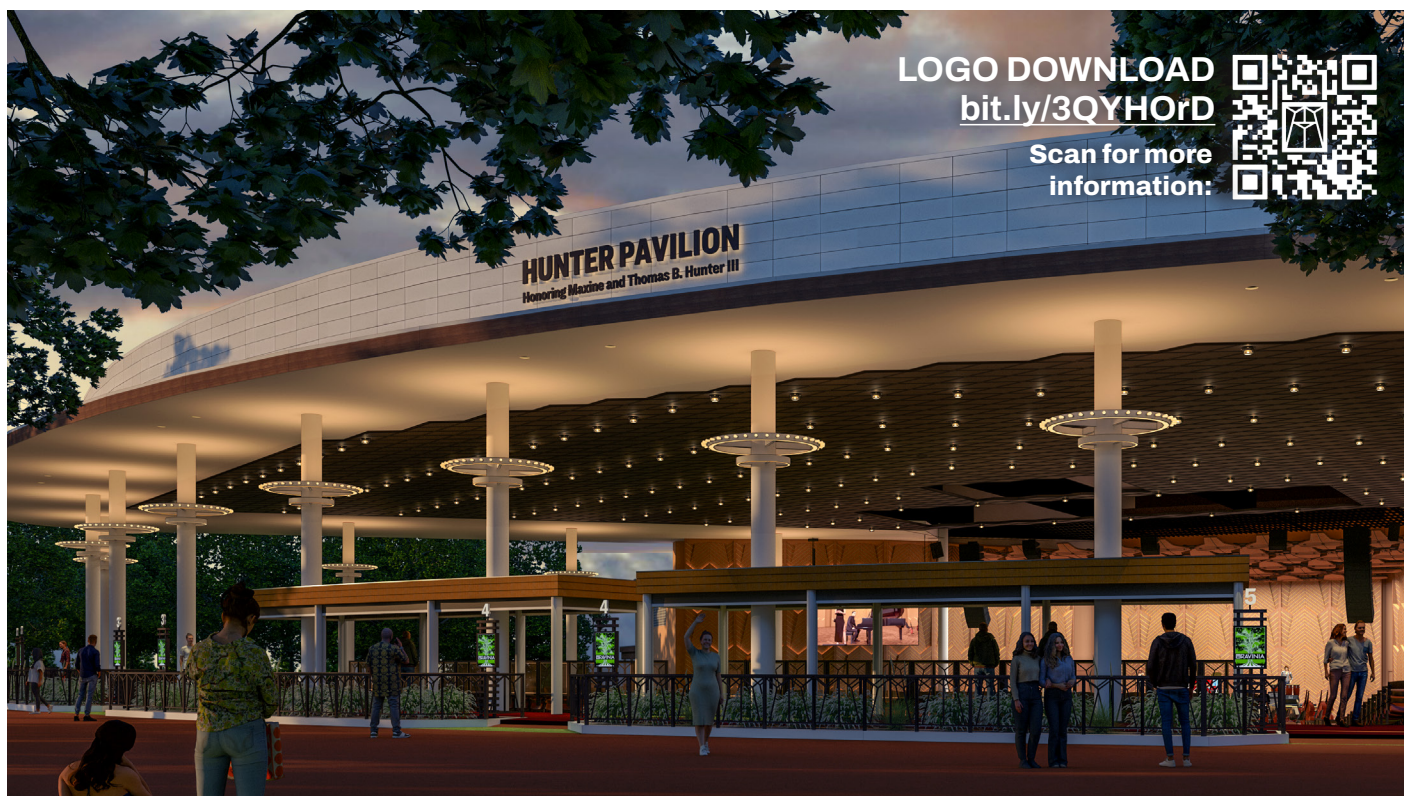




POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION



**CALLING ALL
ARTISTS –**

**YOUR CHANCE TO
CREATE RAVINIA'S
2026 SEASON POSTER**

**DUE DATE
DECEMBER 4, 2025**

We are seeking a creative, colorful poster design. The contest is open to all artists, including students. The poster will be used to promote Ravinia's 2026 season, sold in the Ravinia Festival Shop, and distributed among hundreds of Chicagoland stores and public spaces.



1st prize: \$1,000
2nd prize: \$500
3rd prize: \$250

**CHANCE
TO WIN**

\$1,000!

Theme: “Preserving Roots, Embracing Tomorrow”

We are looking for artwork that reflects Ravinia as a place where the past and future meet. Ravinia is embarking on a multi-year renovation of our complete 36-acre campus and in 2026, we'll welcome you to the transformed Hunter Pavilion. The Pavilion's renovation builds on its history to create something new, continuity, progress, and harmony with nature. The poster should capture that balance: timeless and refreshed, rooted and forward-looking.

Background

Ravinia® is an internationally renowned, independent not-for-profit organization, nestled in nature with its enchanting 36-acre park. This idyllic setting features a variety of listening spaces, between several stages and the popular Lawn, where the world's leading artists of any global tradition or genre niche are welcomed to perform and engage with generations of listeners—musical omnivores who find new tastes and familiar favorites at Ravinia Festival each summer. Classical music is a special focus at Ravinia with the annual summer residency of the acclaimed Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Steans Institute for young professional musicians, and the Reach Teach Play music education programs, and jazz also shares in these deep roots that now reach genres as wide-ranging as the audiences. Over more than 100 years of history, Ravinia has always been a place where nature and music intertwine. Additionally, for more than 50 years, the Ravinia Women's Board has sponsored this annual competition to craft the design that becomes a unique poster promoting the festival's upcoming summer concert season, serving as a distinctive signature of each Ravinia season.

Brand Vision

At Ravinia, we believe in the transformative power of shared, live-music moments and their ability to inspire individuals, strengthen communities, and foster a more connected world. In casual, green surroundings, Ravinia presents artistry that is bold, contemporary, energetic, friendly, and aware.

Project Requirements

- **Do not use** artificial intelligence text-to-image software. **MUST be original art from the designer.**
- **Do not use** readily available computer-generated images (clipart) without significant creative interpretation.
- **Do not** include the Chicago city skyline or other iconic Chicago landmarks.
- Incorporate original design that will make it appropriate for widespread promotional purposes and commercial display, including magnets, t-shirts, and other branded merchandise.
- Ravinia's name or logo should be included as part of the design. Visit bit.ly/3QYHOrD to download the logo.
- 2026 should also be incorporated into the design.

Project Output

- Entry design should be 9" × 13.5" vertical format and uploaded as a ZIP package—containing the native files with layers as well as a PDF, JPEG, or other easily viewable image format—to the online “Artist Information Form” available at Ravinia.org/Poster.
- Entry may be a multicolor rendering to print in six colors total: four-color process + PMS + varnish or five flat colors + varnish; no foil stamping or engraving; may have bleed edges.
- Participants must provide personal information as indicated in the online “Artist Information Form.”
- Entry must be submitted online no later than Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. CST.
- One entry per person.
- **NOTE!** Final output size of poster is 24" × 36". Please keep in mind that original art will need to be high-resolution (at least 300 dpi) in order to scale up to final size.

Winners will be notified confidentially in early January 2026. A public announcement of all winners will be made in February in Ravinia's email newsletter.

Any questions? Contact postercompetition@ravinia.org