



The Maine Carvers
SPECIAL EDITION
September 2026

**Maine Wood Carvers
Show & Competition**

“Where Cross Board Carvers Meet”

**Saturday - October 3, 2026
9 am - 3 pm**

**First United Methodist Church
703 Essex Street
Bangor, Maine**

**Register your pieces on Friday - Oct. 2nd
from 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Or
Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 7 - 9 am**

- If you would prefer to SHOW your work rather than compete, there will be space available
- Interested in selling your carving? You may! As a courtesy, MWCA asks for 10% of the sale price. Carvings may NOT leave the building until the show is over at 3 pm
- Carvering from the show at Kora Temple - April 2026 may be included in this show

4 Classes will be available during the day.....

Registration: editor.maine-carver@gmail.com

Halloween Wood Burning for teens ages 12 - 18. 9:30 am - 11:30 am and Adults 12:00 - 2:00 pm Instructor: Parker Dorr



Equipment will be available for use.

Blank fee: free

Soap Carving for kids 5 -11 (need to be accompanied by an adult. 9:30, 10:30, 12:30, 1:30 Instructor: Isaac Beaulieu Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: free

Carve a Paint Brush - for new or beginning carvers. 9:30 am and 12:30 pm Instructor: Harry Lord. Bring your knives or share ours! Cost: free



Working Shore Bird Decoy - for beginning & intermediate carvers - Day long class 9 am - 3 pm Instructor: Fred Yost Blank/Materials fee: \$10.00



Silent Auction...

Do you have things in your shop you no longer need?? Books, magazines, project that aren't finished or maybe pieces that are completed, that you no longer want - consider donating them to the silent auction!!

If you are the highest bidder, You must be at the show at 2 p.m. to pay for and pick up your prize. Cash or check only.

Both MDI WoodCarvers and Moulton Farms will be joining us - get your shopping lists ready!!

Hands that Carve - Hearts that Give

Our 1st Annual Christmas Ornament Tree project will come to life. Carvers, Wood Turners, & Pyrographic artists are asked to donate Christmas ornaments for our tree. The ornaments will be sold and the money will be given to a charity. This year's receiving charity is 'Our Friend's Place'" a social activity group for people living with memory issues.

Lunch will be available for sale.

**We're looking forward to seeing you in Bangor on
October 3rd!!**

MAINE WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION

Adopted March 2025

CARVING COMPETITION RULES

Entry Fees 2025

Level	Entry Fees	
	MWCA Members	Non-Members
Master and Advanced	\$15.00 first entry; \$10.00 each for a second and third entry.	\$20.00 first entry; \$15.00 each for a second and third entry.
Intermediate and Novice	\$10.00 first entry; \$5.00 each for a second and third entry.	\$15.00 first entry; \$10.00 each for a second and third entry.
Youth	No entry fee.	

NOTE: Entrants will be charged a fee for only the first THREE (3) carvings entered. **Additional entries are free.**

This competition is open to all skill levels. However, each carver must enter all carvings at the same skill level and may not regress to a lower level.

CARVING SKILL LEVELS OF COMPETITION

MASTER – The most prestigious level for those whose work is at the highest level: anyone who carves professionally; or has, in the Advanced Level, won two or more 1st Place awards (blue ribbons) or a Best of Show award at any competition. Professional is defined as “making a business or trade of something that others do for pleasure.” Feet and legs and habitat must be fabricated by the carver in the Advanced and Master Levels. Glass eyes are allowed.

OPEN/ADVANCED – This level is for the skilled carver whose work reflects proficiency at a level beyond Intermediate. If you have won 2 or more 1st Place (blue ribbons) or a Best of Level at any competition at this level, you are expected to advance to the Master Skill Level. Feet and legs and habitat must be fabricated by the carver in the Advanced and Master Levels. Glass eyes are allowed.

INTERMEDIATE – This level is for those who have advanced in their carving and painting beyond Novice. If you have won 2 or more 1st Place awards (blue ribbon) at this level or a Best of Level, you are expected to advance to the Open/Advanced Skill Level. Cast feet/legs may be used in the Intermediate

Skill Level. Purchased blanks or blanks from another carver may be used at the Intermediate Skill and Novice Level. Class projects and patterns from another carver may be used at this level.

NOVICE – This level is for those who are new to carving. If you have won 2 or more 1st Place awards (blue ribbon) at this level, or a Best of Level, you are expected to advance to the Intermediate Skill Level. Purchased blanks or blanks from another carver may be used at the Novice Level. Cast feet/legs may be used in the Novice Skill Level. Class projects and patterns from another carver may be used at this level.

YOUTH – Limited to competitors who are 17 years old and younger. The competitor's year of birth must be indicated on the entry form.

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

Entries:

- Carvings entered in competition must not be more than two (2) years old.
- Carvings that have been previously entered in a MWCA competition may not be re-entered.
- All entries are to be made from wood, unless otherwise specified in the category rules.
 - Other materials, such as copper, brass, craft paper, rock putty, etc., may be used for habitat and structural purposes. Feet and habitat must be fabricated by the carver in the Open/Advanced and Master Levels.
 - Carvings created from materials other than wood (e.g., antler, eggshell, etc.) may be entered in the non-traditional materials subcategory, or displayed in a non-competition area.
- Entries must be made entirely by the carver, except in the case of a team effort. A team is composed of no more than two persons.
- Carvings must not have any loose parts. Carvings must be able to stand without falling or be secured to a base to prevent falling.

All competitors must abide by the MWCA Competitor's Code of Ethics:

A carver is responsible for knowing and understanding all rules of the contests entered.

A carver is responsible for the registration of his/her carvings at the appropriate level of competition (Youth, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Master) and must move from level to level as the rules dictate.

A carver shall address any questions or problems to the Show Chairperson.

A carver shall not communicate with the judges at any time during the judging process.

A carver shall not knowingly display, or have a carving critiqued by a judge, before being evaluated by that judge in the competition.

If a carver solicits a judge to critique his/her carvings after they have been judged, he/she will accept the judge's comments and criticisms courteously.

If a carving is the work of 2 people, all names must be on the registration. Entries must be entered and judged in the class applicable to the more experienced carver/painter.

Carvers should not knowingly enter carvings to be judged by instructors or taxidermists from whose work the carving was created.

Classroom entries are allowed at the Novice and Youth levels only.

Delivery of Entries, Display, and Pickup:

- Entries may be dropped off the Friday before the show between, 6 and 7 pm. or the day of the show from 7 - 9 am
- Each entry must have the carver's identification. It will be covered during the judging.
- All entries must remain on display until 3pm on the day of the show. Once a carving is entered, it cannot be touched or altered in any way by the competitor.
- The person picking up the entry must show the receipt provided when the entry was registered.
- There is no limit on the number of entries per carver/team. Additional entries are encouraged.
- The display of over-sized entries is the responsibility of the competitor, in consensus with the registration team.
- Competitors are encouraged to place their business cards, pricing and sales information, or other identification near their entries **AFTER** the completion of judging.
- All competitors are responsible for storing their own packing materials off site until they return to collect their entries at the close of the show.
- The Maine Wood Carvers Association reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed unsuitable or not in good taste.



All reasonable precautions will be taken to protect entries from damage or loss. Entries are left at the risk of the owner. The Maine Wood Carvers Association, its officers, and/or the show committee members will not be held liable for loss or damage to entries. The Association will not recognize any claim for payment of the value for lost or stolen articles, of the article or costs incurred, whether in full or in part. Although all precautions against loss or possible damage will be taken, we all take part at our own risk.

By entering this competition, you agree that MWCA may take photographs of all entries in the competition. These photographs may be used for promotion and publicity for this and future competitions and shown on the MWCA website and facebook page.

Throughout the show “Do Not Touch” signs will be displayed and our members will be present and watchful. The safety of all our carvings and woodwork will be of primary importance. While the organizers of the competition agree to take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of articles submitted, it must be understood that the owners of each article are required to directly assume all risks, including an article being accidentally damaged.

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All awards, except the People's Choice Award, will be decided by the assigned judges. The Best of Show carving will be selected by consensus of all judges. The decision of the judges is final. The People's Choice Award will be determined by the casting of ballots by the attending public. The decision of the Judges is final.

The judge(s) are not obligated to award a First Place (or any) award if they don't feel it is merited. Judge(s) have the discretion to move carvings to a different category, to combine categories or subdivide categories, if felt appropriate.

Judges or their designee will complete the form on the back of the ribbons/rosette stating the name of the carving or its number.

Judges will follow the MWCA Judge's Code of Ethics:

A judge must have a copy of, have read, understand, and judge by the published rules of the MWCA Show.

A judge will examine all entries hands-on before making their selections.

A judge will not communicate with anyone other than fellow judges, assigned clerks, and the Show chairperson.

A judge is not allowed to enter a carving in the level he or she is judging. If a judge enters a carving, they will not judge the category they have entered. They may judge other categories in that same level but will not cast a ballot for best of level in the level they have entered.

A judge will not allow personal feelings or personal contact with the carvers to influence their decision during the judging procedure.

A judge will be fair and objective in applying the judging criteria to each carving.

A judge will recuse themselves from judging a recognized carver's work, such as a relative's carving, or student with whom he or she has hands-on work experience or has given instruction.

A Judge needs to make themselves available for feedback to carvers regarding their entry for a minimum of one hour after the judging has been completed. It is suggested they remain until all carvers have had an opportunity to receive feedback on their entry.

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Entry Form **MAKE 2 COPIES**

Maine Wood Carvers Association - Show & Competition

Name: _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____ MWCA Member # _____

Competition Levels & Fees

	MWCA MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Youth	No Entry Free	No Entry Free
Novice ----- Intermediate	\$10.00 first entry; \$5.00 each for second & third entry	\$15 first entry; \$10 each for second & third entry
Advanced ----- Masters	\$15.00 first entry; \$10.00 each for a second & third entry	\$20.00 first entry; \$15.00 each for second and third entry

ALL CARVERS: There is *no additional charge* for entering more than three carvings! Once you have paid for three carvings, there is additional fees for the rest of the carvings you enter!

Carvings entered:

Category	Description (i.e. "Wood Duck")	Number	Fee

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NOTE: This for is your receipt and you will need it to claim your entries at the end of the show