

ANN ARBOR ♦ WESTSIDE

ART HOP!

Sat June 13 – Sun June 14
10am–5pm 12pm–5pm

How to do Art Hop

2026 Artists' Guide v.1.0

Sophie Grillet

What is Art Hop?

Art Hop is for Artists

We're here so you can have a shot at making money without a big outlay. Artists can participate whether or not they have a tent. We find neighbors who volunteer to host an artist, usually on their porch or in their garage or yard.

We rely on our neighbors

Please make sure our venue hosts feel loved, and our neighbors are not inconvenienced. Check a from time to time with your host and fellow artists if you play music. Your host should feel eager to do it again! So far, we've been touched how positive and supportive our hosts are.

We depend on Ann Arbor & the region

to protect & support us; to be our customers. Let people know about us and leave our visitors with a good impression. Our Artists are our ambassadors!

We rely on our artist volunteers

to help with many tasks to keep things humming along, and to raise awareness among various communities of artists, hosts, buyers, and supporters.

It only happens thanks to:

Lucie & Larry Nisson – financial and moral support, hosting the pre-event party for artists and often hosting other artists, plus participation as mosaic and glass artists.

Caitlin Boyd Jensen for Social Media, graphics, publicity and more, **Hannah VanDuinen** for codifying the myriad of tasks, timing, writing, publicity, website assists and more; **Anne “Twirling Frog” Rogers & Mary Eldridge** for leading the Lawn sign team of volunteers - all participate in Art Hop; and many more generous volunteer helpers, past and present.

Sophie Grillet– chief organizer: does or manages: Calls for Artists, finding hosts and judges, writing descriptions, guides, graphics, forms, maps, press releases etc. and website content, Volunteer teams, also troubleshoots, answers email, squares the circle and participates.

The Lead-up to Art Hop

Communication

Check your email, including “Promotions” etc, for Westside Art Hop email. We send to the address you provided at Registration, let us know if you’d like to change it. We send from westsidearthop@gmail.com or info@westsidearthop.com.

Updates and notices are posted on Instagram and in the (closed) Facebook Art Hop Artists group, where you can also communicate with other Art Hop artists. Of course, the more active our social media is (tags, posts, shares) the higher our profile and the more visitors and buyers. To ask about volunteering for Social Media Takeovers please contact Caitlin Boyd, our Social Media Manager.

Publicity

We’re only a few people, so we can’t do it without the Artists – YOU are *essential* to getting the word out and drawing the crowds!

SHARE on social media, tell everyone you know. Talk to neighbors, friends, relatives, colleagues and random strangers. Print out and share fliers from the website.

POST on your FB and Instagram page and ours, some art you’ll be bringing. Tag @ *WestsideArtHop*. Generate some buzz!

EMAIL everyone on your list and more besides. Attach the flyer PDF (under “more” at Westsidearthop.com).

PRINT OUT fliers from the website or fb group and make sure to post ‘em up everywhere – grocery or hardware store, cafés, doc or dentist office, staff room, break room, yoga studio, book group, lamp posts, telephone poles etc. etc.

Contact us to team up with other artists!

VOLUNTEER to be on one of these teams

- **Lawn Signs** - which, where, when, how, placement & keeping track
- **Venues** - recruiting hosts, optimizing clustering, showing appreciation
- **Flyers** - printed and virtual, placement, we could get A LOT more of these out there
- **Marketing** - arrange interviews and advertorials, contact our list, spread fame

- **Computer/website/mapping** – mapping: make available as soon as everyone’s placed, improve clarity and foot traffic circulation; website: post pictures of artists’ work and venues, suggest edits and more.
- **Other/At large** - new ideas plus day-of helpers. Participating Artists can’t do day-of troubleshooting on signs, pennants, or other issues, so we could use some friends and relations especially for the first couple of hours.

[Details of volunteer options](https://tinyurl.com/arthop-volunteer) (https://tinyurl.com/arthop-volunteer)

More about Publicity

THE NUMBERS

Whatever percentage of Art Hop visitors buy art, we *all* benefit if there are plenty of them. So, along with our local listings and ads, if each artist brings as many as they can, (90 artists x 25 people each = 2,250 more potential buyers) - a good, big crowd!

FLIERS

Print and distribute, there's always somewhere that could still use one. Stores, cafés, staff rooms, yoga studios, doctors’ offices, telephone poles, apartment foyers... make some extras, always carry a few with you.

MAPS

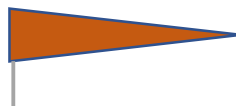
Teamwork. Art Hop works when everybody has visitors and buyers. Make sure you can direct the public where to go next after your venue, if asked. Know your venue number, and who’s at the ones before and after. Print out maps or pick some up beforehand. Chalk sidewalk arrows to your next and prior venue.

THE PRE-PARTY

Meet other Art Hoppers. Ask questions. Learn what's going on. Eat pizza, drink wine. Help stick new dates on the signs. Pick up maps. See Lucie & Larry's spectacular garden!

LAWN SIGNS (PRIOR)

Earlier signs, more views. They are a major draw! Where might art buyers see them? Do you have a friend with a prominently positioned place who will host a lawn sign? We’ll have a volunteer team keeping tabs of them, so please return *all* to 1227 Lutz after Art Hop, even if you intend to participate next time. Join the Lawn Sign team!



LAWN SIGNS ON THE DAY

You **MUST** have an Art Hop venue-numbered lawn sign and a fluttering red pennant, so it's clear you're a venue, not just advertising Art Hop. It's *your responsibility* to check you've received a lawn sign, a pennant and stick. Your sign should be topped with *your venue number*. You can find your number on the website map.

➡ If you're a high viz artist at a corner venue, or where not all artists are visible from the street, you may need an extra 'arrow' or "More in back" lawn sign. Please make sure the public visits your fellow artists!

Planning

- Visit **your venue** - know what to expect. Check with your host: is a table and/or chair provided or should you bring your own?
- **Display** stands: do you need to build, borrow, or buy chicken wire & white-painted burlap? Hooks? A tarp if it might rain?
- Accepting non-cash **payments**. Do you need to sign up for Square or Paypal so you can take credit cards? Allow time for them to ship you a card swiper and to set up receipts, inventory etc. Explore Venmo, Apple Pay and other apps.
- Get **business cards** printed well ahead. Artists are frequently contacted by buyers *after* Art Hop.
- **Communicate with your Host** or GH Organizer. Make sure you're clear on location and setup, and that they know who they're hosting.
- Do you have some small **inexpensive items** (\$5-25)? It doesn't take much for a good shot at covering your cost.
- Figure out your **pricing**, and design **labels**. Do you want extra labels for reduced prices after 3pm on Sunday?
- Print nice **signage** and labels, an Artist's **statement** & bio, nametag.
- Provide wrapping or **packaging** for any work you sell.
- **Transportation** – How will you transport your art safely?
- Check **where to park** during Art Hop. Not out front of your venue.
- **Lunch**, snacks and drink. There are very few cafes nearby, and you might not want to leave your stand.
- Check the weather and plan ahead for clothing and packaging.
- **Let your host and Art Hop know at once if you can't participate.**

Final prep

Are you listed correctly on the 'Artists & Venues' list on the Art Hop website? On the printed map? Check our link to your website, social media or Etsy page. What's your venue number? Check the weather and dress for outdoors. Plan your lunch and snacks.

PLAN YOUR SETUP

A classy setup makes an attractive impression of you *and* of Art Hop. Make sure your work is clear of clutter and well presented: show that it's of value. Use two hooks if needed to keep art hanging straight. For display ideas, see Pinterest, Instagram, Google...

CHECKLIST

Labels – how will you attach them? Bring spare blanks & pen

Tablecloth – hide packaging, purse and lunch

Pricing – allow for discounts if you want to persuade a ditherer, or do a post 3pm sale on Sunday

Packaging plus a little extra: ribbon, stickers? Include business card

Email signup sheet, electronic and/or paper with 2 or 3 pens. We'd love for you to share with Art Hop – ask first, though.

Bits & bobs: tape, pins, clips, scissors, business cards, spare sheet of paper, Sharpie, lights, plug board/extension, notebook and pen.

Phone, charger, card swiper. Allow time to enter inventory and learn how it works.

Table, folding chair Host may provide, but check first

Sanitizer, mask if a host and/or visitor feels safer –respect them!

Lunch, drinks and snacks, wipes & napkins. Unless you order out, there'll be nothing to eat - Treat yourself!

Be shipshape! Presentation is HUGE!

On the Day of Art Hop

Can buyers find you?

MAPS!!!

Consider your fellow artists, and the public image of Art Hop. For Art Hoppers to visit as many of our artists as possible, you can:

- Know what number you are on the map
- Know where the artists before and after you on the map are
- Have some maps printed out to give to visitors who prefer paper
- Ask whether your visitors need a map
- Have the map QR code printed and/or on your phone
- Be able to show or tell them how to get the map on their phone
- Have a map or two **printed out bigger and posted by the exit of your venue**, so visitors can consult it as they leave.

LAWN SIGNS & RED PENNANTS

It's ESSENTIAL to have these outside your venue. To make clear it's a venue open for business, put out your **numbered lawn sign** and plant a **red pennant**. We provide the flag, but you place it out front. A large or corner venue may justify more than one.

Check if your host prefers you keep the pennant flying only during Art Hop hours.

Please don't wait until 10am on Saturday to ask about signs or pennants! Bring *all* your signs and pennants back to HQ (side passage at 1227 Lutz). If you see any strays around town, please bring those also.

GOOD LUCK!

Art Hop Artists Agreement

Agreement required for participation.

- I'll be over 18 and will contribute \$58 to take part in Westside Art Hop on June 13th-14th 2026 (see [Dates & Rates](#) or [FAQ's](#) for exceptions and Discounts).
- I understand that I need to Register by May 3, 2026 to guarantee that my name appears on the Westside Art Hop map and 'Artists and Venues' webpage.
- I understand if I drop out, there will be only 50% Registration refunded from May 15th and none after May 24, 2026. Applications are non-refundable (exceptional circumstances considered).
- I have added westsidearthop@gmail.com and info@WestsideArtHop.com to my contacts to ensure email delivery to my inbox (and I will check junk mail).
- I will bring for sale only work created and/or designed by myself (or in collaboration with a participating partner). I will not bring scented products for sale unless in my own tent. (See [What Jury Looks For](#))
- I agree to help the event by volunteering; &/or publicizing by distributing fliers, emailing my contacts, sharing on social media tagging westsidearthop, and returning any signs & pennants promptly after the event.
- **I will be considerate to my host** by being helpful and communicative. I will leave my venue clean and in good time, but not before 5 p.m. except in extreme weather, by request of the host, or in an emergency. I will not smoke or vape at or near any Art Hop venue. I will be prepared and willing to mask indoors if requested to by a host, visitor or fellow artist.
- **If for any reason I am unable to participate, I will let the organizers AND my Host know as soon as possible**, so a waitlisted artist can take my place.
- If Art Hop is canceled, artists will be refunded 75% of jurying and/or Registration. (Exceptional individual circumstances/hardship considered.)

I agree that any harm or damage caused as a result of my participation as an artist in Westside Art Hop shall be a matter between me and and my host, and if necessary, my and my host's insurance companies. Westside Art Hop and its organizers shall not be held liable.

Registration in Art Hop shall constitute acceptance and agreement to conform to these terms.

Follow-up

YOUR HOST

Give your host a Thankyou gift: flowers, wine, craft beer, fruit basket etc. NOT your artwork *unless* they specially admired it. A card (yours!) in the mail shows appreciation, too.

If you're at a childcare center, send a card to the Director. Don't forget to thank your GH coordinator!

Leave the place cleaner than you found it: make every host want to do it again.

YOUR AUDIENCE

Send an email thanking anyone who added their name to your email list, especially buyers.

Include an artwork or two for sale and/or maybe a special offer.

Contact waverers - Send a good photo (cropped, straight, no reflections) of the artwork they teetered on the brink of buying. Of course, you collected their contact details, yes?

NEXT ART HOP

Make notes for the evaluation form you'll receive. Any suggestions to share with our volunteer teams? Good or bad, it helps us to know!

Make notes for your own participation in Art Hop or other art fairs in the future.

Have your email list ready to send out next time.

If you did well, consider donating to Westside Art Hop! Your donation can sponsor another artist or strengthen our publicity.

Contacts

Westsidearthop@gmail.com (mainly for artists)

info@westsidearthop.com (mainly for outside communication)

<https://westsidearthop.com>

Public fb page: facebook.com/westsidearthop

Facebook private group: [westside art hop artists](#)

Instagram @westsidearthop

Sophie Grillet (734) 757 3717 Pref text

Caitlin Boyd Jensen (989) 944 0510
Publicist/social media, organization

Anne Rogers (517) 304 7951
Lawn sign volunteer coordination

Gretchen's House Mt Vernon coordinator:
Marian Short (215) 692 4744 marianshort@yahoo.com
Gretchen's House (Baby House) Mt Pleasant coordinator:
Marie Parmer (248) 417 5096 parmermarie@gmail.com

Send us your ideas! Volunteer to help with tasks large and small.

**Thank you, have fun,
Good Luck!**