



Second Annual Community Design Contest Guidelines

SouthWest Transit provides shuttle service to two of Minnesota’s most popular events—the State Fair and the Renaissance Festival. From food on a stick and carnival rides to knights, costumes, and live entertainment, these celebrations are all about community, connection, and fun.

This year, we invite you to share your creativity and help bring that excitement to life! Two SouthWest Transit buses will be transformed into moving works of art, featuring bus wraps designed by local youth artists like you.

If selected, your design will be on display and seen by thousands of riders and eventgoers throughout the season.

Eligibility

- Open to individuals ages 11-18 as of June 12, 2026.
- Must live in or attend school in SouthWest Transit’s primary service area: Eden Prairie, Chanhassen, Chaska, Carver, Victoria.
- Individual entries only (no group or team submissions).

Two age categories will be judged separately. One winner will be selected from each group.

- Ages 11-14 and ages 15-18.

There is no fee to enter. Limit one submission per person.

How to Get Entry Materials

Entry forms and design templates are available starting now:

In-person	Online
SouthWest Transit Administrative Office 14405 W 62 nd St., Eden Prairie (vestibule pickup box) Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00PM <i>Closed on May 25, 2026</i>	www.swtransit.org/community-design-contest

Ineligible Participants

The following individuals are not eligible to participate:

- Immediate family members of current or former employees of SouthWest Transit, Transdev, and May Mobility.
- Immediate family members of current or former SouthWest Transit Commissioners.

Design Requirements

Additional Guidelines:

- Artwork should reflect the theme: Minnesota State Fair **AND** Renaissance Festival.
- Use of copyrighted or trademarked materials is not allowed and will result in disqualifications (e.g., branded logos, characters, etc.)

Artwork Specifications

Designs should creatively celebrate **BOTH** the Minnesota State Fair and Renaissance Festival. Clean, clear designs are encouraged for large-scale printing.

Physical (hand-drawn) Submissions

- Accepted materials: markers, crayons, colored pencils, paint, etc.
- Do not use glitter, collage materials, or attached embellishments.
- Must be landscape orientation on 11” x 17” paper and must use the SouthWest Transit-provided design template; submissions not using the template will not be accepted.
- Every page of the design template **MUST** be completed (3 pages).



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Digital Submissions

- Templates may be imported into design software such as Adobe InDesign.
- Every page of the design template **MUST** be completed (3 pages).
- Accepted file types: .AI (preferred), .PDF, .TIFF, or .EPS
- Use CMYK color mode for all digital artwork to ensure accurate print results.
- Please include at least .25” of bleed on each side for printing.
- Must use the SouthWest Transit-provided design template; submissions not using the template will not be accepted.
- Files must be high resolution to ensure print quality: Full size: 100 ppi minimum

Final artwork will be reviewed and prepared for bus wrap production in coordination with SouthWest Transit’s print partner. Files must meet production standards to ensure accurate, large-scale printing without distortion or quality loss.

Submission Instructions

A completed submission includes:

- Entry form
- Either physical (hand-drawn) or digital artwork on the design template

All submissions must be received by: 5:00 PM on June 12, 2026

Submit in one of the following ways:

In-person	Online
SouthWest Transit Administrative Office 14405 W 62nd St., Eden Prairie (vestibule box) Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Attn: Amy Boehm <i>Closed on May 25, 2026</i>	Email: community@swtransit.org

Judging & Winner Selection

Entries will be reviewed by a panel of SouthWest Transit staff.

Judging criteria include originality, creativity, color scheme, and how well the design fits the State Fair and Renaissance Festival theme.

Winners will be:

- Notified by SouthWest Transit in June 2026.
- Announced via press release and social media.
- Be invited to present their designs at the SouthWest Transit Commission meeting on July 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Winner (or a parent/guardian) must:

- Sign a media release
- Agree to participate in reasonable promotional activities (photos, videos, interviews, etc.)

Additional Information

- Winning designs will be reproduced as closely as possible; minor adjustments may be required for printing and application.
- SouthWest Transit reserves the right to adjust winning designs and add required elements (such as logos, website, and phone number) to prepare artwork for final production.
- By entering, participants agree to the terms and conditions as outlined in the entry form.

Questions

Contact: Amy Boehm

community@swtransit.org