Wearable Art Show
Participation Guidelines

The Wearable Art Show, created by the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council, began in 1987. The first several shows didn't have themes and were held in the old black box theatre at the original Main Street Gallery, located in the Red Men building. From the first Wearable Art Show, where the models paraded around the theatre twice because there were only a dozen or so pieces, to today with four sold-out performances and 30 to 35 artists, Ketchikan's Wearable Art Show is a testament to the creative spirit of the community and has become a fine tradition of community members creating artwork out of found objects to wear on the runway!!!

Important Dates:

- Materials and Travel Grants due December 11, 2026, 5:00pm
- Applications due: Wednesday, January 6, 2027 – Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council, 330 Main Street
- Mandatory Artists' meeting: Wednesday, January 20, 2027, 5:30pm, Main Street Gallery, 330 Main Street
- Modeling Workshop: Wednesday, January 27, 2027, 5:30pm, location TBD
- Mandatory Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday, February 3, 2027, 6pm Ted Ferry Civic Center
- Performances:
  Thursday, February 4, 2027, doors at 6pm, performance at 7pm
  Friday, February 5, 2027, doors at 7pm, performance at 8pm
  Saturday, February 6, 2027, MATINEE, doors at 1pm, performance at 2pm
  Saturday, February 6, 2027, doors at 7pm, performance at 8pm
- Artist and model After Party and Exhibit Opening: Friday, February 12, 2027, 5-7pm at the Main Street Gallery

Guidelines:

Artists of all media are invited to create functional —and not so functional—pieces of WEARABLE ART. You are encouraged, but not required, to create pieces that align with the theme. This is a community event —please be respectful of your fellow artists and neighbors at the venue. The Wearable Art Show will accept artists and models ages 14 and up. If an artist or model is 13 or younger, they may perform in the March 27, 2027, Youth Wearable Art Show at the Kayhi Auditorium. Artists and models 14 to 18 may perform in BOTH the February Wearable Art Show AND the Youth Wearable Art Show.

- The Wearable Art Show showcases artwork made by you, designed to be worn on the human body.

- Entry is FREE for KAAHC ARTIST members! If you would not like to be an Artist member of the Arts Council, the entry fee is $75 per artist. If you would like to become a member - or update your membership - you will be able to do that at the end of the registration form. Membership is a funding resource that helps KAAHC to hold events such as the Wearable Art Show. Memberships are annual.
- There will be a mandatory artist meeting: January 20, 2027, 5:30pm, Main Street Gallery Models are welcome. The meeting is an opportunity to ask questions, understand guidelines, and meet fellow artists.
- There will be one Wearable Art Show Model Workshop: January 27, 2027, 5:30pm, location TBD. First-time Wearable artists must attend this workshop.
- First-time artists may submit only ONE piece their first year.
- Each returning Artist may submit up to two entries. Entries can include up to six models. You must submit an application for each entry separately.
- Wearable Art must be handmade from "scratch". No ready-made costumes or street clothes will be accepted.
    - Look at your piece from all angles. The audience will have a 360-degree view and will be sitting lower than the runway (pay attention to how your piece looks from below!).
    - All visible apparel should be intentional and pertain to the piece. For example, street clothes are not appropriate to set off a beautifully crafted papier-mâché hat.
    - Consider how your piece will "read" from across a large room. Fine detail may be lost at a distance.
- Because of the limited space backstage, we ask that you check with us in advance if your piece is larger than a standard doorframe.
- **The Ted Ferry Civic Center forbids the use of glitter. Find an alternative!!!**
- Provide music for your performance that is no longer than two minutes. If the music you provided is longer than two minutes and has no timing indications, **your application will be considered incomplete.**
    - In selecting your music, consider how movement can enhance the piece and what music suits the mood of the piece – that is usually more important than the lyrics of the music. Continuity of music is important in the staging of the show, and the final decisions about music selections will be made by the Wearable Committee.
    - If multiple artists request the same music – the first artist that applied will be allowed to use the music – subsequent applications will need to select a different piece of music.
- You must submit your music of two minutes or less via thumb drive or e-mail to the Arts and Humanities Council office. You must own the music, and it must be in an MP3 or MP4 format.
- Artists must provide their own model for all performances. Models cannot appear in more than two pieces. If you need help finding a model, please call us!

- A photographer will document the event for KAAHC. It is the artist's responsibility to inform models that photos may be used in publicizing the Wearable Art Show and KAAHC. Models will be required to sign a release form. You will need to submit a model release form to KAAHC before your piece can be performed on the runway.
- Attendance at the Dress Rehearsal is mandatory for all artists and models. Models must wear the entire Wearable Art piece or have it ready to show the committee.
- Please let us know if you need ADA accommodation by contacting us at 907-225-2211. KAAHC is committed to providing access to this wonderful opportunity for all community members!!!
- You must submit up to three images of your piece with your application. You do not need to show your complete piece but must give us an idea of colors, design, and size in order for us to create a logical and exciting lineup.
- While **KAAHC reserves the right to exclude work that is incomplete or inappropriate** for the show, we in no way wish to discourage provocative, challenging, or mature art.
- **KAAHC reserves the right to alter the lineup after the Dress Rehearsal** to better serve the performance.

Questions? Call the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council at 907-225-2211 or email Erin at programs@ketchikanarts.org