

## **Call for Artists – Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

### 2026 Big Steam Blues & Roots Music Festival Poster & T-Shirt Design

The Big Steam Blues & Roots Music Festival is seeking an artist to design the official poster and T-shirt artwork for the 2026 festival, taking place September 25–26, 2026, in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Artists are invited to submit their qualifications and examples of previous work for consideration. One artist will be selected to create an original design that captures the spirit and heritage of blues and roots music and reflects the character of this beloved community festival.

The selected artwork will serve as the official visual identity for the 2026 festival and will appear on posters, T-shirts, and promotional materials.

#### About the Festival

The Big Steam Blues & Roots Music Festival is a free, family-friendly event celebrating the traditions of blues, roots, and Americana music. Held in downtown Hot Springs, the festival brings together regional and national musicians for two days of live performances that highlight the sounds that shaped American music. More information about the performers can be found at [www.bigsteammusicfestival.com](http://www.bigsteammusicfestival.com). The Hot Springs Food Truck Festival also takes place in collaboration with the music festival.

#### Scope of Work

The selected artist will create:

- The official 2026 festival poster design
- A design adapted for festival T-shirts
- Print-ready digital files

Required text elements will include the festival name, dates (September 25–26, 2026), and location (Hot Springs, Arkansas).

#### Artist Compensation

The selected artist will receive an honorarium of \$1,000 and recognition as the Official 2026 Festival Artist.

#### Submission Requirements

Please submit the following materials in a single PDF:

- Artist name and contact information
- Short artist bio or statement
- 3–5 examples of previous work (poster design, illustration, printmaking, or related work)

Concept designs are not required but may be included. Artists will be selected primarily based on qualifications and portfolio.

#### Submission Instructions

Please email your single PDF submission to:

[mzunick@hotsprings.org](mailto:mzunick@hotsprings.org)

Subject line: Big Steam Festival Artist RFQ

Submission Deadline: May 15, 2026