



Historic Irvington Halloween Festival - 2026

Poster Contest Rules and Entry Form

www.irvingtonhalloween.com

The CONTEST AWARD:

- First place: cash prize, \$500 / Second place: cash prize, \$250.
- All other entries will receive acknowledgement on the Historic Irvington Halloween Festival's Facebook page.

CONTEST RULES:

1. Contest is open to all age.
 - Entrants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian co-sign entry form
2. Contest Entrants must enter the contest online:
 - www.irvingtonhalloween.com/contests
 - The entry fee must be paid online at the time of entry.
 - A confirmation email will be sent to the Contest Entrant after the form is submitted.
 - This confirmation email must be printed and attached to the back of the entry.
3. **Entries must be dropped off at The Irvington Library between July 6th, 2026 on July 17th, 2026 (during library hours). The library is at 10 S. Audubon, Indianapolis, IN 46219. Library Phone: (317) 275-4450.**
4. Entries may be created using any of these mediums: painting, drawing, or illustration.
 - If you choose to create a piece of art using a relief technique, keep the relief height to 1 inch or less.
 - You must use a medium that will translate effectively into a graphical reproduction.
 - Digital design work (including photography) is NOT allowed in the contest.
 - Entries must NOT use fluorescent or metallic colors or Sharpie markers.
5. Entries must include the following text in their design:
 - **80th Historic Irvington Halloween Festival October 24-31, 2026**
6. Entry's dimensions must be **18" X 24" or 24" X 36"**.
 - Images larger or smaller will be disqualified.
7. Multiple entries are allowed; however, a separate entry fee of \$25 is required for each entry
8. Entries must on an acid-free mat board or canvas.
9. Entries MUST be of a type to be suitable for easy framing.
 - Any question as to whether an entry is suitable must be answered well in advance of your entry. The final determination as to whether the entry is suitable is by the head judge.



10. Contest Entrants must ensure that any submitted works that includes images of identifiable private persons or homes are used with the written permission of the subjects and that those subjects are willing to have their images used by the Historic Irvington Community Council.
11. **All artwork must be deemed appropriate for general audiences to view as part of this public event.**
12. Any artwork deemed to be inappropriate may be disqualified at the discretion of the event lead or contest judge.
13. The lead contest judge has the final authority in determining disqualification.
14. The Contest Entrants must allow for duplication and use of their artwork by the Halloween Festival for promotional and publicity purposes during the time leading up to and during the festival.
15. Ownership & Usage Rights: By submitting a design, participants grant the Festival full ownership of the artwork, including the right to modify the image and/or colors as necessary for printing and use across various formats and promotional items.
16. Entrants understand that future Halloween Festivals may use entries for promotion and sale at their discretion.
17. **The Contest Entrants will donate the original artwork to the Halloween Festival.**
18. **The top 5 entries will be auctioned off for charity.**
 - The remaining entries will be returned to the artist
19. The top contest entry will become the poster image for the Halloween Festival and will be available for sale before, during, and after the festival.
20. Submission of an entry indicates that, if selected as a winner, the artist agrees to meet with a Halloween Festival representative for the purpose of signing and numbering each of the limited-edition print posters at a time and date mutually agreeable to both parties.
21. All proceeds from the auction and poster sales go to the Halloween Festival and its designees.
22. Winning entrants will receive no additional financial compensation beyond award amount.
23. The Contest Entrant with the top entry will also receive 3 complimentary print copies of their image in poster form.
24. The winning entry will be provided with a free 10'x10' booth space during the Halloween Festival Street Fair. Booth space will be provided only upon showing the artist has sufficient items to sell at the festival. Booth space is non-transferable. The Irvington Halloween Festival Planning Committee will provide space only. Entrants are encouraged to bring their own chairs, tables, and canopies, if desired. Electricity will not be provided.
25. The Planning Committee is not liable for any damages due to loss or damage during shipping or storage. Please provide any necessary packing material for transport and protection of the artwork
26. Contest awards will be distributed by the Planning Committee to the winning entrants.
27. Any plagiarism or copying of works by entrants will result in disqualification from the contest and all future contests.



JUDGING:

1. FIRST Round of Voting: July 20 – July 24, 2026

- a. The first round of voting will result in 5 FINALISTS.
- b. The 5 finalists will be determined based on the combination of in-person votes and Online votes.
- c. The Director of the Halloween Festival will enter a “Director’s Choice” entry to be included in the First Round of voting.
- d. The Halloween Festival Planning Committee will jury the top 5 entries, plus the Director’s Choice, to determine the 5 FINALISTS

2. SECOND Round of Voting:

- a. The 5 FINALISTS start the second round with a clean slate – decisions and votes from the First round do NOT count in the SECOND round of voting.
- b. Each Contest Judge will give each finalist a numerical score.
- c. The numerical score assigned by each contest judge is subjective, and no arbitrating bodies are assigned to mediate any disagreements for individual judge’s scores.
- d. The Festival Director will total the scores from individual judges.
- e. Places are awarded based on total vote count of the contest judges.
- f. In the event of a tie, contest judges will use the Originality and Creativity scores to break the tie.
- g. **The winner will be determined on July 25, 2026.**

This is a contest based on fair play and good spirit. Entrants are expected to act appropriately during the contest and to be gracious if they are not selected as the winner.