



New England Mosaic Society | CT | MA | ME | NH | RI | VT |

Call for Art

Mosaic Collaborative Project: A Team Approach to Creating a Diptych

Register by April 16, 2023 at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4baead2fa3fe3-collaborative#/>

What is the Collaborative Project?

A Diptych is a piece of art created in two parts. To participate in this project, you will be teamed with another mosaic artist to create two original mosaics. Each artist starts a piece and completes one half of a mosaic. Then you send it to your teammate to finish the mosaic you started. So, each artist has the experience of starting a mosaic and finishing a mosaic started by a teammate. The challenge for the second artist is to decide whether to compliment or contrast the style of the first mosaicist. This is an interesting way to work as it disrupts your usual flow. The finished mosaics will be featured on a special webinar and, we hope, in a NEMS exhibit.

You must be a NEMS member in good standing (i.e. you've paid your membership dues for 2023) to participate. To join or renew your membership, go to:

<https://www.newenglandmosaicsociety.com/membership/>

Important Dates & Deadlines

- Register **by April 16, 2023**
- You will receive contact information for your partner the week of **April 17th**.
- Schedule a Collaboration Call or Zoom meeting with your partner by **May 5**. If you are not able to reach your partner, let us know by May 5 by sending an email to NemsProjects@gmail.com and we will reassign you. Please write Collaborative Project in the subject line.
- **May 11, 2023** at 7:30 pm - Webinar to review the Call for Art, Photography Guidelines and Collaboration Call details
- **June 30, 2023 or before:** Deliver or ship your partially completed mosaic to your partner.
- **Images due July 31, 2023.** Each member of the team submits 2 high resolution photos to via a Google Form which will be sent to you.
- **Collaborative Project Webinar** scheduled for **September 19, 2023** at 7:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to view all the mosaics created as part of this project.

Meet the Collaborative Project Team 2023

Amy Marks	amyloemarks@gmail.com
Corinne McKeown	mckeown.corinne@gmail.com
Carrie Fradkin	carrie.fradkin@gmail.com
Susan Altman	glassandgrout@gmail.com

How it works:

- The project team will pair you with another NEMS member and provide you with your partner's contact info/ mailing address. Your team will be given a number.
- In keeping with the collaborative nature of the project, each team is expected to schedule a call to discuss the project prior to starting the mosaics. Things to discuss: creative design, theme and style, materials, adhesives. If you plan to grout your portion of the mosaic, we ask that you do this **BEFORE** you pass the mosaic to your partner.
- Your team will decide when to deliver the unfinished mosaics to each other to complete. However, we suggest that you give your partner at least 4 weeks to complete the mosaic. So, you should be exchanging your half mosaics by June 30th at the latest. Both mosaics must be completed and images sent via the google form by Monday, July 31, 2023.
- Each artist will mail or deliver the mosaic to their partner. The size of the substrate was chosen so it would fit in a USPS medium flat rate box (approx. \$17). There are two sizes of USPS Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes. One box will fit a 9" X 12" substrate; the other an 8" X 10" substrate. The size of your mosaic must be one of the dimensions listed above.
- When you deliver or mail your mosaic to your partner, include a small amount of the tesserae you used so they can be incorporated into the 2nd half for the purpose of transitioning or adding an element of consistency.

Each mosaic will be photographed **twice**--at the time the first half arrives and once artwork is completed. (So, each artist will be responsible for taking and sending NEMS two high resolution photographs of the mosaic they will complete.) This should ensure consistency in the quality of the photographs for each piece when it is both half-done and completed. Instructions for taking a good photograph will be provided.

Images will be submitted via a Google form we will send you closer to the deadline of July 31, 2023.

- Image file names must follow this format:
Team #_LastName of Artist_FirstHalf_Title.jpeg and
Team#_LastNameofArtist who started the project followed by last name of artist who completed the project _Title.jpeg

Example1: Team10_Marks_FirstHalf_Two Fish.jpeg.

Example 2: Team10_Fradkin_FirstHalf_Sunrise.jpeg

Example 3: Team10_MarksFradkin_Two Fish.jpeg

Example4: Team 10_FradkinMarks _Sunrise.jpeg.

Carrie Fradkin takes a picture of this.

Amy Marks takes a picture of this.

Carrie Fradkin takes a picture of this.

Amy Marks takes a picture of this.

Details:

- **Substrate & Materials:** Each artist will use either an 8 X 10” or 9 X 12” substrate. The choice of substrate material could include: Wedi, Hydroban, MDF, wood and more.
- **Method:** Artists can choose whichever method he/she wants to use. For example, you can use the direct method with thinset, the indirect method with Weldbond, direct method with Weldbond or multiple methods in each mosaic.
- **Grouting:** If your piece needs grouting, grout it **before** sending it to your partner.
- You keep the mosaic you finished unless you’ve discussed an alternative option with your teammate.
- **Only 2D mosaics will be accepted.**

Exhibition:

The NEMS Exhibition Committee is looking for a venue to exhibit the mosaic diptychs from this project. So, please don’t sell any work before we schedule a showing.

Taking photos of your mosaic artwork

- Use natural light - preferably north light. Take your artwork outside on a cloudy day and place it flat on a surface. Use a sheet, cardboard, paper — anything solid color — beneath your artwork.
- If you take your photo indoors, do it on a cloudy day with your artwork near a north facing window. Place artwork on the floor with a neutral background beneath it.
- If you have a tripod for your camera, angle the camera so that it is horizontal and parallel to the artwork.
- Turn the grid setting on in your camera. This will help you line up the shot and you’ll have less straightening to do when editing.
- If you have resolution settings, set them for the highest resolution (300-350 dpi). Most phone cameras take the photo at their highest resolution anyway.
- Stand away from the artwork with your phone camera parallel to the artwork. Don’t get the camera too close. Holding the camera away reduces optical lens distortion. To steady the camera, use a tripod if you have one.
- Straighten and crop your image in your phone camera or camera software. You can also color correct (automatic setting) from your phone camera software if you think it needs it.
- When you send the photo make sure you send **“large”** size. The file size will be big. This is a good thing.

Questions about photographing your image? Contact Collaborative Project Team Members:

Carrie Fradkin carrie.fradkin@gmail.com
Susan Altman glassandgrout@gmail.com

General questions? Write to NemsProjects@gmail.com