

2026 ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

VENDOR APPLICATION GUIDELINES

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1. PURPOSE AND EXPECTATIONS

The Choctaw Nation Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show celebrates authentic craftsmanship, cultural integrity, and community engagement. These guidelines ensure a safe, fair, and respectful environment for all vendors and visitors.

2. VENDOR SELECTION PROCESS

2.1 Application Dates

- Application Opening: **March 2, 2026**
- Application Closing: **April 17, 2026**
- Vendor selections will be communicated no later than **May 15, 2026**.

2.2 Application Requirements

- Description and images of all arts and crafts you plan to sale as a vendor
- Business social media handles (if available)
- Contact information
- Returning vendor status
- Choctaw tribal member status
- Other tribal affiliation status
- Tribal veteran status
- Non-tribal veteran status
- Choctaw Artist Registry status
- Passed background check

2.3 Application Review Process

- All applications will be reviewed by the 2026 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show Vendor Selection Committee.
- Vendor applicant's tribal member status, veteran status, and Choctaw Artist Registry status will all factor into the review process by the selection committee.
- Upon completion of the review process by the 2026 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show Vendor Selection Committee, applicants will be notified of their vendor acceptance or rejection.



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

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3. BOOTH OPERATIONS

3.1 Relevant Vendor Dates

- Thursday, September 3, 2026 — Load-In Date
- Friday, September 4, 2026 — Festival Date
- Saturday, September 5, 2026 — Festival Date
- Sunday, September 6, 2026 — Festival Date
- Monday, September 7, 2026 — Load-Out Date

3.2 Booth Information

- Selected vendors must pay a \$50 booth fee for a single booth space. The fee for two booth spaces will be \$100.
- Each booth space measures approximately 8' x 10'.
- Vendor booths must remain open during all public hours.

4. PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS & CULTURAL INTEGRITY

4.1 Handcrafted Items Only

- All items sold must be handcrafted by the vendor or by an artisan represented by the vendor. Purchased or mass-produced items may not be resold.

4.2 Prohibited Items - The following items are not allowed under any circumstances:

- Dreamcatchers (not a Choctaw cultural tradition and considered cultural appropriation)
- Commercially manufactured blankets, shawls, or textile goods (unless significantly altered with original Choctaw beadwork, patchwork, or appliqué and approved in advance)
- Silk-screened or direct-sale items (t-shirts, caps, ties, etc.) unless the vendor created the design



4.3 Modified Commercial Items

- Commercial items enhanced with beadwork, patchwork, or Choctaw-related design require prior approval from the Arts & Crafts Coordinator.
- If a vendor is uncertain of whether their items meet the requirements of the 2026 Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show, they are encouraged to email the Arts & Crafts Lead at **PublicArts@choctawnation.com** with images of items. If a vendor does not receive proper pre-approval of items from the Arts & Crafts Lead, the selection committee may deny the vendor's application upon judging review.

4.4 Cultural Representation

- Items must be marketed truthfully regarding tribal affiliation and heritage. It is illegal to imply that an item is Native-made or Choctaw-made if it is not.
- Vendors must comply with the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-644).
 - Penalties include fines up to \$250,000 and/or five (5) years imprisonment for individuals, and up to \$1,000,000 for businesses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or clarifications prior to the event, vendors may contact the **Choctaw Nation Arts & Crafts Show Lead – Claire Green Young.**

Email: PublicArts@choctawnation.com

Upon your selection as a 2026 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show Vendor, you will receive a full 2026 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show Selected Vendor Guidelines document for review.

