



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Spotlight on the Arts 2026 Student Design Competition

Sponsored by the Lamar Dodd School of Art and the UGA Arts Council

The Spotlight on the Arts 2026 Student Design Competition is sponsored to select an original design for the 2026 art festival T-shirts as well as other promotional materials, which could include stickers, magnets, mugs, tote bags, etc. The winning design will be the exclusive design for the 2026 festival and would not replace the festival's logo.

When selecting the winning design, judges will consider the creativity, functionality, and reproducibility of the design. In addition, they will consider how well the design represents the Spotlight on the Arts festival. See below for more details on the festival.

All students submitting artwork must be current attendees at the University of Georgia. All entries must be the original creative work of the student submitting the artwork (i.e., no submissions of artwork created by another person or artwork created using digital AI tools like Dall-E 3). A maximum of two entries per student may be submitted.

Awards include \$500 for 1st place, \$125 for 2nd place and \$75 for 3rd place. The award funds will be paid directly to student accounts. For any questions about funds in student accounts, please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at osfa@uga.edu. There is no entry fee for this competition.

The deadline to submit designs is Friday, September 4, 2026, 11:59 p.m. EST.

Please see below for the competition rules and design requirements. For additional information, contact Lily Ding at tian.ding@uga.edu.

Design Usage Terms

The winning design will be displayed on the UGA Arts Council's website (arts.uga.edu) and social media pages as well as the Lamar Dodd School of Art's website (art.uga.edu) and social media pages. The design may also be displayed on other UGA websites, brochures, and promotional materials.

The first prize-winning submission, copyright and reproduction rights become the property of the University of Georgia and may be used by the University in connection with the 2026 Spotlight on the Arts or otherwise, including to create promotional materials, without restrictions by the artist; provided, that the University shall provide a permission back to the artist to include the submission in the artist's portfolio of work.

Design Requirements

All designs must be two-dimensional and original in concept. The primary purpose of the winning design is to serve as the front of the 2026 Spotlight on the Arts T-shirts, which are dark colored with monochromatic white designs and text. As such, **submitted designs must include an all-white version**. Keep in mind that clean and simple designs tend to work best on T-shirts as well as other promotional materials.

Designs must be submitted as vectored line art as an EPS, AI or PDF file type. The design must fit within the imprint size limits of 14 inches by 16 inches (width by height). The maximum allowed file size for uploads is 1 MB.

As the winning design will be used on the festival T-shirt, it will go through a compliance and approval process to ensure that the design and all other portions of the T-shirt demonstrate an appropriate usage of university marks. Please adhere to the following guidelines in your designs:

- Designs should not incorporate any registered trademarked logos, marks or verbiage of the University of Georgia including, but not limited to, graphics and identifiers such as "University of Georgia", "UGA". Please visit

<https://brand.uga.edu/trademarks/registered-trademarks/> to review a current list of logos, marks, and verbiage excluded for use in this contest.

Please note if your design is selected, you may be asked to make edits based on feedback from the judges and/or UGA's Office of Trademarks and Licensing. These edits would occur between September 14–18.

About Spotlight on the Arts

Spotlight on the Arts is the University of Georgia's annual celebration of the literary, visual, and performing arts. Held each November, the month-long festival highlights the arts and humanities on campus with dozens of events and exhibitions. Visit arts.uga.edu to learn more about the festival and the UGA Arts Council.

Submitting the Design

All designs must be submitted through the [online submission form](#).

Email Francis Oliver at doddcomm@uga.edu if other arrangements need to be made.