



## **Nature Makers Market Guidelines + Information**

Thank you for your interest in the Blandford Nature Center's Nature Makers Market. These one-day markets take place in May and November and feature approximately 30 Michigan artists located in four buildings at Blandford, including our modern Visitor Center and three of our historical buildings.

### **Artwork**

The Nature Makers Market at Blandford Nature Center is a celebration of quality craftsmanship and artisan-made goods, inspired by nature and/or made of natural materials. Items for sale may include art prints, textiles, jewelry, watercolor paintings, stationery, ceramics, glassworks, wool goods, stickers, pins, wood items, botanical skin care, succulent planters, dried flowers, resin crafts, and baby items. The market is free and open to the public.

### **Jury Process**

Artists for the market are chosen by a jury of Blandford staff and board members with the goal of exhibiting a variety of high-quality goods of differing materials and aesthetics. The criteria used to jury the market include: interpretation of the theme (goods inspired by nature and/or made of natural materials); craftsmanship, detail and complexity; and creativity and originality.

All previous vendors and new applicants will be considered and juried for each market within the application window. All previously juried artists remain on our contact list, and will be sent a new Interest Form for each market. We will continue to reach out to previously juried artists AND allow opportunities for new artists to participate in each market, by leaving a small number of booths available. This allows each market to be unique with new offerings from new artists, as well as showcasing new work from previous artists. Participation in one market does not guarantee participation in future markets.

Six months prior to each market, an interest form will be emailed to all previously juried artists on our contact list and the application will open to new artists for a period of two months. Once the application closes, the jury will decide who will be given entrance into the market. Notifications will be sent out via email. Those who do not gain entrance to the market, will be notified, as well, via email.

### **Privacy Policy**

Blandford Nature Center collects names, email addresses and mailing addresses for the sole purpose of informing members and vendors about upcoming events. If payments are made with a credit card, no account numbers are kept. Information is only obtained for payment of vendor booth fees, membership fees, and date of event participation.

### **Fees**

Moving forward, each booth space is \$100. We no longer offer a membership discount for booths.

One 8' table may be rented for \$10, and will be placed at your booth.



You may choose to bring your own tables, if you prefer. Any additional tables of displays should be 6ft long or shorter. Please note that some booths are in the center of the room, and to note in your form if you have tall display structures, including photos, if you have them. Thank you!

### **Cancellations & Refunds**

Booth fees are non-refundable 30 days prior to the event. Full refunds are not available, due to processing fees. No-shows forfeit their booth fees.

If the market is officially cancelled due to inclement weather, you will be notified of your refund options.

### **Buildings, Tables + Booth Requirements**

Booth size will be limited to 10'x10' maximum, or the equivalent in space. However, because of the unique sizes and shapes of all of our market spaces, we cannot guarantee an exact booth size, and very large and tall booth displays, including walls and tents, may not work in our booth spaces. We encourage you to think about using tables and shorter displays for your booth. Due to space constraints, multiple large tables in one booth will need to be arranged in an "L" shape rather than end-to-end. When you receive a confirmation of acceptance into a market, we will do our best to communicate any space constraints for your booth. If you have any questions about this, please contact us ahead of the market.

You will be notified of your building assignment and booth size 2 weeks prior to the market.

One 8' table may be rented for \$10, and will be placed at your booth.

You may choose to bring your own tables, if you prefer. Any additional tables of displays should be 6ft long or shorter. Please note that some booths are in the center of the room, and to note in your form if you have tall display structures, including photos, if you have them. Thank you!

- No tents are allowed in any of our indoor spaces.
- No attaching things to the walls. Some booths may have windows where some items may be hung. If this is a requirement for your booth, please specify in the application.
- Entire display must be within the boundaries of the specific booth space provided. Booth spaces will be disclosed two weeks before the market.
- All vendors should display their name and/or business name at their booth.
- Electricity is available at most booths. If this is a requirement for your booth, please specify in the application.

### **Capacity Restrictions**

In order to maximize the number of shoppers in each room, you are allowed a TOTAL of 2 people working your booth space at any given time during the day. You may, however, have more than this help you with set-up and tear-down. We will have staff and volunteers monitoring room capacities and asking shoppers to line up outside the doors if the rooms are deemed to be too crowded. We also ask you to be mindful of this if you have friends or family shopping who wish to stop and chat.



### **Artist Sales**

Artists are responsible for processing their own sales. If you are in the Auditorium, EEC, or Learning Lab, we will provide you with a wifi password for connecting your sales device to our wifi. Artists in the Schoolhouse are required to use their own cell service or wifi hotspot to connect to the internet as we do not have wifi in this building. Food sales are not allowed at artists' tables. Tables must be manned at all times. If you do not have a sales partner attending the Market with you, please flag down a BNC staff member or volunteer to help keep an eye on your booth if you need to leave your table for any reason. There will be several staff members and volunteers floating around throughout the day. Tables must remain open throughout the entire event. You may start disassembling your table at 3:00 pm when the Market closes. Blandford is not liable for items stolen or damaged during the event.

### **Event Promotions**

Please help us promote this event through your mailing lists and social media! If you tag us in your social media, we will do our best to reshare it. You may see one more post between now and the event, so keep a lookout, and keep on sharing it!

### **Wifi**

Wifi is readily available in the Auditorium and Environmental Education Center, and a hotspot is provided in the Learning Lab space. Wifi is not available in the Schoolhouse.

### **Bathrooms**

There are bathrooms located in all buildings, as well as one on the back side of the Visitor Center (accessed by walking via the patio around to the north side of the building).

### **Mask Policy**

Masks are not mandatory in any buildings, but you are welcome to wear one if you prefer. Artists set up in the Learning Lab and Star Schoolhouse are welcome to open windows in those buildings, if desired.

### **Smoking/Alcohol**

Smoking is not permitted on BNC grounds.

Alcohol is not permitted at this event.

### **Parking**

We ask that artists with a booth take only ONE space in our parking lot. If you have additional drivers please park the additional vehicle at the Highlands, which is a short 10-minute walk from our Visitor Center. If there is anyone planning to bring a trailer to the market, you must notify us beforehand to make accommodations. And lastly, vehicles must be moved to the back of the parking lot once you have unloaded your goods.