



## **41st Annual Melbourne Art Festival Set for April 25 & 26, 2026, at Wickham Park**

### **Urgent Call for Volunteers: This Could Be Our Last Year Without Your Help**

**Melbourne, FL** – The Melbourne Art Festival proudly announces its 41st annual juried fine arts celebration, scheduled for Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, 2026, at scenic Wickham Park in Melbourne, Florida. As a 100% volunteer-run, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Melbourne Art Festival has brought joy, creativity, and cultural enrichment to the Space Coast for over four decades. However, the festival now faces an existential crisis: a critical shortage of volunteers.

At a recent Board of Directors meeting, the difficult decision was made that this could be the last Melbourne Art Festival if more dedicated volunteers do not step forward immediately. Over the years, many longtime Board members, committee chairs, artists, and show volunteers have retired without enough new people to take their places. While the 2026 event is still possible with our current committed team, the steadily declining number of volunteers makes future festivals increasingly difficult—and potentially impossible—to produce. “We are deeply grateful to the Brevard County Commission, the Tourist Development Council, and all our returning sponsors for their continued support,” said Doug Taylor, festival spokesperson. “Their backing has been essential. But without a renewed wave of community volunteers and financial support, we cannot sustain this cherished tradition beyond this year.”

#### **The festival urgently needs help in every area:**

- **Volunteers** – Prior to the show, volunteer coordination and recruitment, golf cart & radio organization and social media management. During the show weekend, setup, artist check-in, KidsWorld volunteers, security, information booths, parking assistance, teardown, and more. No experience necessary—your time and enthusiasm make the difference!
- **Sponsors & Advertisers** – Financial or in-kind support to help cover rising costs
- **Patrons & Attendees** – Come enjoy the weekend, tell your friends, and consider making a donation to support art scholarships and education programs

#### **The 41st Melbourne Art Festival will once again offer free admission, free parking, and a full weekend of family-friendly fun, including:**

- A nationally ranked juried fine arts show featuring approximately 200 artist booths from Florida and across the U.S.
- Free live music throughout the day on both Saturday and Sunday
- KidWorld: Hands-on student workshops, STEM-based activities, and interactive performances
- VIP Lounge with premium perks and an exclusive artist reception

#### **Festival Details:**

- **Dates** Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, 2026
- **Location:** Wickham Park, 2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne, FL
- **Cost:** Free admission, parking, entertainment, and kids’ activities
- **Note:** No coolers, outside golf carts

The Melbourne Art Festival is more than an event—it is a celebration of community, creativity, and culture that has enriched Brevard County for 41 years. With your help, we can keep this tradition alive. To volunteer, sponsor, apply as an artist, or learn more, please visit [melbournearts.org](http://melbournearts.org) or contact the festival office at (321) 722-1964 as soon as possible. Volunteer today. Help save the Melbourne Art Festival for future years.

#### **Contact:**

Melbourne Art Festival Office, Phone: (321) 722-1964

Website: [melbournearts.org](http://melbournearts.org) Join us.