

ANTHROCON ART SHOW BIDDING RULES

The Anthrocon Art Show is an exhibit of original artworks of a science fiction, fantasy and/or “fannish” nature, especially relating to anthropomorphic animals. Here you will find for sale both flat (*e.g.* sketches and paintings) and 3-dimensional (*e.g.* sculpture and costumes) artwork created by professional and amateur artists.

To be a “bidder” (*i.e.* a prospective buyer of original artwork) you must:

1. Be a registered member of Anthrocon, as evidenced by your convention badge;
2. Obtain a bidder number at the Art Show table by filling out and signing a bidder information sheet, acknowledging that you agree to abide by these bidding rules.

If you wish to place “proxy” bids on behalf of someone not in attendance, please see the Art Show Director.

Areas of the Art Show

There are two distinct areas of the Art Show.

1. In the General Gallery, you will see original artwork depicting subjects suitable for all ages to view. This will be open for silent (written) bidding during the day and early evening Friday and Saturday, and Sunday morning. If a piece receives enough written bids by noon Sunday, it will be sent to the general voice auction Sunday afternoon.

2. The Mature Gallery is set aside for the display of original artwork depicting mature subject matter. This will be open during the same hours as the rest of the Art Show Friday and Saturday, and monitored to keep minors out. Pieces in this area which receive enough written bids by Saturday evening will be sent to a separate voice auction later that evening.

Bidding

Each piece of artwork is tagged with a Bid Sheet which provides information about that piece, including its title, the medium, the name of the artist, and the minimum bid at which the artist is willing to sell the piece. If an artist does not wish to sell a given piece, it is listed as “NFS” (Not For Sale).

On the Bid Sheet are several lines where you may write down your name, bidder number, and the amount you wish to bid for that item. The amount of the bid must be in whole dollars, at least as much as the minimum bid specified by the artist, and larger than any preceding bid on the bid sheet. Write *legibly* on the next numbered bid line. *Do not cross out any previously written bids, including your own.* If you make a mistake in bidding, please inform an Art Show crew member so we may fix the bid sheet so there are the correct number of empty bid lines.

You may not interfere with or intimidate someone who wants to outbid you. Allow them to place their bid, and then outbid them on the next bid line. If someone tries to keep you from placing a bid, seek assistance from an Art Show crew member. Anyone caught interfering with bidding will be asked to leave the Art Show, and their bidding privileges revoked.

Artists (or their associates) may not place bids on their own artwork with the intent of bidding up the price

unfairly, or to keep other bidders from purchasing a piece in order to retain it to sell elsewhere under more favorable circumstances. However, they are allowed to place “proxy” bids on behalf of a customer not in attendance.

Written bidding for General Gallery artwork closes at noon Sunday. The Art Show will be cleared of all bidders at that time, as detailed below. Pieces with enough written bids (as shown on the bid sheet) will be placed in the voice auction, which begins Sunday at 2 PM; all other art will be sold to the person with the highest written bid, if any. At the voice auction, the art is open to further bids by other people. Therefore, you should attend the voice auction to defend your bids on pieces you still want to buy. If there are no voice bids, the art will be sold to the person with the highest written bid. Although there are “runners” showing off the auction pieces, this is for *identification*, not admiration. Please take the time to examine the artwork closely while the show is open for written bidding!

For pieces in the Mature Gallery, the procedure is similar, although the times are different. Written bidding ends Saturday at 6 PM. Artwork with enough written bids will be placed in a separate voice auction for mature artwork which begins at 11 PM Saturday, and runs similarly to the General Gallery voice auction, as noted above.

All artwork sold by written bid or in either voice auction will be available for pickup Sunday during sales hours, 2 to 5 PM. Artists have the option of setting a “Price After Closing.” If a piece has received no written bids by closing time, it may be available at the indicated price Sunday afternoon if the artist still wishes to sell it. If this is the case, the blank bid line #1 will be circled in red. Fill in your name, bidder number, and the “Price After Closing” when collecting your artwork.

Be careful. When placing a written bid on items, assume that you will be the winning bidder on *all* of them. In this way, you will avoid having to pay for more art than you can afford to buy. If you have reached your limit for Art Show purchases, wait until you have lost an item to a higher bidder before bidding on another item. (Keep in mind that we must collect 7% sales tax on purchases, so allow for this in your figuring.) We provide handy Bidding Record forms so you can keep track of

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what you've bid on and where it's located to make it easy for you to find again.

Also, return to the Art Show before closing (6 PM Saturday for mature artwork; noon Sunday for everything else) to check the bid sheets to see what items, if any, you have won by written bid and which items will be going to the voice auction. After closing, because the crew is busy getting ready for the auction, we cannot accommodate anyone who wants to check their bids at that time.

Be serious. Do not make a bid unless you mean it. A bid is a binding obligation to buy that art at that price.

If you are the winning bidder, you purchase only the physical possession of the artwork; the artist retains the copyright. If you wish to make copies of a piece you purchase for any purpose, you must negotiate for the right to do so with the artist, whose name and contact information are on the back of each piece or can be obtained from the Art Show Director. (PLEASE NOTE: Artists are provided with the names and addresses of those who have purchased their artwork.)

Defending Your Bids

When the written bidding closes, crew members will form a "moving wall" starting at the back of a section and moving forward, closing bidding by artist (not by piece, not by panel, not by bay). The closeout path is shown on the Art Show map handout and poster. Closeout is done per artist in a bay: if there are 3 artists in a bay, there will be 3 closeouts in the bay; if one artist takes up the entire bay, the entire bay closes at once; and if an artist occupies more than one bay, each of their bays closes separately.

We move quickly, so when the "wall" gets to an artist you want to bid on, do your bidding *before* the auctioneer declares the artist "closed." We will not close an artist while bidding is going on, but if there is no bidding, it will close quickly, so don't be timid—if you want to bid, *bid!* We can't wait for someone to make up their mind at the last second. We want you to get your chance to bid, but do it *quickly!*

You will be allowed to defend your bids, but you may not block anyone else from bidding on any piece—the auctioneer and Art Show crew will see that it doesn't happen. If you are not actively guarding your bids, we ask that you clear the aisles at least 10 minutes before the show closes. There are a lot of people in the area, and we need to move them out as quickly as possible when closeout begins. If you are just having a conversation with someone, please take it outside the Art Show.

All this allows you to defend bids in more than one section. The Art Show crew follows close behind the "wall," marking final bids to ensure that if you're the last bid, you *are* the last bid. Once the "wall" passes a point, no one except Art Show crew are allowed beyond it.

Sales

Art Show Sales will take place Sunday from 2 to 5 PM. (If you have an afternoon ride, flight, train or bus to catch, please ask *in advance* about early sales pickup.) At this time you must personally pick up and pay for all items of art you have won by written bid or voice auction. You must show your con badge for identification, and additional identification may be requested.

If you have items in the Mature Gallery, these pieces must be paid for and wrapped before you can take them out of the Mature Gallery.

Collect your art from the panels and tables. *Do not remove the bid sheets from the artwork!* There will be work tables set up where you then fill out a sales slip, writing in the artist name, piece title, and high bid amount for each piece, as well as your real name and bidder number. (Use more than one slip if necessary.)

If you have purchased more pieces than you can carry, or need access to a locked display case, ask for help from an Art Show crew member.

Once you have filled out your sales slips, go to a cashier, who will double-check the slip against the bid sheets, add up all the prices and calculate sales tax and total, and take your payment. We accept cash, traveler's checks, personal checks, credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover), and debit cards (all major networks). ID may be requested at time of payment.

You must pick up and pay for your own purchases, and show the receipt to the entrance guard when you leave the Art Show (so keep it handy). All sales are final and all items are sold as-is; refunds will not be issued for items purchased in the Art Show for any reason.

Occasionally there are errors in tallying sales slips. We always pay the artist based on the final bid sheet price; if it turns out we under- or overcharged you, in the weeks following the con we will bill you or refund the difference.

Remember: You bid, you buy. Your bid is a binding obligation with Anthrocon and the artist for the purchase of the artwork. If you fail to pick up your artwork and/or fail to pay for it in full, we will contact you in the weeks after the convention and bill you for the price of the art plus packing and shipping costs (typically \$10–\$20 for those in the USA). Checks which do not clear the bank will be assessed a service charge of at least \$25.

Anyone who fails to honor their monetary obligations will not be allowed to participate in future Anthrocon Art Shows, and will be denied membership at all future Anthrocon conventions until all charges are paid in full. Their real name and badge name may be posted publicly so that others may be wary of doing business with them. Persons who present fraudulent checks, unauthorized credit cards or counterfeit money will be reported immediately to the authorities.

