Toe River Arts extends an invitation to apply for the following upcoming artist opportunities in 2021. Below is an overview. These dates are subject to change. Please visit [www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities](http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities) for complete details, open applications, guidelines, and to submit payments.

**2021 Gift Shop Submissions:** Open to Toe River Arts members living in Mitchell, Yancey, and Avery counties. Submit up to three pieces for review for one or both Toe River Arts galleries. Work must be original, handmade, professional, ready for display and sellable in the Toe River Arts venue. Application and supporting materials must be submitted online. **Deadline to apply:** Thursday, March 26, 2021. [Apply here](http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities).

**2022 Exhibition Proposals:** Propose an exhibition for the Spruce Pine gallery for 2022. Applicants do not have to be Toe River Arts members or live in Mitchell or Yancey counties. Collaborative exhibitions are encouraged. **Deadline to apply:** Friday, April 15, 2021. [Apply here](http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities).

**Scholarship for the Arts:** Open to graduating high school seniors or adults continuing their education, majoring in any of the arts or arts education. Applicants must live in Mitchell or Yancey counties. **Deadline to apply:** Thursday, April 1, 2021. [Apply here](http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities).

**Toe River Arts 2021 Benefit Auction:** Friday, July 9 – Sunday, July 11 Help us continue to support the arts in our community by donating a piece to our second online Benefit Auction. Email nealy@toeriverarts.org for more information. **Deadline to submit work:** Saturday, May 1, 2021.

**Toe River Arts Fall Studio Tour:** Applications open to all Toe River Artist members. The Tour is a self-guided art/craft studio tour and open house held November 12, 13, & 14, 2021. Toe River Arts provides road signs, an exhibition of participants’ work, and other promotion. **Deadline to apply:** Friday, July 16, 2021. Application available Saturday May 1, 2021.

**Homeplace Non-Profit Night for Toe River Arts:** Wednesday, August 18, 5 - 9 PM Enjoy beer and wood-fired pizza and support Toe River Arts. A percentage of sales from the night will be donated to Toe River Arts. Homeplace is located at 321 W Main Street in Burnsville.

**Artist Support Grant:** A competitive grant program supporting projects pivotal to an artist’s career. Artists from Avery, Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey counties may apply. Granted amounts range from $400 to $1,200. **Deadline to apply:** Mid-September 2021. Deadline and application to be announced in July.

**Burnsville 2D Gallery:** Toe River Arts members living in Mitchell or Yancey County may propose a four-week exhibition for the Community 2D Gallery in our Burnsville gallery. **Six slots are available at a first come, first served basis.** [Apply here](http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/artist-opportunities).

**Studio Signs** are available for Toe River Arts members to order. Post with tri-color bands and double-sided sign with studio name, $100; Post will tri-color bands, $65. Email brady@toeriverarts.org for more information and order form.

**Rent studio space** above the Toe River Arts gallery located in downtown Burnsville. Two spaces are currently available. Email nealy@toeriverarts.org for more information.
Volunteer and receive a waived membership. Fill a front desk shift in either gift shop once a month. Email nealy@toeriverarts.org for more information and availability.

We are still feeling the effects of our loss of revenue due to the ongoing pandemic. Please consider making a donation to support our efforts in Mitchell, Yancey and Avery counties. Donate here.

The following are other events available to artists. These are not Toe River Arts events. Please contact sponsoring organizations for more information. These dates are subject to change depending on case counts in the area and guidelines for public gatherings.

**NC Rhododendron Festival – June 18-19, 2021**
This festival draws hundreds of visitors from all over the region, hosting activities both days and into the night, including a craft fair both days. Visit www.ncrhododendronfestival.org for more information.

**BBQ & Bluegrass Festival – Date TBD**
Hosted by the Rotary Club of Spruce Pine. For more information contact info@sprucepinebbqbluegrass.org or visit www.sprucepinebbqbluegrass.org.

**Mt. Mitchell Crafts Fair - Date TBD**
Crafts Fair on the Burnsville Square. Handcrafters from all over the United States come to sell their wares. Contact the Yancey Chamber of Commerce at info@yanceychamber.com or visit www.yanceychamber.com for more info.

**Old Timey Day Festival - Date TBD**
Sponsored by the Yancey History Association. For more info contact yhmuseum@frontier.com, or visit www.yanceyhistoryassociation.org or www.facebook.com/YanceyHistoryAssociation.

**Small Business Saturday** is a day dedicated to supporting small businesses and communities across the country. Founded by American Express in 2010, this day is celebrated each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving and our local communities often participate by hosting events downtown. Contact Spruce Pine Mainstreet, or the towns of Bakersville or Burnsville for more information.