
- Artists should keep their designs simple and as large as the format will allow to maximize visibility.
- Please refer to the license plate template for the layout and dimensions of Minnesota's license plate.

Any entry signed, lettered or otherwise identified by the artist on the face of the design will be disqualified.

The design must not be framed or under glass. An acetate or similar clear plastic covering is acceptable. However, it does make judging the design more difficult.

The design must be of the artist's own creation, neither copied nor duplicated from another person's art, including paintings or drawings in any medium or published photographs. **The entry form, which affirms originality, must be signed and attached to the back of the design.**

JUDGING

Judging will take place in two stages.

In stage one, the contest entries will be narrowed down to three finalists. A panel of five judges will evaluate all the entries based on criteria such as creativity, quality, representation of Minnesota State Parks and Trails and suitability as a license plate image. Artist identities will remain unknown during judging. Stage one judging will occur on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

For stage two, the three finalists will have their designs mocked up as a license plate. The

license plates will then be placed online for a public vote to select a winner. The online vote will take place from Monday, June 13 to Sunday, June 19, 2016.

The winning artwork will be subject to approval by the commissioners of Natural Resources and Public Safety.

RETURN OF ARTWORK

Entries will be returned to the address specified by the artist or, alternatively, they may be picked up in person with valid photo identification during the final hour of the display of entries (see details below). The artwork of the three finalists will be retained by the DNR for processing and returned at a later date. If artwork is returned to the DNR (this may happen if an artist changes address) or is otherwise unclaimed, the DNR will not be obligated to trace the location of the artist to return the artwork. Any artist who changes his or her address is responsible for notifying the DNR of the change. All unclaimed entries may be destroyed after May 12, 2017.

DISPLAY OF ENTRIES

All entries will be publically displayed in the Visitor Center at Fort Snelling State Park on Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, May 15, from noon to 4 p.m.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about the contest and these criteria, please contact Rebecca Oestreich at 651-259-5612 or rebecca.oestreich@state.mn.us.



2016 Minnesota State Parks and Trails License Plate Contest Entry Form

By signing below I represent and certify that the information I have provided below is true, that I have abided by the criteria set forth in this application and that my entry is an original of my own creation, neither copied nor duplicated from another person's art.

NOTE: Be sure to **firmly affix this application to the back of your entry**, package carefully and submit with the Artist Agreement.

Signature
Printed name
Address
Phone number
Email
Medium
Parent/guardian signature (if under 18)

2016 Minnesota State Parks and Trails Artist Agreement

This agreement is between the State of Minnesota, by and through the Department of Natural Resources, hereinafter referred to as the "STATE" and the undersigned artist, hereinafter referred to as the "ARTIST."

WHEREAS, the commissioners of Natural Resources and Public Safety are authorized by 2014 Minn. Laws, Chapter 312, Section 31, codified as Minn. Stat. Sec. 168.1295, to jointly select a suitable symbol, hereinafter referred to as the "DESIGN," for use as the design for the special State Parks and Trails License Plates, hereinafter referred to as the "PLATE;" and,

WHEREAS, a portion of the license fee from the sale of the PLATE is to be dedicated to the Minnesota state parks and trails donation account; and,

WHEREAS, the ARTIST has created and is submitting an original work of art, hereinafter referred to as the "WORK," for consideration in the selection of the DESIGN to be used on the PLATE under the terms and conditions contained herein; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration and the mutual benefit of the parties hereto, the parties understand and agree to the following:

1. The ARTIST represents and warrants that the WORK submitted is the ARTIST's own creation, and is neither copied nor duplicated from previously published or unpublished art (including paintings, drawings, or images in any medium) or published photographs, has neither been a finalist nor a winning entry in any prior contests, and that the WORK has not been licensed, assigned, or transferred to any other party.

2. After the time the WORK is submitted to the STATE, the WORK shall be retained by the STATE under its exclusive possession until after the selection process is completed.

3. The STATE agrees to take all reasonable precautions to protect the WORK from damage or loss while in its possession. However, the ARTIST expressly waives any claim for damages, however caused, against the STATE, its employees or agents, or parties authorized to display the WORK.

4. The ARTIST authorizes the STATE to publicly display and reproduce the WORK in the selection process and to promote the PLATE.

5. If the ARTIST's WORK is selected for use as the DESIGN on the PLATE, the ARTIST:

a. Hereby assigns and conveys by this agreement to the STATE all of the ARTIST'S rights and interests in the WORK, including intellectual property rights, and shall execute any document necessary to complete the transfer of these rights and interests to the STATE, together with any documents necessary to register the copyright or other interests in the name of the STATE.

b. Warrants that there are no existing agreements of any nature with other parties, such as agents, publishers, or galleries, which restrict or limit the ARTIST's rights to freely transfer the rights and interests in the WORK to the STATE.

c. Understands that the STATE may use the WORK for the DESIGN on the PLATE in derivative works, and in any other manner.

d. Understands that all rights granted in this agreement to the STATE or its licensees of the WORK and derivative works shall be without compensation to the ARTIST.

e. Understands that the STATE, in its sole discretion, has the right to make changes in the WORK for the PLATE and any reproductions or derivative works without obtaining approval from the ARTIST.

6. The STATE reserves the right not to select any WORK for the PLATE in its sole discretion.

I have read and agree to the above conditions:

Signature/Date
Print name
Address
Phone number
Parent/guardian signature (if under 18)