

World Museum of Mining  
"Shadows in the Drift: Visualizing the Tommyknocker" Art Contest  
Official Rules & Guidelines

## 1. Eligibility

- Open to All Ages: The contest is open to artists of all skill levels and ages.
- Age Divisions:
  - Youth Division: Ages 12 & Under (Traditional 2D Mediums)
  - Teen & Adult Division: Ages 13 and Older (Traditional 2D Mediums)
  - 3D / Sculpture Division: Open to All Ages (Clay, Wood, Metal, Assemblage, or Mixed Media)
- Free Entry: There is no entry fee required to participate.
- Entry Limit: Participants may submit up to two (2) original entries total across categories.

## 2. Artwork Requirements & Specifications

- Theme & Prompt: Artwork must visually interpret or represent a Tommyknocker—the legendary underground mining spirit known in Cornish and Butte folklore.
- 2D Artwork Specifications:
  - Accepted traditional mediums include drawing (colored pencil, graphite, charcoal, ink), painting (watercolor, acrylic, oil, gouache), pastels, or printmaking.
  - ***Note: Digital art, AI-generated art, and photo manipulations are not eligible for entry.***
  - Recommended physical size: 8.5" x 11" up to 18" x 24" for gallery display.
- 3D / Sculpture Specifications:
  - Sculptures may utilize clay, polymer, wood, metal, wire, paper-mâché, or mixed media/found objects.
  - Maximum size dimensions: 18" W x 18" D x 18" H. Must be stable and free-standing for display.
- Artist Backstory (Mandatory): Each entry must include a 2 to 3 sentence backstory describing your specific Tommyknocker's personality, lore, or role in the mines.
- Originality: All work must be 100% original physical artwork created solely by the submitting artist.

## 3. Submission Deadlines & How to Submit

- Submission Window: Submissions open Monday, October 5, 2026 and close Sunday, November 2, 2026 at 3:30 PM MDT.
- Physical Submission Drop-Off: Bring your finished artwork along with a completed Entry Form to the World Museum of Mining Gift Shop during normal operating hours.

- Location: World Museum of Mining, 155 Museum Way, Butte, MT.

#### 4. Judging, Voting, & Awards

- Judging Period: November 4 – November 7, 2026.
- Jury Evaluation: Entries will be evaluated by a panel of museum staff based on four criteria:
  1. Connection to Mining Lore & Concept (7 pts)
  2. Creativity & Originality (7 pts)
  3. Craftsmanship & Technique (6 pts)
  4. Character Backstory & Narrative (5 pts)
- People's Choice Award: A public vote will take place both in-person at the museum gallery and via the museum's official Facebook and Instagram pages from November 4 through November 7 at 12:00 PM MDT.
- Winner Announcement: Winners across all divisions will be announced on Monday, November 9, 2026 online.

#### 5. Display & Artwork Rights

- Display Rights: By submitting an entry, the artist grants the World Museum of Mining non-exclusive permission to display physical artwork in the museum exhibition area and publish photos of the work on social media, press releases, and museum archives.
- Ownership: Artists retain full copyright and ownership of their original works.
- Artwork Retrieval: Physical submissions displayed at the museum must be picked up from the Museum Gift Shop between November 10 and November 18, 2026. Unclaimed artwork after 30 days becomes property of the museum unless prior arrangements are made.