

Minds in Bloom

Artistic Design Competition FAQ for Artists

Last revised: March 3, 2025



Minds in Bloom

ARTISTIC DESIGN COMPETITION

CALL FOR ARTISTS

COMPETITION OPENS: MARCH 1, 2025
COMPETITION CLOSES: APRIL 15, 2025

An Artistic Exploration of
Mental Health & Well-Being



1. What is Minds in Bloom?

Minds in Bloom is an artistic design competition hosted by the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba (MDAM) in partnership with Artbeat Studios. It aims to foster conversations about mental health and well-being through art. Artists will be asked to create a "Mind in Bloom" using mixed media and submit their entry digitally. Each entry will then be reviewed by Artbeat Studios and MDAM and 30 artists will be invited to showcase their work at the event. Those artists will be provided a human head-shaped vase (featuring diverse representations) and be asked to display their Mind in Bloom creation in it at the event. All Minds in Bloom entries will then be auctioned off at the event and proceeds will go to support MDAM's youth mental health programs.

The goal is to represent mental health themes in creative and meaningful ways.

2. Who can participate?

The competition is open to artists of all skill levels, including emerging and professional artists. Participants must be residents of Manitoba and passionate about mental health advocacy through art.

3. What materials can I use?

Artists may use various artistic mediums, including paint, sculpture, collage, textiles, plastic, glass, seashells, and more. The only restriction is that real flowers cannot be used; however, artists are encouraged to interpret floral and natural elements creatively.

4. How do I enter?

Interested artists must complete an application form and submit it by the deadline. Selected participants will be provided with a vase and additional competition guidelines.

5. Is there an entry fee?

No, there is no entry fee.

6. What are the judging criteria?

Entries will be judged based on creativity, originality, thematic representation of mental health, and overall artistic execution. Artbeat Studios and MDAM will be curating each piece for this event.

7. Will my artwork be displayed?

Yes! Completed pieces will be showcased at the Minds in Bloom fundraising luncheon on May 15, 2025. Selected artworks may also be featured in promotional materials and social media campaigns.

8. What happens to my artwork after the event?

As part of the fundraising initiative, completed artworks will be auctioned off, with proceeds supporting MDAM's mental health programs.

9. Are there prizes?

While the main goal is to foster awareness and dialogue around mental health, prizes will be awarded to the top 3 audience favorite entries. Everyone who attends the event will be provided a ballot and asked to vote on their top 3 entries in the Minds in Bloom Artistic Design Competition. Currently, the prizes for the top 3 entries include:

- 1st Place: \$100 + weighted blanket from Silk & Snow, affirmation cards, Thinking Trap Magnets, Kindness Cards, and MDAM's 16-month wall calendar (June 2025–December 2026).
- 2nd Place: \$75 + same prize package.
- 3rd Place: \$50 + same prize package.

We are approaching various businesses to try to increase our prize packages. More details will be announced closer to the event.

10. How can I learn more or get involved?

For more details, visit <https://moodmb.ca/event/minds-in-bloom/> or contact us at mixedprogram@moodmb.ca.

11. Since I won't receive a vase to place my creation in when I initially sign up, what am I supposed to place it in for submission purposes?

Please use a suitable container or vase that would allow you to easily transfer your design to a head-shaped vase, should you be asked to showcase your work at the fundraising event. You will not be judged on the quality of your vase / container – only on the artistic design merit of your work.