



## ARTIST DATES, TIMES & GENERAL INFO

**PICK UP:** Whales and Sharks can be picked up by the artist or sponsor on **Wednesday, March 4, 2026**, between **5:15pm and 6:15pm** at the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center, 847 Orleans Road (Rte. 28), North Chatham.

**PHOTOS AND DROPOFF:** The art will be photographed on the **5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June between 8:30-9:00am**, weather dependent, behind Simpler Pleasures, 433 Main Street, Chatham.

**\*NOTE:** *Your art will be collected at this time. Please make sure it is finished and dry before arriving on picture day.* In order to receive a check for 50% of the proceeds from the sale of your art, all artists must submit a completed 2026 W-9 ([access here](#)) BEFORE artwork is accepted and installed in the Park, regardless of anticipated earnings.

***Once dropped off, the whales and sharks become the property of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association. You may not remove the art once it is installed or after the auction ends. The whales and sharks will be auctioned on Bidding for Good; 50% of the sale price will be paid to the artist and the balance, after expenses, goes to charities and other events supported by the Chatham Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association.***

**PLAQUES:** Each whale/shark will have a carved plaque with the names of the sponsor and the artist attached to the stand of the whale/shark in the park. The artist's name ***as it should appear on the plaque (with exact spelling)*** should be emailed to Jerry Evans at: [chathamwind@outlook.com](mailto:chathamwind@outlook.com) no later than May 1, 2026. There will be a \$35.00 charge to re-carve the plaque if there is an error.

**ADVERTISEMENT:** In terms of total visitors, Art in the Park is Cape Cod's largest art show. However, you may not advertise your business on your whale/shark. Whales and sharks with business advertisements will **NOT** be included in the show. QR codes, website addresses, plaques, and any other advertisements are strictly prohibited and will be removed if added after the art is installed.

**ARTIST BIO:** If you would like an artist bio added to the auction website, please email it to: [artinthepark@chathaminfo.com](mailto:artinthepark@chathaminfo.com). Bios should be submitted as a Word document of no more than 200 words and must be received by May 1, 2026.

## PAINTING TIPS

The whales/sharks are cut from VERSATEX, a PVC material that is best painted with acrylic or latex paint. Oil paint is NOT recommended; it deteriorates the Versatex.

**EDGES:** The edges of the sharks and whales must be sanded, primed or gessoed, painted, and sealed, including the mouth of the whale/shark. If your edges are rough, they accumulate dirt and adversely affect the amount bid for your art. A dark color on the edges is recommended; but no matter the color, **DO NOT** leave the edges unpainted and unfinished.

\*\*We ask artists to check on your whale/shark just before the auction closes to touch-up and clean it. *There is nothing worse than a bidder who may have seen your art in pristine condition at the beginning of the summer only to have a dirty whale/shark shipped to them.*

**PRIMER:** Use acrylic/latex primers such as Benjamin Moore's Fresh Start 023 or 046. Other brands of primer are fine as long as they are latex/acrylic or Gesso.

**PAINT:** Please use high quality, light-resistant paint. Latex or acrylic paints are recommended—Benjamin Moore, Sherwin Williams latex, or another good quality fade-proof acrylic paint. Artists' acrylics may also be used. Bidders expect to receive a quality piece of art that will last, and this begins with quality products. If you do not paint a scene on the back side of your whale/shark, it should still be painted and/or fully sealed to keep the back from getting dirty. The base material, if left untreated, will attract dirt & grime.

**PAPER:** The whales and sharks will be outdoors for several months. We do not recommend decoupage (paper) of any kind since it is vulnerable to the elements. Year after year we have failures and artists must redo their work at the end of the auction before the piece can be given to the buyer.

**WOOD:** It is **NOT** recommended, but if you add wood to your art, please sand and fully seal the edges, and attach it with an **outdoor** adhesive with pegs, if possible. Wood tends to warp, is almost impossible to clean, and gets moldy when exposed to the elements. Wood also adds weight and creates mounting and shipping issues. This is an annual issue, therefore we strongly discourage the use of wood.

**RESIN/EPOXY:** If you use resin/epoxy as part of your creative process, it is important to carefully seal all edges, including the top. Rain can cause water to get underneath the surface of the resin/epoxy and ruin the work. This is another issue we see annually.

**SEALER:** The whales and sharks are out in the elements for several months. Krylon Acrylic Crystal Clear for **exterior/outdoors** works best as a sealer. Be sure to let paint cure completely before sealing. Carefully apply **at least two coats of sealer** to all surfaces of art, including

edges and inside the mouth. The whales and sharks that stay cleanest throughout the summer are sealed with several coats, especially the edges. If you have questions or need recommendations on sealing, please reach out to us at: [artinthepark@chathaminfo.com](mailto:artinthepark@chathaminfo.com).

**RODS:** Threaded 7/16” thick rods will be used to mount the art. Do not cover the pre-drilled holes on the bottom of the whale or shark.

**EXTRA WEIGHT:** If your whale/shark is excessively heavy, it is your responsibility to provide a method to mount it. Please contact us in advance for recommendations. The weight limit is 25 pounds.

**SHIPPING:** We have invested in custom shipping boxes. Whales and sharks without adornments work best. If your whale/shark is especially heavy or fragile, we will not attempt to ship it; it will be noted on the bidding website as: “Not available for shipping.”

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

If you plan to send the whale/shark to *Blazing Editions* or another photo printer to adhere a photo, it is important to properly prepare the cutout before sending it to the printer. All edges—***including the mouth of the whale/shark***—should be sanded, and all edges and the back side of the cutout (***but not the front***) should be primed & sealed.

- Please use Gesso or an acrylic or latex primer and
- Minwax polycrylic crystal clear topcoat sealer (it comes in satin, gloss, or matte finish and is best applied with a sponge brush)

*Prints on metal work best. We do not recommend printing on canvas as it does not hold up well in the elements.*

## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN ART IN THE PARK 2026!

Questions should be directed to: [artinthepark@chathaminfo.com](mailto:artinthepark@chathaminfo.com)

**I have read these rules and agree to comply with all requirements.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

