



Freedom 250 City Art Poster

City of Excelsior Springs, Missouri

Artist Application

Application Deadline: September 30, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Tell Our Story. Inspire a Nation.

The City of Excelsior Springs invites artists to help tell our community's story as part of the National Endowment for the Arts and the United States Conference of Mayors' Freedom 250 City Art Poster Project.

One artist will be selected to represent Excelsior Springs on a national platform celebrating America's 250th Anniversary.

Artist Information

Artist Name:

Business/Organization (if applicable):

Address:

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Website or Social Media (optional):

Eligibility

Applicants must have a meaningful connection to Excelsior Springs through one or more of the following:

- Resident
- Business Owner
- Student
- Employee
- Former Resident
- Other (please explain)

Artwork Title

Artist Statement

In 250 words or less, describe your artwork and explain how it reflects the history, people, places, culture, or future of Excelsior Springs and America's 250th Anniversary.

Artist Biography

Please provide a brief biography (150 words or less).

Submission Checklist

Please verify that your submission includes all of the following:

- Completed Application
- Original Artwork
- Artist Statement
- Artist Biography
- High-resolution digital file
- Signed Copyright and Release Agreement

Artwork Specifications

All submitted artwork must meet the following requirements:

- Final poster size: **24 inches × 32 inches (vertical orientation)**
- Minimum resolution: **300 dpi**
- Color Mode: **CMYK**
- File Format: **High-resolution PDF**
- Artwork must include the words:
 - **Excelsior Springs, Missouri**
 - **America 250**
- Artwork must be entirely original.
- Artwork must not infringe upon any copyrighted images, logos, or artwork.
- AI-generated artwork is not permitted unless specifically disclosed. Final artwork must represent the original creative work of the submitting artist.
- The winning artist may be asked to make minor adjustments to meet national production specifications.

Suggested Themes

Artists are encouraged to interpret Excelsior Springs through their own perspective.

Possible sources of inspiration include:

- Mineral Waters
- Hall of Waters
- The Elms Resort & Spa
- Historic Downtown
- Neighborhoods
- Parks and Trails
- Local Arts
- Community Festivals
- Tourism
- Architecture
- Natural Beauty
- Entrepreneurship
- Families
- Community Pride
- The people and stories that define Excelsior Springs

Artists are encouraged to portray the community through lived experiences and authentic storytelling rather than simply depicting landmarks.

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Points
Artistic Excellence and Creativity	25
Effectively Tells the Story of Excelsior Springs	30
Interpretation of the America 250 Theme	20
Visual Impact and Originality	15
Reproduction Quality as a Printed Poster	10
Total Possible Points	100

Copyright & Release

By signing below, I certify that:

- I am the creator and owner of the submitted artwork.
- The artwork is original.
- The artwork does not violate any copyright or intellectual property rights.
- If selected, I grant the City of Excelsior Springs permission to reproduce, publish, display, promote, and submit the artwork as part of the Freedom 250 City Art Poster Project.
- I understand that the City may use images of the artwork for promotional and educational purposes with artist credit whenever practical.
- I understand the City reserves the right to request minor production modifications to comply with national submission requirements.

Artist Signature:

Date:

City Use Only

Date Received: _____

Application Complete:

Yes

No

Eligibility Verified:

Yes

No

Assigned Entry Number: