

# ArtFest February 7 - 8, 2026

FORT MYERS



## Southwest Florida's leading Chalk Street Painting experience for High School Students.

### Theme:

- Together We Rise- Unity, diversity, and collective strength.

### Eligibility:

- All Lee County Public, Private & Homeschooled High School students are invited to participate in the Chalk Block Street Painting experience. Art teachers from all schools are encouraged to register teams.

### Application Process:

- The Chalk Block application is online at [ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock](https://ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock)
- It is highly preferred that teams apply online
- Each teacher must submit an entry form for each team they are representing
- Every student must submit a student registration form
- Deadline to Enter December 5, 2025

Confirmation of team status will be sent via email to each student and their teacher by December 12, 2025

### Participation:

- Team = 3 High School Students in grades 9 - 12
- Schools are welcome to submit more than one team
- We want to ensure that all schools have an opportunity to participate, and spaces will be allocated.
- 40 Chalk Block Street Painting spaces are available

### On-site professional chalk artists:

- Sharing their knowledge of this art form with the students
- Judging the chalk street painting competition
- Creating their art pieces
- Instructional workshop led by professional chalk artists on Friday, February 6 from 3 pm to 5 pm
- Student should visit [ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock](https://ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock) for helpful videos and resources

### Judging criteria:

Use of Theme · Impact · Presentation · Cleanliness · Creativity/Originality · Group Cooperation

More information at [ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock](https://ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock) or call us at (239) 768-3602

# Timeline

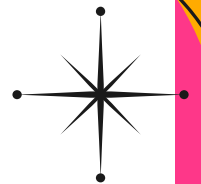
- **Friday, December 5, 2025:** Entry Deadline
- **Friday, December 12, 2025:** Confirmation emails are sent out to all qualifying teams
- **Friday, February 6, 2026:** Students must attend an instructional session with professional chalk artists from 3 to 5 pm at the ArtFest Fort Myers site.
- **Saturday, February 7, 2026:**
  - Students and adult chaperones report to the competition area by 7:30 am to check-in
  - Student artist teams will create a chalk street painting that measures 6'x6' on the asphalt surface at ArtFest Fort Myers 2025 between the hours of 8 am to 3:30 pm
  - Teams are provided one box of assorted pastel chalk, tape measure, chalkboard erasers, hairspray, baby wipes, and a container for chalk
  - Teams must complete their entire chalk drawing by 3:30 pm on Saturday
  - Judging of all entries will be completed by the professional chalk artists between 3:30 pm and 4:15 pm, with winners announced at 4:30 pm

## Reminders:

- Do some research! Resources can be found at [ArtFestFortMyers.com/ChalkBlock](https://www.artfestfortmyers.com/chalkblock)
- Explore YouTube and Google for techniques and tips
- **Please read the Rules of Entry carefully**

## 2026 Theme

**“Together We Rise”**  
**Unity, diversity, and collective strength**



2025 - Time to Shine



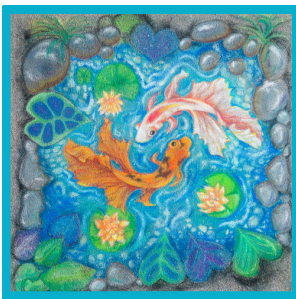
2023 - Living in Harmony



2025 - Time to Shine

# Important Tips

- **2025 Theme:** This year's theme is "**Together We Rise**" - *Unity, diversity and collective strength*
  - The possibilities are endless - see how far your imagination will take you! Don't just use the first idea that comes to mind.
- **Grid your image ahead of time:** Since you are working in such a large space, it is easy to get lost in your drawing and become confused about where everything needs to go.
  - Create a grid of your image beforehand to help you stay on track during the competition.
  - Visit [GridDrawingTool.com](http://GridDrawingTool.com) to create a grid of your image for free!
- **Guidelines for choosing art for a Chalk Street Painting:** The primary goal for choosing an image is originality.
  - An image, a color scheme and an idea that will stand out!
  - Your work must be original.
  - You will be working in a 6' x 6' square so keep that in mind when picking your team's image.
- **Your clothing and shoes will get dirty.** We suggest wearing a thick pair of socks.
  - You could ruin your shoes.
  - Bare feet will pick up the chalk and smudge your artwork.
  - If you wear socks please be sure they are thick enough to still protect from the asphalt.
  - Do not walk beyond your artwork without shoes on; safety comes first!
- **Be prepared for anything!** Sometimes the weather is not on our side, so please keep that in mind when planning your supply list.
  - You are strongly encouraged to bring either a tarp, shower curtain, or heavy plastic to protect your work in case of rain.



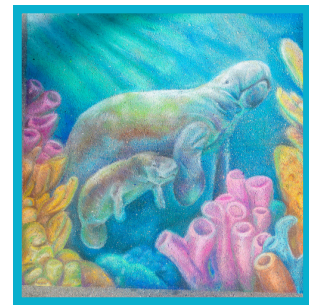
## What ArtFest provides your team:

- Assorted chalk pastels
- Tape measure
- Chalkboard erasers
- Hairspray
- Baby wipes
- A container for chalk



## What ArtFest provides to share:

- Chalk Line to help grid out your space
- Blue tape for your border
- Paper towels
- Hand sanitizer
- Each team can choose 5 extra sticks of pastels
- 2 White Chalk (if needed)
- 2 Black Chalk (if needed)




## What your team brings:

- 3 Color copies of art grid
- Gloves, cloth, sponge for blending
- Rain preparedness items- plastic tarp or shower curtain
- Old socks/surgical gloves
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, hand held umbrella
- Yard stick

# Chalk Block Rules of Entry



- All artwork submitted must:
    - Follow the announced theme
    - Be pre-approved by the team teacher/supervisor
    - Be produced exclusively by the students submitting the artwork
  - Teams must have three students – no other help from adults or teachers
  - All artwork must be produced within a designated 6' x 6' square, using only pastels supplied by ArtFest Fort Myers. No pastels can be brought from home or the classroom.
  - The provided team sticker must be displayed for the entirety of the competition.
  - On Saturday, February 7:
    - The Chalk Block registration begins at 7:30am north of the intersection of Edwards Drive and Hendry Street, at the Chalk Block Tent.
    - Upon arrival, teams will register and choose their 6' x 6' square.
    - Saving spaces for other teams will not be permitted.
  - All student Chalk Street Paintings will be judged at end of day on Saturday, February 7.
    - Ribbons and certificates will be distributed to the winning team members.
    - Judges decision is final.
  - The criteria for judging will be: Use of Theme, Impact, Presentation (neatness/cleanliness included), Creativity/Originality, and Group Cooperation.
  - No radios, speakers, or pop up tents will be permitted.
  - A shirt must be worn at all times.
  - The only "border" you can use to mark your space is tape. Cardboard or paper is not allowed. Your ability to work neatly affects your score.
  - ArtFest Fort Myers reserves the right to enforce all rules and violation of rules may result in revoking of any privilege associated with participation in the Chalk Block.
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**ArtFest**  
FORT MYERS

**Please contact us for any support you or your students may need.**

We love to help!

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