

2026 JUROR

Catherine Mott

Catherine (Cathy) Mott is Assistant Director at the Muskegon Museum of Art. Her leadership team recently completed a \$15.6 million Capital Campaign to expand the 113 year old museum, making room for a newly acquired collection of 150 works by women artists. Cathy has been the project manager for numerous large grants, has worked with many internationally recognized artists, and has taken the lead on creating inclusive and representational exhibitions/programming. She strives to make the MMA accessible to all, ultimately cultivating the next generation of art lovers/museum goers.



SUBMISSION CHECK LIST

- ☐ Original, unframed artwork (16" x 20")
- ☐ \$35 entry fee for up to 3 pieces payable to Tulip Time Festival (check/credit card)
- ☐ Completed submission form, including bio & artist statement
- ☐ Delivered to Tulip Time Office at 42 West 8th St. Holland

All above items to be delivered to Tulip Time Friday, Oct. 3, 10AM-3PM, or Saturday, Oct. 4, 9AM-12PM. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Tulip Time Office
42 W. 8th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Please direct all questions to
Lorma Freestone at (616) 403-1015 or
TTartwork@tuliptime.com.

Past Festival Posters (detail) 2011-2025



Beth Charles, Brittany Strabbing, Maggie Schultz, Karin Nelson, Carolyn Stich, Alla Dickson, Michele Gort, Cindy Awrey, Aron Lowe, Kate Moynihan and Kristin Doversberger
John Cowden and Andrew Snyder

TULIP TIME PRESENTS



The prospectus for the TULIP TIME
FESTIVAL ARTWORK COMPETITION

a collaboration with the
artists of west Michigan



TULIP TIME PRESENTS

2026 FESTIVAL POSTER CALL TO ARTISTS

Tulip Time is pleased to announce the 2026 First Bloem Festival Artwork Competition through which a work of art is selected for the official Tulip Time poster. In addition to the poster, the artwork is used on merchandise to be sold by Tulip Time.

ABOUT THE PROCESS

First Bloem invites artists in Ottawa, Allegan, Kent, Muskegon and Kalamazoo counties to submit artwork for the official Festival Artwork Competition and a Viewers’ Choice Award. Artists may submit up to three works for a single entry fee of \$35.

ABOUT THE ARTWORK

Tulip Time’s poster program began in 1982. Its long-standing history has produced a beautiful collection representing the festival and the Holland community. The poster is an integral part of Tulip Time and marketability of the artwork will be one of the prime considerations in the selection. Tulip Time reserves the right to alter the artwork for purposes of merchandising.

THE JUROR AND SELECTION PROCESS

This year’s juror, Catherine Mott, will judge the submitted pieces and select the Top 20. The official Festival Artwork will then be selected from this Top 20 by Tulip Time.

THE VIEWERS’ CHOICE AWARD

The remaining 19 of the finalists’ original works will be placed on display during Tulip Time (May 2-10, 2026). A voting system will be used for the public to vote on their favorite artwork. The winner will be announced at the end of the festival, at the Holland Area Arts Council.

CASH AWARDS

2026 Poster Winner: \$1,000
Viewers’ Choice Award: \$500

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 3 & 4, 2025	Submission drop off Tulip Time office, 42 W. 8th Street, Holland
Oct. 17, 2025	Top 20 artists notified
Late February	First Bloem Reveal Party (poster winner announced)
May 2-8, 2026	Viewers’ Choice Award voting
May 9, 2026	Viewers’ Choice Award Reception

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Artists 16 and over are welcome to participate.
- Artists must live in Ottawa, Allegan, Kent, Muskegon or Kalamazoo counties to be eligible.
- All mediums are accepted, keeping in mind that the artwork must reproduce well and will be used on merchandise.
- The artwork theme must represent Tulip Time’s mission to celebrate Holland’s tulips, Dutch heritage and the ever-growing diversity of our community--and Tulips!
- The orientation of the artwork can be either portrait or landscape, but the size of the original must be 16” x 20”. No other sizes will be accepted.
- Artwork must be an original piece specific to 2026 First Bloem. To qualify, it cannot have been previously reproduced.
- The winning artist must be available to attend the First Bloem reception in late February, 2026 (Date and time to be announced).
- The top 20 artists will be required to sign usage agreements with Tulip Time.
- All artists must submit a biography and artist statement for their artwork. These documents should not exceed 200 words.
- All artwork is the property of the artist and may be offered for sale after the unveiling of the 2026 First Bloem Winner. If any of the Top 20 artwork sells between February and May 10, 2026, Tulip Time will retain 30% of the sale price. The price set during the submission process is and will remain the price that the work will be for sale. Please take framing into account when pricing.
- All artwork MUST be available for display May 1 - 10, 2026.
- By submitting to this competition, all artists are agreeing to have their artwork posted online.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

By **October 4, 2025**, submit the following to Tulip Time:

- Original, unframed artwork (up to 3 pieces)
- Completed submission form
- Artist bio and artist statement
- Entry fee of \$35 payable to Tulip Time
- Drop-off times:
Fri. Oct. 3, 10AM-3PM or Sat. Oct. 4, 9AM-12PM

SUBMISSION FORM (submit with artwork and payment)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email (required) _____

ENTRY 1	Title _____
	Medium _____
	Price/Value (include 30% Tulip Time Commission) \$ _____
ENTRY 2	Title _____
	Medium _____
	Price/Value (include 30% Tulip Time Commission) \$ _____
ENTRY 3	Title _____
	Medium _____
	Price/Value (include 30% Tulip Time Commission) \$ _____

LABELS (cut along the dotted lines and affix labels to the back of each)

ENTRY 1	Name _____
	Title _____
	Price/Value _____
ENTRY 2	Name _____
	Title _____
	Price/Value _____
ENTRY 3	Name _____
	Title _____
	Price/Value _____