

# **Prospectus and Guidelines**

The Washington County Arts Council, Inc. (WCAC) and Washington Goes Purple invite local artists working in any medium to submit their art for the September 2025 exhibit, "The Art of Overcoming: Healing Through Creativity." The juried community art exhibit will be on display in the galleries from September 4, 2025 through September 30, 2025 and virtually beginning, September 6, 2025.

"The Art of Overcoming: Healing Through Creativity - The journey through addiction and recovery looks different for everyone but the outcome benefits individuals, families, and our community. Help us celebrate those who have traveled this path and instill hope in those who are continuing on this journey."

## **About the Jurors:**

Samantha Bohle is the Prevention Services Program Coordinator for the Division of Behavioral Health Services at the Washington County Health Department. With a deep passion for educating her community on the effects of substance use, Samantha has dedicated much of her adult life to supporting programs centered on prevention, recovery, mental health, and suicide awareness. Currently pursuing a master's degree in business management, she is excited to lead the talented Prevention Services team with an open-door policy and a focus on innovative ideas. Outside of work, Samantha is often found cheering on her son from the sidelines of the football field or at the local dirt tracks, supporting her father and helping him maintain his racecar. She is also a chef who loves experimenting with new, healthy recipes, with her husband happily serving as her taste tester! Stop by and say hi today!



Cassie Hershberger is the Director of Operations for Maryland's Office of Overdose Response, where she plays a key role in coordinating efforts to address the state's ongoing overdose crisis. In her current role, Cassie leads all event planning initiatives, ensuring that key programs and outreach efforts are executed seamlessly. She provides essential support to Special Secretary of Overdose Response, Emily Keller, and is a vital part of the team's efforts to raise awareness and engage the public. Her work also includes assisting with social media outreach and digital engagement, helping to spread the office's critical messaging and resources to a broader audience.

Before taking on her current position, Cassie served as the Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Hagerstown, where she contributed to the growth and

development of the local economy through strategic planning and community engagement. Her career in event planning began as a Seasonal Event Planner for Downtown Hagerstown, where she organized community events to support local businesses and foster community spirit. She also gained valuable experience as a Recreation Assistant for Parks and Recreation in Hagerstown, helping to organize recreational programs that encouraged community involvement and active lifestyles. Cassie's diverse experience in event coordination, public engagement, and economic development makes her a well-rounded and effective leader in her role at the Office of Overdose Response. With a passion for making a positive impact in her community, Cassie continues to dedicate herself to improving public health outcomes and supporting Maryland's efforts to combat the overdose epidemic. Outside of work Cassie

**Katherine Eby** has been a dedicated peer support specialist and now she will put those skills to work as our new community health worker! She finds joy in fostering support and unity within the community. In her new role, she will focus on educating youth in the community about substance use prevention, empowering them with knowledge and resources to make informed choices. Passionate about helping others, she strives to make a positive impact on the wellbeing of those she serves.

enjoys attending local community events, reading books and walking her dog, Luna!



Beyond her professional work, Kate is an avid book lover, enjoys the soothing melodies of classical music, and has a deep appreciation for Asian cuisine. Whether at work or in her free time, she values connection, compassion, and continuous learning.

**Keya Davis** is the Administrative Specialist II for the Washington County Health Department and an active committee member for Washington Goes Purple, Keya is committed to supporting her community, educating youth, and organizing events that promote substance use prevention and awareness. She is passionate about building meaningful connections and creating opportunities that bring people together to foster a healthier, more informed community. Previously, as a licensed auctioneer, Keya honed her public speaking skills and cultivated strong partnerships with local schools, businesses, and community leaders. Having grown up in the area and remaining actively involved in her son's youth sports, she has built lasting relationships that reinforce her dedication to enhancing community well-being.



Outside of work, Keya enjoys watching her son play sports, supporting local racetracks, and cheering on family members who are still racing. She also loves traveling, relaxing on the beach, and spending quality time with friends and family.



### **Entry Guidelines:**

Artists are encouraged to submit up to three entries.

Fill out the online PR/Media Release Form.

Entries are submitted via the <u>online entry form</u>. Make sure to read all instructions and follow all directions. In person, regular mail, and email entries will not be accepted.

Submitted works should not have been shown in previous Washington Goes Purple exhibits.

Include at least one image and one document (MS Word preferred) with a <u>short</u> narrative for each piece as it pertains to the theme "The Art of Overcoming: Healing Through Creativity." The jurors would appreciate your thoughts, and if chosen, the narrative will be put next to your piece in the gallery.

Images must be submitted in a jpg format and files should be labeled: "Title of Work".jpg. Images should be as close to 1024 pixels x 768 pixels as possible with a resolution between 72ppi and 240ppi (pixels per inch). File size should be at least 1,100KB (1.1MB) and less than 2,500KB (2.5MB). Err on the side of file size even if pixels aren't within 1024 x 768.

When using a tablet or smartphone, you may not be able to rename files. Therefore, please make sure to include in the description or within the document something easy to pair them. For example, if you fill out the form with a piece titled "Lazy Day," make sure to put in the description box on the form "This piece has a large tree with a woman sitting against the trunk." If a document is required for the piece, include the title "Lazy Day" somewhere in the document. These steps will ensure each image is paired with the correct description and/or document for the jurors.

All entries must be submitted by **August 5, 2025** @ **6PM**. Artists will be notified of selection by **August 19, 2025**.

### Liability:

Once received by WCAC, all original artworks will be insured for 70% of its retail value as indicated on the provided inventory list until it has been sold or returned to the artist. WCAC is not responsible for damage resulting from poor workmanship, defects, or lack of quality control by the artist.

#### **Conditions:**

If selected, hanging works should be properly wired with eye hook placed approximately 1/3 from the top of the work and framing wire of appropriate weight should be used. No saw tooth hangers, please. See attached Hanging Specifications document. All work must be labeled on the back with artist name, title, and price.

All work must be available for sale. WCAC, a non-profit agency, retains a 30% commission on all works sold during the exhibit.

WCAC will not exhibit any work that is presented in an unprofessional manner and reserves the right of final review on all work once it has been delivered.

Work cannot be withdrawn before the end of the exhibit.

### **Delivery and Pick Up:**

Accepted works must be delivered to the gallery on August 29th, 30th, or September 2nd, 2025.

Exhibited work must be picked up on September 30, 2025, between 3 and 7pm.

Questions? Contact Chris Brewer, Gallery Manager at 301.791.3132 or gallerymanager@washingtoncountyarts.com.

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 11-7 Saturday, 10-6

Website: www.washingtoncountyarts.com