

Full Prospectus

Call for Entries: Gallery Exhibition Proposals

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1 (online submission completed by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

Exhibition Proposals may now be submitted throughout the year using our online submissions system, powered by Submittable. Each year, all proposals received by February 1 will be included in the annual review by a jury panel of visual arts professionals in order to make selections for exhibitions to be presented the following year.

www.blackrockcenter.submittable.com

Entry Fee: \$35 (non-refundable)

Call for Entries: Exhibition Proposals Overview

BlackRock Center for the Arts is now accepting proposals for solo, themed and group exhibitions to be presented in our gallery spaces. Visual artists, curators, and coordinators of artist collectives and arts organizations who are over the age of 18 and live or work in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC and West Virginia are encouraged to submit Exhibition Proposals. BlackRock is a nonprofit arts center which presents changing exhibitions of contemporary art by emerging and mid-career artist working in all media, to include site-specific installations, video and other time-based media, performance, new technologies and experimental forms. BlackRock provides curatorial and exhibition support, publicity via print and social media, as well as hosting community engagement events. While BlackRock previously required that all two-dimensional artwork be hung from the gallery cable hanging system, we now most often use alternative installation methods to include using nails, screws or other fasteners. Artists are responsible for transport of artwork to and from the gallery, materials for and assistance with installation, and attending scheduled events related to the exhibition.

About BlackRock Center for the Arts

BlackRock Center for the Arts provides unique spaces for the creative expression of artists and the active engagement of audiences of all ages. As the leading arts venue in Upper Montgomery County Maryland, BlackRock presents contemporary visual art exhibitions, live performances, concerts, film screenings, social dances and other special events as well as classes, camps and workshops in the visual and performing arts. Focused on both visual and performing arts, BlackRock is a nonprofit organization that takes a multidisciplinary and diverse approach to the presentation of art and provides opportunities for artists and the community to connect in a welcoming and intimate setting. Founded in 2002, BlackRock Center for the Arts is a nonprofit 501(c)3 arts center located at 12901 Town Commons Drive in Germantown, MD, a culturally diverse and growing suburb of Washington, DC with convenient access to both Frederick, Maryland (via Route 270) and Baltimore, Maryland (via Route 200). For more information, please visit: www.blackrockcenter.org

Eligibility

Individuals (over the age of 18) who live or work in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC who are able to provide delivery of all artwork in the exhibition to our gallery space in Germantown, Maryland are eligible to apply to the Call for Entries: Gallery Exhibition Proposals. BlackRock Center for the Arts is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and does not have funding to pay for artwork shipping or artist travel. Artists are expected to attend all scheduled events related to the exhibition.

Special Consideration

Special consideration will be given to exhibition proposals which include Community Engagement Programming for events where artists directly connect with the community. Include details regarding proposed community engagement programs which you will facilitate during the exhibition. This can include formal presentations (Artist Talks, Lectures, Curator's Tour, Panel Discussions, etc.), artist demonstrations, performances, hands-on workshops, community art projects, etc.

Selection Process

Each year, all Exhibition Proposals received by February 1 will be reviewed by a panel of jurors who will make selections for exhibitions which will be presented during the following year. The panel of jurors will include arts professionals, such as museum curators, art consultants, art critics, independent curators, art historians, art educators and accomplished artists in consultation with the Gallery Director. Considerations used to evaluate proposals include artistic quality, depth of content, originality, relevance, and feasibility. Incomplete submission packages will not be reviewed.

Exhibition Period

During the annual review of exhibition proposals, the panel of jurors will make selections for exhibitions which will be presented during the following year. The number of exhibitions and the length of each exhibition period will vary depending upon the BlackRock performance season, special events, holidays, gallery maintenance, and other factors. An exhibit period may include a group of applicants, based on the judgment of jurors (i.e., a group of artists may share the gallery space). Scheduling of selected exhibitions is managed by the Gallery Director.

OVERVIEW for Selected Artists:

Shipping, Insurance and Sale of Artwork: Artists are responsible for the delivery and pick-up of all artwork to BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown, MD. The artist(s) will be responsible for insuring work during delivery, shipping and loading to and from BlackRock. Works are insured by BlackRock while on the premises of BlackRock Center for the Arts only. Artists are required to sign a Loan Agreement if accepted. BlackRock Center for the Arts will use images for media and publicity purposes. All work should be for sale. All sold works must remain on display in the gallery for the duration of the exhibition. All artwork sales during the exhibit must go through BlackRock. BlackRock retains a commission of 30% for all works sold as a result of the exhibition and collects 6% Maryland Sales Tax from the purchaser for all Artwork Sales. Artists must provide a signed W-9 Form prior to the exhibition.

Promotion: BlackRock will promote the exhibit via our website, e-newsletter, in press releases sent to the media and in various marketing materials. All press releases and marketing done by the artist must be approved by the Gallery Director. All images entered will be considered available for marketing purposes. BlackRock will host an artist reception at which artist attendance is required.

Gallery Hours: The Galleries at BlackRock are generally open Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m., and also during select evening and Sunday hours when performances are held. Galleries may be closed on certain dates for private event rentals. Please call in advance to confirm hours for specific dates before you visit.

Online Applications: Submit Proposals, Documents, Images and Entry Fee all Online!

BlackRock is now accepting exhibition proposals via an online application system powered by Submittable. Submissions can be made online by using the link below and clicking the "Click Here to Submit" button. Simply enter your contact information to register, then follow the instructions to enter information, upload required documents, images and/or links to videos. The online entry system allows you to save information and complete the application in phases. All applications must include the online payment of a \$35 entry fee (non-refundable) using either a credit card or PayPal. Technical support for online applications is available from Submittable. Use the link below to begin your application: www.blackrockcenter.submittable.com

If you are not able to submit your application online ...

While online applications are preferred, BlackRock will consider applicants who are unable to apply online. If you are unable to apply online, please follow instructions listed below:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAILED OR DELIVERED PROPOSALS:

If you are unable to apply online, please complete the paper Entry Form, supply a CD (Compact Disc) with all required documents and images listed on the Entry Form. Include a check or money order for the \$35 Entry Fee. Mail or deliver one package containing the completed Entry Form, CD with all images and documents saved, and a \$35 entry fee check made out to BlackRock Center for the Arts to the address listed at the end of this form. Exhibition Proposals are accepted year-round. Each year, all proposals received by February 1 will be included in the annual review by a jury panel of visual arts professionals in order to make selections for exhibitions to be presented the following year.

All mailed or delivered Exhibition Proposals must be received by:

FEBRUARY 1* (5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

** When February 1 falls on Saturday or Sunday, packages must be received by the Friday prior, before 5:00 p.m.*

ALL MAILED OR DELIVERED ENTRIES MUST INCLUDE:**ENTRY FORM Completed *REQUIRED**

Paper entry form is available for download here: www.blackrockcenter.org/galleries/call-to-artists

CD* (Compact Disc) Containing the Following Required Documents as well as Images:

*Please clearly label CD with name and contact information using a permanent marker.

- **Exhibition Description*** (PDF or Microsoft Word document) *REQUIRED (500 words maximum)
 - Write an overview of the proposed exhibition. Please include why BlackRock Center for the Arts is an appropriate venue for the exhibition.
- **Community Engagement Programming Description***(PDF or Microsoft Word document) *REQUIRED (500 words maximum)
 - Special consideration will be given to exhibition proposals which include programming for events where artists director connect with the community. Include details regarding proposed community engagement programs which you will facilitate during the exhibition. This can include formal presentations (Artist Talks, Lectures, Curator's Tour, Panel Discussion), artist demonstrations, performances, hands-on workshops, community art projects, etc.
- **Artist Statement(s) or Curator's Statement*** (PDF or Microsoft Word document) *REQUIRED (500 words maximum per individual artist / Groups may need to adjust as max limit is 7,500 words)
 - Write a brief Artist Statement(s) or Curator's Statement. Groups should list each artist separately. The statement may contain an explanation of subject matter, meaning, motivation, influences, processes and techniques. (Please Note: Coordinators for Artist Groups proposing a juried exhibition, please submit only statement for the artist(s) or other individual(s) who will be coordinating the juror, the call and selected artists.)

- **Artist(s) or Curator’s Biography*** (PDF or Microsoft Word document) ***REQUIRED**
(500 words maximum per individual artist)
(Groups may need to adjust as max limit is 7,500 words)
 - Please write a brief biography to include educational degrees, additional studies, selected exhibitions, residencies, awards, grants, teaching experience, community involvement, and the location of your current studio or curatorial practice. (Please Note: Coordinators for Artist Groups proposing a juried exhibition, please submit only statement for the artist(s) or other individual(s) who will be coordinating the juror, the call and selected artists.)

- **Resume(s) or CV(s)*** (PDF preferred or Microsoft Word document) ***REQUIRED**
 - Please include education and past exhibition experience. For groups of artists, please provide a Resume or CV for each individual artist.
 - Please Note: Coordinators for Artist Groups proposing a juried exhibition, please submit only statement for the artist(s) or other individual(s) who will be coordinating the juror, the call and selected artists.)

- **Images*** (JPEG Images Only) ***REQUIRED**
(High Resolution: 1MB minimum image file size)
 - Re-name image files to include image number (corresponding to Artwork List), artist name, and artwork title.

Sample: 01_Linda_Smith_Horizon
 - Individual artists may submit 15 - 25 images (25 allows for detail shots & multiples for 3D work)
 - Groups may submit up to 5-10 images per artist (75 images maximum).

- **Video URLs*** (For video, animation, time-based media, performance art, etc.)
***OPTIONAL**
 - Provide a list of YouTube or Vimeo URLs for all video and time-based media works.

- **Artwork List*** (PDF or Microsoft Word document)
***REQUIRED**
 - Provide a numbered list (numbers must correspond to image file names for images saved on CD) with details for each artwork image:
 - Artist Name, Artwork Title, Year Created, Media, Dimensions (height x width x depth) and Sales Price. (BlackRock retains 30% for Artwork Sales).

Sample: 01.Linda Smith, “Horizon,” 2014, Oil on linen, 36 x 48 inches, \$500

ENTRY FEE: \$35.00* Please make checks payable to BlackRock Center for the Arts. ***REQUIRED**

Incomplete entries will not be reviewed.

DEADLINE for MAILED OR DELIVERED ENTRIES:

FEBRUARY 1* (5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

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Exhibition Proposals are accepted year-round. Each year, all proposals received by February 1 will be included in the annual review by a jury panel of visual arts professionals in order to make selections for exhibitions to be presented the following year.

Please mail or deliver application materials to:

Call for Entries: Gallery Exhibitions

Attention: Gallery Director

BlackRock Center for the Arts

12901 Town Commons Drive

Germantown, Maryland 20874

Submit Proposals, Documents, Images and Entry Fee all Online!

DEADLINE for ONLINE ENTRIES:

FEBRUARY 1 (online submissions completed by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

Use the link below to begin your application:

www.blackrockcenter.submittable.com

QUESTIONS?

Please correspond by email using the subject line “BlackRock Call for Entries Questions” to:

Anne Burton

Gallery Director

Email Address: gallery@blackrockcenter.org