

Southern Utah Art Guild Red Cliff Gallery

Standards and Procedures

(Approved by Terrence Walters, President of the Board
August 2026)

Southern Utah Art Guild's (hereinafter the "Guild") mission is: Building Confident, Proficient, Successful Artists.

Red Cliff Gallery (hereinafter the "Gallery") is devoted to providing education, encouragement, and exhibition experience to all levels of fine artists using painting, drawing, 3D art, photography, and digital (not AI).

AUGUST 2026 ADDENDUM: Originality & Artistic Integrity Policy (*Addendum supersedes any previous standards.*)

Red Cliff Gallery is committed to originality, artistic integrity, and respect for intellectual property. All submitted artwork must be the artist's own original creation. This policy explains what that means in practice, including for photography, digital art, and AI.

1. Original Work Requirement

Artwork that copies, traces, or substantially reproduces another artist's work — in whole or in part — is not permitted. Using reference material to *inspire* original work is welcome. Using it to *replicate* an existing image is not. Public-domain photographic references may make up no more than 50% of the finished piece.

2. Artist Responsibility

Artists are solely responsible for ensuring their submissions do not infringe on anyone's copyright, trademark, or other intellectual property rights.

3. Fan Art

Original interpretations of existing characters — your own pose, composition, lighting, and artistic choices — are allowed only when the characters are in the public domain and free of copyright restriction.

4. Photography

Submitted photographs must be the photographer's own original images. Minor adjustments — exposure, color balance, contrast, cropping — are fine. Edits that

add, remove, or significantly alter the image's content are not allowed. Using or editing someone else's photograph and presenting it as your own is plagiarism and is prohibited.

5. Digital Art & Painting from Photo Reference

Digital tracing of another photographer's or artist's stock image is not allowed.

Tracing over someone else's photo isn't original artwork, even if done digitally.

Painting or drawing using another person's photo as a *partial* reference is allowed, as long as the finished piece is not an exact copy – meaning your composition, interpretation, or execution meaningfully departs from the source photo.

If a painting is an exact copy of a reference photo, you must credit the original photographer. There will be a field on the submission application to provide this credit. Because of copyright complications, exact-copy pieces **cannot be listed for sale** in the gallery – they may still be displayed but not sold.

6. Use of AI

AI is **not** considered art. No AI involvement is permitted in submitted work — this includes fully AI-generated images and AI-assisted image generation. Work found to involve AI at any stage is not eligible for submission.

Technology is evolving quickly, and this policy may be revisited as AI tools and their role in the art world continue to change. Whatever adjustments come, Red Cliff Gallery's priority remains the same: **we champion human-made art first.**

7. Content Standards

Red Cliff Gallery is a city-sponsored venue open to the public, including families and children. All submitted work must be family-friendly and suitable for a general public audience. Nudity, graphic violence, sexually explicit content, and content promoting hate, discrimination, or illegal activity are not permitted, regardless of artistic intent. The gallery committee reserves the right to make the final determination on whether a piece meets this standard.

8. Enforcement

Red Cliff Gallery reserves the right to reject, remove, or disqualify any artwork found to violate this policy at any stage of submission, exhibition, or sale. By submitting

artwork, artists confirm they own the rights to their work and agree to comply with this policy.

ORIGINAL

I. GALLERY RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE ARTISTS

- A. The Southern Utah Art Guild, Red Cliff Gallery and the City of St George are not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of artwork exhibited at all times for the duration of a Gallery event. The artist assumes all risk of damage to or loss of their artwork while it is on display at the Gallery.
- B. The Gallery has a fiduciary responsibility to artists when it accepts submitted artwork on consignment, meaning the gallery acts as an agent to sell the work on the artist's behalf. This duty ensures that the Gallery acts in the artist's best interest, prioritizing the artist's needs over their own. Insurance covering the value of the artwork is the responsibility of the applicant or owner.
- C. The Gallery must exercise reasonable care to protect consigned or submitted artwork from damage, theft, or loss while in its possession.
- D. The Gallery will display the artwork to its best advantage, while keeping the integrity of the show.
- E. The Gallery notifies the public of new shows through direct contact, social-media, and news media.
- F. The Gallery holds an Artist's Reception where artists can present their work to the public or to specific friends and clients.
- G. Any Red Cliff Gallery Show may be canceled due to unexpected events. No refunds shall be given after a show's reception.

II. ARTWORK SUBMISSION STANDARDS – General

- A) All artists submitting artwork to be displayed must be members of the Guild. All Guild members are eligible to enter Guild shows or events. Visit <https://southernutahartguild.com/member-registration/> become an [Art Guild member](#). [Submit](#) online to the upcoming show: <https://southernutahartguild.com/red-cliff-gallery-submission/>
- B) Artwork must be submitted Online. From your emailed receipt, affix the tags to the bottom or back (3D) or back (2D) of your artwork.

- C) All artwork submitted must be the **artist's original work**. Red Cliff Gallery and Southern Utah Art Guild shall not be responsible for an artist's infringement of another's copyrighted image.
- D) At this time, the Gallery does not accept AI submissions. Please see *Categories and Mediums below* for our definition of AI artwork. This is our current policy but is subject to change when future regulations are clarified.
- E) Reproductions, such as giclées, of the painting mediums that are described under Section VII(1) are not allowed. The Gallery does not consider photographs, as printed under the direction of a photographer, as reproductions or giclées and shall be allowed in the Gallery. Another exception to this rule may be made when submitting artwork to the "Art in the Courtyard" event or placing artwork for sale in the print bin(s) distributed in the Gallery.
- F) Submittals that may appear as a craft may be admitted to a show if the submittal follows what may be defined as **the "Art" of Craft**: a well-made, functional item (like a handwoven basket, or ceramic, or jewelry) would be considered art if it deeply engages the viewer and transcends its utility, showing the maker's soul and vision.
- G) Oversize hanging wall art that is 48" x 48" or larger will be accepted on a case-by-case basis depending on space availability as determined by the Gallery Director. An oversize submittal may be limited to one oversize entry piece per person per show. When possible, artists should contact the Gallery in advance
- H) Non-hanging art must be able to be displayed only on the Gallery's pedestals or tables that are currently available at the Gallery. Or in certain circumstances, certain non-hanging art may be displayed on the floor. Non-hanging art must be able to stand on its own and not be top-heavy.
- I) Artists shall comply with the Gallery's rules for hanging art and displaying art. The Gallery will not display art that is not properly prepared and ready for display. *(see Display/Hanging Guidelines)*

J) All artwork submitted for a Gallery event must be artistically appropriate for exhibit in the Gallery as determined by the Gallery Director and the Gallery Committee. A community standard of appropriateness may be applied due to the diverse age range of the community the Gallery serves. Appropriateness may be determined by whether or not it is practical to accept and display the artwork based on its quality, durability, scale, material, form, and content.

K) Submitted artwork does not need to be for sale. However, the Gallery encourages that art be placed for sale.

L) An artist submitting artwork for a Gallery event is strongly discouraged from placing a value of their submitted artwork at a value of more than \$5,000 unless the artist can provide proof of having liability insurance. Insurance covering the value of the artwork is the responsibility of the Artist. Or, in the alternative, the artist may provide evidence that they have created equivalent artwork before of a similar value and have SOLD such artwork. The artist needs to provide evidence that the valuation of their artwork is not spurious or overpriced.

M) Artwork that has not won an award may be shown a second time after a reasonable period of time, preferably at least one year.

N) Artwork shall be left in the show for the duration of the show. Artists unable to retrieve art on the specified day shall designate another person, giving them written authorization to pick up said art. Artists that are able to sell a piece of their art are encouraged to replace the piece as conveniently as possible.

O) Unclaimed artwork left over 30 days becomes the property of Southern Utah Art Guild. Please do not leave packing materials.

III. BASIC ARTWORK CHECK-IN GUIDELINES

A) Submit an [online application](#) for each show

B) Submitting and registering artwork shall be completed on the dates and times specified in the event application and announcement.

- C) All shows require an entry fee. Register and Prepay Online at <https://southernutahartguild.com/red-cliff-gallery-submission/>
- D) In preparation for display, Gallery Committee members with check-in responsibilities shall place the artist's artwork against the panels or walls. 3D artwork should be placed on the pedestals or tables.

IV. DISPLAY (HANGING) GUIDELINES

- A) Only Gallery Committee members with hanging or display responsibilities shall hang and display all submitted artwork.
- B) All artwork (including metal prints) must be properly wired and ready for hanging with all necessary hardware attached. **NO sawtooth hangers will be accepted. Backframe blocks with cleats are strongly discouraged.** Certain Gallery Committee members, at check-in, may help the artist correct their submitted artwork so that it conforms to the Gallery's hanging requirements, but only with the artist's consent and in their presence.
- C) For artwork printed on metal panels/sheets, backframe cleats are strongly discouraged as the Gallery's hanging hooks do not usually conform to the angle or depth of the cleats. A hanging wire should be created or configured for a more secure display.
- D) Neither artwork nor mounting panels may be screwed or bolted to any wall.
- E) Frames must be clean and in good condition. Mats must have clean cuts and crisp edges.
- F) The glass of glass-mounted artwork must be dust, and fingerprint free (both sides). Plexiglass is not recommended, but if used, it must be scratch free and clear, without a haze.
- G) The Gallery shall provide artwork with display tags for uniformity.

V. SALE OF ARTWORK

- A) The Gallery collects a 25% commission on all sales
- B) Sales tax shall be added to the price of the artwork and collected by the Gallery.
- C) Submitted artwork seen elsewhere, such as a website, and sold while on display at the Gallery is subject to a 25% commission.

VI JUDGING GUIDELINES

- A) The Gallery's intent is to choose judges that have a strong understanding of art history, styles, and fundamental artistic principles. A judge or judges that are able to appreciate diverse approaches beyond personal preferences and ones that use clear criteria to ensure a comprehensive and unbiased assessment.
- B) There will be 1-2 judges per show.
- C) For the upcoming year, the Gallery Committee shall create a list of potential, qualified judges that can be used to contact judge(s) for upcoming shows. In creating the list, the Gallery Committee is encouraged to ask members of the Guild's Executive Committee and Board for their input.
- D) When choosing awards, judges are asked to consider that the objective of Red Cliff Gallery/Southern Utah Art Guild is to develop artists.
- E) A winning artist may receive only ONE award per show with the exception of the People's Choice Award.
- F) Distribution of awards among the listed mediums below, shall be on a pro rata basis or the proportional distribution or allocation of awards per the total number of artist's submittals for each medium.
- G) Prior to judging the Gallery Chair or Assistant shall provide the judge(s) with the pro rata distribution or allocation of awards breakdown per medium.

H) Judging Criteria

- 1) Originality,
- 2) Skill and Technique,
- 3) Presentation,
- 4) Emotional Effect, and
- 5) Theme Interpretation, may be used as a tie-breaker. The judge's decision is final.

I) Awards Given

- 1) One (1) BEST OF SHOW is given to the artist who the judge(s) feels has done the most outstanding creative work from any category
 - a) The Best of Show winner shall receive a \$75 + a ribbon and certificate,
 - b) The Best of Show winner shall be offered Gallery space in the next following Gallery show as the Featured Artist.
- 2) Three (3) AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE: Awards of Excellence winners shall receive a cash award of \$30 plus a ribbon and certificate. Judges are requested to distribute, using the pro rata distribution calculation, these awards among the following mediums or category:
 - a) Painting and Drawing,
 - b) Photography/Digital, and
 - c) 3D Art and Textiles.
- 3) Five (5) HONORABLE MENTION awards: Honorable Mention award winners shall receive a ribbon and certificate. Judges are requested to distribute, using the pro rata distribution calculation, the Honorable Mention awards among the following mediums or category:
 - a) Painting and Drawing,
 - b) Photography/Digital, and
 - c) 3D Art and Textiles.
- J) PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD: Voted on by Reception attendees and awarded that night. The People's Choice award winner shall receive a cash award of \$35 plus a certificate and ribbon.

VII CATEGORIES AND MEDIUMS Main Categories

1) Painting; common mediums making-up painting are listed below in order of commonality):

- a) Oil,
- b) Acrylic (polymer),
- c) Watercolor,
- d) Pastel,
- e) Colored Pencils (Waxed or Water-based),
- f) Drawing (includes graphite, ink charcoal, and pressure print/engraving/etching), g) Collage,
- h) Alcohol Ink,
- i) Tempera,
- k) Enamel,
- k) Encaustic (wax painting),
- l) Gouache, and
- m) mixed media.

3) 3D Art may be viewed as a free-standing 3 dimensional object created by the artist and should be a one-of-a-kind art piece. Common mediums making-up 3D art are listed below in order of commonality:

- a) Clay (Earthenware, Polymers, and Dough),
- b) Marble
- c) Woodworking (Furniture, Turning, Carving),
- d) Glass,
- e) Resin,
- f) Metals,
- g) Gourds,
- h) Stone,
- i) Paper (Handmade, Folded, Book Arts, 3-D Paper Tole),
- j) Textiles (Textiles, Art Quilting, Weaving, Applique, Silk Painting, Batik),
- k) Fiber Art (Knotting, Felting, Soft Sculpture),
- l) Mixed Media,
- m) Synthetics,

- n) Recycled Materials,
- o) Paper Mâché,
- p) Cement, and
- q) Wire Sculpture.

4) Photography and Digital Art

Traditional Photography (or analog photography) is an exposure that is created using a film camera.

Digital Photography is an image captured with a digital camera or smartphone to create an electronic, digital file of a subject matter chosen by the photographer.

Under the photography category, the following elements need to be adhered to:

1. It shall be the photographer's own originally created photo resulting from their use of a camera or smartphone digital camera and cannot be taken from "stock" photos or anonymous internet photos.
2. Any adjustments to the original photo as to photo quality and artistic values will be made by the photographer.
3. Any adjustments or manipulations should not render the original photo as unrecognizable.
4. An original photo that has been rendered or modified to the extent that it completely takes on the appearance of a painting done in a style such as impressionism, among other painting styles, shall be submitted under the Digital Art Category described below.

Digital Art. The artist is making the decisions with respect to alterations, adjustments, and manipulations – but note, the completed image is not photography. Artwork submitted under the Digital Art Category *may* be required to disclose their creative and printing processes when displayed.

Digital Art involves 1) hand-drawn digital art digitally created by the artist with a pen, or mouse and tablet, in a graphics program, or 2) an artist's own original source photograph (or other piece of original art created by the artist) digitized and

manipulated by the artist on a computer to such a substantial degree that it materially differs and is not readily recognizable as originating from the artist's source photograph or piece of art.

Key Elements of Digital Art:

1. Submissions shall be the artist's own, originally created, artwork resulting from their use of a computer and cannot be taken from "stock" photos or other anonymous internet art or artwork, the artist needs to be aware of and adhere to any copyright protections.
2. Adjustments to the artwork's digital file must be made under the direct supervision of the artist.
3. Digital artists *may* be required to disclose their creative and printing processes with an unobtrusive label to be posted next to their displayed artwork.

AI Generated Art

Red Cliff Gallery does not accept AI generated art at this time. Red Cliff Gallery and Southern Utah Art Guild shall not be held liable for any copyright infringements.

AI artwork, or "text to image" art, allows anyone at any level of expertise to create art in a small fraction of time as compared to traditional art. With text-to-image generative AI tools (hereinafter, "the Tool(s)"), such as Dall-E, Adobe Firefly or Stable Diffusion, an individual (hereinafter the "facilitator") no longer needs to use their expertise or ability to draw or create an image. The facilitator will simply type a text-prompt into the Tool which in turn will generate an image. An integral portion of the generation process is where the Tool will search a preexisting dataset of art for an image that may relate to the facilitator's text-prompts. In a more complex form, the facilitator may train an AI model to create images from a dataset collection assembled by the facilitator or by giving it access to a specific dataset of art. The facilitator will then train the AI model to learn from the assembled dataset. Some of the Tools may provide the ability to fine-tune an image with supplemental text-prompts or additional visual-design tools.