



Department of the Treasury United States Mint

Call for Artists/Application Packet: United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program MASTER DESIGNERS (Professional Artists)

The United States Mint is inviting artists to participate in a renaissance of American coin and medal design. The Artistic Infusion Program has been created to enrich and invigorate the design of United States coins and medals by developing a pool of **up to 20 professional artists (Master Designers)** and **up to 20 college and graduate-level art students (Associate Designers)** in sculpture, engraving, drawing, graphic design, painting, printmaking and other visual arts who will be invited to create and submit new designs for selected coin and medal programs throughout the year.



The National Endowment for the Arts has partnered with the United States Mint for the evaluation of applications and the artist selection process.

The United States Mint was created by Congress in 1792 to produce circulating coins for the nation's trade and commerce. Today, the Mint creates popular coins such as the 50 State Quarters® Program and the new nickel series, commemorative coins and congressional medals that honor outstanding persons and events of special meaning to the American people (past coins and medals have memorialized leaders and statesmen, pioneers of flight, and achievements in science and medicine), and bullion investment coins in a variety of precious metals. **In addition to the classic work of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, who created the 1907 \$20 gold piece, modern commemorative coins have been designed in the past decade by outside artists including: Jamie Wyeth, Tiffany & Co.®, Marcel Jovine, Marika Somogyi, Ed Dwight, Patricia Lewis Verani, William Woodard, Edward Southworth Fisher, George Klauba, Thomas M. Nielson, Joseph Peña, James Sharpe, Dean McMullen, Bill J. Leftwich, Charles J. Madsen, Richard T. LaRoche, Scott R. Blazek, Malcolm Farley, Bart Forbes, Clint Hansen, Calvin Massey, Frank Gasparro, and Don Troiani.**

The United States Mint encourages applications from talented artists, representing diverse backgrounds and a variety of interests reflecting those of the American people, who will look at coin design in new ways. Artists selected to participate in the program will be paid honoraria for their work, and those whose designs are used for certain coins and medals will be named as the designer in historical documents, including certificates of authenticity and promotional materials. Most importantly, the program provides the nation's most gifted artists with the opportunity to contribute beautiful designs to coins that will be enjoyed by all Americans.

An orientation session and designer symposium will be held for artists selected to participate in the program (attending at the Mint's expense) on **Thursday and Friday, February 19 and 20, 2004**, at the United States Mint in Philadelphia to learn about the history of United States coin and medal design, the coin making process and upcoming design opportunities.

Please Note: At this time, the Artistic Infusion Program is limited to coin and medal design (i.e. drawings) and does not encompass the execution (sculpting and engraving) of designs. The United States Mint Sculptor/Engravers will model designs created by the Artistic Infusion artists.

Application Deadline (Postmarked): January 9, 2004

Eligibility Requirements for Master Designer Applicants:

The United States Mint will select a group of up to 20 professional artists of high artistic quality from the various disciplines of visual arts, including, but not limited to, graphic design, sculpture, engraving, drawing, painting and printmaking.

To qualify as an applicant in the Master Designer category, you must be:

1. A citizen of the United States.
2. An established professional visual artist, defined as someone who:
 - a. Has received specialized training in his or her art form;
 - b. Has derived his or her principal income from their art for a minimum of five years at the time of application; and
 - c. Has a history of public presentation of their art in a professional context, such as a one-person gallery show, work appearing as part of a curated exhibit or in the permanent collection of a museum; or appearing in a professional journal.
3. Willing to accept the Terms and Conditions for participation in the Artistic Infusion Program, as described in these guidelines.

Master Designer Applicants Please Submit the Following Materials:

1. A professional **resume**, which must contain, at a minimum, information on your professional training; a list of exhibits, collections, public presentations or publications in which your work has been featured; and a list of any grants, awards, honors or professional prizes you have received. Also include a list of any coins or medals you may have previously designed.

2. **Eight to twelve samples of your work** as an artist, submitted on 35mm slides. Please label each slide with your name, a number, an arrow or the word "top" indicating orientation of the image, date, title of the work, materials and dimensions. Please do not submit original slides or original artwork.

3. An **Artist Slide Sheet** corresponding to the labeled slides. Identify each slide by number, title, date, materials and dimensions. Please include your name on this sheet.

4. A **statement**, no more than 250 words in length, in which you describe your work as an artist and how it might contribute to the United States Mint’s goal of invigorating the design of our nation’s coins and medals.

5. A completed **application form**.

6. The original **drawing exercise** outlined below.

7. A **self-addressed envelope of sufficient size and postage** to return all of your materials once the review process is concluded. Support materials will not be returned without this envelope.

8. (Optional) A self-addressed stamped **postcard** if you would like to receive notification of receipt of your application by the United States Mint.

Important Note: Neither the United States Mint nor the National Endowment for the Arts is responsible for damage or loss of submitted materials, whether or not such damage or loss is caused by negligence on the part of the United States Mint or the National Endowment for the Arts, the agencies’ employees or agents. All supporting documents submitted must be duplications of work. No originals or single editions of works will be accepted.

Application Checklist

- Resume**
- 8-12 35 mm slides**
- Slide Sheet**
- Statement of Intention**
- Application Form**
- Design Exercise**
- Self-Addressed
Stamped Envelope**
- Postcard (optional)**

Selection Criteria:

Master Designers will be evaluated and selected by a panel assembled by the National Endowment for the Arts, based on a review of their support materials and application, in two categories:

- Artistic Excellence, which includes:
 - Ability to conceptualize and execute a design with a strong visual concept that is clear in image and meaning
 - Excellence in representational drawing
 - Compositional skills that demonstrate the ability to create a design that is a unified whole
 - Ability to produce works of art that represent the dynamic nature of the subjects and portray a sense of vitality in the subject matter

- Artistic Merit, which includes:
 - Evidence of interest in research that is critical to understanding historical events, symbols and personalities
 - Excellence in figurative art and graphic arts and lettering demonstrating the candidate's ability to create an image that can be translated in a 3-dimensional bas-relief sculpture

Design Exercise:

Because examples of work submitted by Master Designer applicants may not capture each artist's proficiency in representational art (which is inherent to this program), Master Designer applicants are asked to create and submit, as part of the application, an original state quarter drawing based on the following fictional narrative for the state of Maryland (2000 quarter):

“The Chesapeake Bay provides many important economic, recreational, and educational resources for the people of Maryland. The Bay’s rivers, wetlands, trees and land all provide the ideal habitat for many plant and animal species. Some better-known inhabitants of the Bay include blue crabs, oysters, and striped bass. However, the Bay is also home to a variety of shark, shrimp, reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, and submerged aquatic vegetation.”

Also incorporate the phrase “Old Line State” (Maryland’s nickname) into the design.

Please use the following guidelines when creating the design:

1. Submit only one design.
2. Designs must be detailed, finished drawings. Please use the selection criteria listed above as a reference when completing the drawing.
3. Drawings should be executed in ink, pencil, or (fixed) charcoal, and enclosed in a plastic sleeve for protection. No 3-D or color designs will be considered.
4. **Designs must be submitted in the attached quarter template.**

Please note: The United States Mint will NOT use the submitted original drawings for any purpose other than for review in the application evaluation process for the Artistic Infusion Program. This drawing will be returned in the artist’s self-addressed envelope.

PLEASE SEND APPLICATIONS (POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 9, 2004) TO:

**United States Mint
C/O Artistic Infusion Program
801 9th Street, NW—5th Floor
Washington, DC 20220**

(Please indicate “MASTER DESIGNER APPLICATION” on envelope.)

Please direct all inquiries to the United States Mint by e-mail at art@usmint.treas.gov or by telephone at (202) 354-7727. Additional copies of this Call for Artists/Application Packet are available on the United States Mint website at www.usmint.gov or by calling the telephone number above.

Student artists please see the ASSOCIATE DESIGNER Application Packet.

Notice Concerning Delivery of First-Class and Priority Mail:

The delivery of first-class mail to the United States Mint has been delayed since mid-October 2001 and delays are expected to continue. Until normal mail service resumes, please consider using alternate delivery services when sending time-sensitive material.

Some or all of the first-class and priority mail we receive may be put through an irradiation process to protect against biological contamination. Support materials, such as artwork and slides, put through this process may suffer irreversible damage. We encourage you to consider using alternate delivery services, such as FedEx, DHL, and UPS.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please contact us if you have questions. The United States Mint will not accept any application materials by electronic transmission (i.e., FAX or e-mail).

Terms and Conditions for Artistic Infusion Program Master Designers

- As a condition of participation, each Master Designer must enter into a one-year agreement with the Mint, renewable at the Mint’s discretion, with up to two option years, to participate in the Artistic Infusion Program and submit designs for selected coin and medal programs.
- When it is determined that a United States Mint program (for example, commemorative coins, medals, platinum bullion coins, 50 State Quarters® Program) will require designs by the Artistic Infusion artists, an invitation will be extended to Master and Associate Designers to submit the required designs.
- Master Designers will receive an honorarium of \$1000 when they accept an invitation by submitting a design for a specified program. The total honorarium per invitation is \$1000, whether one design or multiple designs are submitted in response to the invitation.

- An additional \$1000 will be paid to a Master Designer whose obverse or reverse designs are ultimately selected and used for any coin or medal program for which an invitation to submit a design was extended.
- All design submissions to the United States Mint must be assigned to the Mint and will become its sole and exclusive property. All submissions must be accompanied by a completed and signed rights transfer document that will be provided by the United States Mint with each invitation. (Please see attached legal provisions for submission of designs to the United States Mint.)
- To remain active in the Program, Master Designers must accept at least one invitation during each year of their agreement by submitting an appropriate design, which meets the program criteria.
- Every Master and Associate Designer will be invited to submit at least one design during each year of his or her agreement.
- All Master Designers will be required to attend an initial Orientation Session and designers whose option years have been exercised will be required to attend at least one Artistic Infusion Program Designer Symposium per year, at the expense of the United States Mint.
- Master and Associate Designers will be responsible for any necessary revisions to their submitted designs, as requested by the United States Mint (Department of the Treasury) or its advisory bodies, the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. Changes may relate to historical accuracy, appropriateness or coinability.
- Master Designers may be considered special government employees subject to applicable ethics laws and regulations, such as conflict of interest and financial disclosure provisions.

Important Dates

Deadline to Submit Applications (Postmark Date)	January 9, 2004
Artist Notification	January-February 2004
Orientation Session in Philadelphia	February 19-20, 2004

Artist Name: _____

MARYLAND
1788

2000
E PLURIBUS UNUM



UNITED STATES MINT
ARTISTIC INFUSION PROGRAM
MASTER DESIGNER (Established Artist)
APPLICATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIPCODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

MOBILE _____

E-MAIL _____

SOCIAL SECURITY # (optional, required if selected) _____

By signing this document I certify that:

I am currently a citizen of the United States. All information and statements in my application materials are true and correct to my knowledge. I have created all material that has been submitted as documentation.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Attachment: Legal Provisions Regarding Submission of Designs to the United States Mint for Master and Associate Designers Selected to Participate in the Artistic Infusion Program

If selected to participate in the Artistic Infusion Program as a Master or Associate Designer, coin and medal designs that you submit to the United States Mint must be assigned to the Mint and will become its sole and exclusive property. All submissions must be accompanied by a completed and signed rights transfer document that will be provided to you by the Mint with each invitation.

The Mint expects that the scope of assignments and releases for individual coin or medal programs will depend on the needs of the specified program, and terms and language may vary. Please consider that as a Master or Associate Designer you may be asked to:

- Relinquish and transfer to the Mint in perpetuity all rights in designs you submit to the United States Mint, and in their drafts, even if the design or draft was prepared before signing a contract with the Mint or are not ultimately used by the Mint. This means that you will not retain any rights in these designs or drafts, and will not be able to use or allow others to use them (or designs substantially similar to them) without specific written permission from the Mint in its sole discretion. For example, without permission you may not be able to display these designs or drafts on a web site, or license them for use by any third party. You also may not be able to use or license an unused version or draft of a submitted design, even if it existed before you signed your contract with the Mint.
- Ensure that your submitted designs are entirely original. If your design contains or is based on third-party intellectual property (such as a photograph) or affects third party rights (such as an individual's name or likeness), you must (without assistance, payment or prompting from the Mint) have obtained all consents necessary to ensure that the Mint, without further action, will own all rights in the design and its drafts, when you sign your rights transfer agreement. Necessary consents must allow the Mint to use and allow others (such as licensees) to use or modify and use them in any manner in all media and markets worldwide for commercial or other purposes in perpetuity without further restriction, approvals, permissions or compensation.
- Waive and agree not to enforce any "moral rights," such as rights of attribution and integrity in specific designs and drafts, and waive any right to inspect or approve any finished product and any advertising, marketing, promotional material or merchandising products and materials. Depending on the specified coin or medal program, the Mint may use your design without placing your name or initials on the coin or medal.
- Make warranties, such as those concerning design ownership originality, third-party rights clearances, and your power and authority to sign our agreements.
- Indemnify the United States government, for example against any claims for breach of your warranties or for infringement of copyright or other third party rights.
- Release and hold harmless the United States Mint, the United States government, and their agents and assigns, from claims and/or liability.