

Art Loeb Challenge

Patch Design Competition Guidelines

The Carolina Mountain Club, in collaboration with The Pisgah Project Conservancy, is hosting a design competition for a new official patch representing the Art Loeb Trail Challenge. The winning patch will be used to recognize hikers who complete the challenge and will become part of the club's official challenge series.

Eligibility

- Open to the public - WNC residents only + All CMC Club Members + All TPC Members and Organizers.
- Designers of all skill levels are encouraged to participate.
- Submissions may be made by individuals or collaborative teams.
- Judges will not be eligible to submit artwork.

Design Requirements

- Must reflect the spirit, terrain, or iconic features of the Art Loeb Trail.
- Recommended to incorporate elements such as Shining Rock Wilderness, CMC landmarks, ridge lines, or full 30.1-mile trail concept.
- Should include the text: "Art Loeb Trail Challenge" and "Carolina Mountain Club"
- Patch shape must be round and no less than 3 inches in diameter. (see blank template below)
- The color palette should be bold, clear, and easily reproducible for embroidery.
- Design must be original and not use copyrighted or AI imagery.
- Hand drawn designs will be accepted, if chosen the design and color of hand drawn work may be slightly modified for embroidery.

Submission Guidelines

- Submit artwork as a high-resolution PNG, JPG, or PDF.
- Include both a full-color version and a simplified embroidery-ready version if possible.
- Provide your name, county of residence (or membership status if not a WNC resident), and a short description (50–75 words) explaining your design. This text may be used as a part of the formal announcement and/or on the CMC website.
- Email submissions to: foxowlart@gmail.com with subject Line "Art Loeb Challenge Patch"
- Deadline: 02/15/2026.

Selection Process

- A small review panel of CMC and TPC volunteers will evaluate all submissions based on originality, clarity, relevance, and suitability for embroidery.

Winner Recognition

- The winning artist will be credited on the CMC website, Social Media and in the e-news announcements.
- The winner will receive a complimentary first edition of the embroidered patch and a one-year membership or membership extension.
- Finalists will be recognized on social media and in the e-news.

Announcement Details

- The top three finalists will be announced 03/02/2026 by email, and on social media. (artists selected will be notified via email on 3/01/2025)
- The winning patch design will be announced 3/16/2026 by email and on social media, as well as April's e-news. (winner artist will be notified via email on 3/15/2025)

Rights & Usage

- By submitting, designers grant CMC the right to reproduce, modify, and distribute the patch design for all official challenge materials.
- Designers retain personal portfolio rights.
- Designs not chosen for this award may still be used in the future for other purposes. If used for other applications CMC will make best efforts to contact the artist via email and properly credit them on websites, social media and e-news where applicable.
- Submitted artwork will not be eligible for any future royalties or financial remuneration from the competition organizers or their assigns.

