

Norway Maine Arts Festival 2026 Poster Design Competition Guidelines

Lights Out is thrilled to announce the Poster Design Competition for the 2026 Norway Maine Arts Festival, made possible by **Norway Savings Bank**. This opportunity is open to high school students living in Oxford County (Maine). This competition aims to showcase local artistic talent while offering students real-world experience in professional design.

Overview

- **Who Can Participate:** High school students in Oxford County.
- **What's the Goal:** Design the official poster for the 2026 Norway Maine Arts Festival.
- **Prize:** The winning student will receive a **\$500 cash prize** and work with our Creative Director to refine their design for professional use.
- **Deadline:** Submissions are due by **Friday, March 20th, 2026**.
- **Winner Announcement:** Friday, March 27th, 2026.

Competition Rules

1. Designs must be original. Copies of commercial art or characters will not be accepted.
2. One entry per student.
3. The winning student agrees to work with Lights Out's Creative Director to refine their design for final use.
4. All designs must adhere to the **brand style guide**.
5. By submitting their design, students grant Lights Out the right to use their content as outlined in the **submission agreement** below.

Submission Agreement

By submitting their design, students agree to the following terms:

- I grant Lights Out a non-exclusive, and perpetual commercial right to store, use, reproduce, and modify the content in any form (including, but not limited to, video, internet posting, reproduction, display, email, publication, website, in social media channels, applications and distribution), either through our own services or services provided by third parties, throughout the world in any medium now known or later developed and without restriction or limitation. I waive any right to inspect and/or approve the finished work incorporating the content or the advertising copy that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which the content or said finished work may be applied. I waive any claims to royalties with regards to your content or our finished work. The artist retains all rights to the original work.

- If my design is selected as the winner, I agree to work with Lights Out's Creative Director to refine and finalize the design, and I consent to having my name, photograph, and design featured in Lights Out's promotional materials, including but not limited to social media, the festival website, and press releases.

Submission Guidelines

- **Size:** 8.5" x 14" (portrait orientation).
- **Content Requirements:** Include the following info in your poster design:
 - **Festival Title:** Norway Maine Arts Festival
 - **Date:** Saturday, September 12th, 2026
 - **Time:** 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 - **Rain Date:** Sunday, September 13th, 2026
 - **Location:** Downtown Norway, ME
 - **Website:** MaineArtsFestival.org
 - **NMAF Logo:** Incorporate the provided logo as part of the design (can be used at the bottom with other sponsors: see example document).
- **Design Elements:** Incorporate Norway-centric imagery, creativity, branded colors, and either the primary or secondary branded font. Refer to the brand style guide.
- **Format:** Submit digital files only. If hand-rendered, provide a high-quality scan or photograph. Save your file as a .png file, no larger than 10mb.
- **File Naming:** Name your file following this convention: *NMAF_FullName_2026*.
- **Submission:** Upload your design at MaineArtsFestival.org/posterdesign.

Students may include a brief explanation of their design, its inspiration, or their artistic process. While optional, this can provide valuable context for their submission.

Designs will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall creativity and originality.
- Effective use of branded colors and fonts (as outlined in the style guide).
- Inclusion of required elements such as the NMAF logo and key information (festival title, date, time, rain date, location, website, and email).
- The overall quality of the design, including composition, execution, and attention to detail.

Need Help?

If you need help, please contact us at nmaf@lightsoutgallery.org