

EXHIBITION APPLICATION GUIDE

- **Applying for a show at MCAC.**
 - Complete our online [application](#), which can be found under the Exhibitions tab on our website, before the spring deadline.
 - Applications are reviewed in the spring by our Exhibitions Committee and are scheduled for the following calendar year. Accepted applicants may be offered solo shows or paired/grouped for joint exhibitions.
 - MCAC's budget for exhibitions covers promotional and printing costs. Generally, all associated travel and shipping costs would be at the artist's expense. Artists are responsible for transporting their work to and from the Center. Exhibiting artists are asked to give a video interview for use on our website and social media.
- **What you'll need.**
 - *A brief bio.*
 - This is about you. Where are you from? Where do you live? What is your profession? Where did you go to school? Have you won any awards for your work or participated in any notable exhibitions or residencies? What is your work about? Why do you make art? Consider how your history and experiences relate back to your work.
 - Should be written in the third person.
 - 100-500 words.
 - *An artist statement.*
 - This is an introduction to your work. What is your overall vision for you work? What medium do you work in and why? What are your methods? What influences you? What is your philosophy regarding artmaking? What themes or issues are you exploring?
 - Things to avoid.
 - Telling the reader how to feel about, think about, or look at your work.
 - Lengthy descriptions about technique.
 - Judging the quality of your work.
 - Should be written in the first person.
 - One or two paragraphs. No more than a page.
 - Check out this guide for more tips and samples:
<https://www.gyst-ink.com/artist-statement-guidelines>
 - *Exhibition proposal.*
 - This is about the exhibition. Do you have a theme, aesthetic, or body of work in mind for your exhibition? Do you have any unusual requirements

- (space, construction, equipment, etc.)? Can you offer any events or educational opportunities alongside your exhibition?
 - This section of the application is not required.
 - *A list of your previous exhibitions, if any.*
 - This does not have to be a list of every exhibition you've been in, just the 'greatest hits.'
 - *Three artwork samples.*
 - These should be high quality, digital images of your artwork.
 - Use a DSLR camera and tripod if possible.
 - Place your work on a neutral background—a white wall is best for two-dimensional work.
 - Shoot your work straight on, with the work filling most of the frame.
 - Give your image files descriptive names such as "Your-Name-Artwork-Title" not "IMG_4358."
 - For more in depth tips, take a look at this guide:
<https://www.artworkarchive.com/blog/4-steps-to-photographing-your-art-like-a-professional>
 - *Artwork info.*
 - Title, year, size, medium, price (include 40% commission to MCAC).
 - *Exhibition preference.*
 - Consider whether your work would be best suited for a large or small gallery space, a group show or a solo show and indicate your preference on the application. Things to consider:
 - How much work will you have to show?
 - What scale is your work? For example, if you make 8x10 paintings, the smaller Ocher Gallery would be a good fit.
 - Do you have a cohesive body of work with a particular theme or narrative?
 - Have you shown your work in a gallery before? If you're applying for your first exhibition, a joint exhibition may be a good place to start.
- **General tips.**
 - Pricing your artwork.
 - There are many methods and formulas for pricing artwork. A simple way is to choose a value per square inch. If you don't have a sales record, \$1/square inch is a good starting place for paintings.
 - Preparing your artwork.
 - If you are framing your work, select frames that complement the work and don't distract from it.
 - Artwork should be ready to hang, typically with d-rings and hanging wire.