

2026 Call for Art

The Front & Center Galleries at MAC



Application guidelines

- **This Call is active June 15 – July 15, 2026. During this time, the online application will be available here:** www.multnomahartscenter.org/gallery-callsforart.
- **It is free to apply.**
- Established and emerging artists who live in or whose tribal lands are in Oregon or Southwest Washington are invited to apply. Artists who have not shown at MAC in the past 3 years will be given priority during the selection process.
- Work submitted with this application must be representative of the work to be exhibited. Additional criteria can be found here: [Acceptable Media List](#). MAC reserves the right to decline work that does not meet these standards, or that is not professional in its presentation.
- The selection committee typically pairs 2-D and 3-D artists for two-person shows. If you work in both 2D and 3D, you can include both in your application.
- Applications for solo shows are also welcome.
- If you would like to apply with one or more other people for a show:
 - Choose one person to fill out the application.
 - If you are applying for a small group of people (i.e. 2-3), provide a brief bio for each person. If you are applying for a larger group of people, describe the purpose and vision of the group. If you are applying for an organization, describe the organization's mission and provide a link to the organization's website if possible.
 - Write one artist's statement that communicates a cohesive and compelling theme for the show you are proposing.
- Individual artists may submit up to 10 images with the application. For applications by 2 or more artists who want to show together, up to 20 images may be submitted. Images should be prepared as follows:
 - Only .jpg or .jpeg formats can be viewed
 - Label each image as follows: last name, first name_title. This would look like:
Smith, Petunia_TheSunRises.jpg
 - Maximum upload size per file is 30 MB

Selection committee process

Each year, two regional curators are invited to collaborate with the MAC Gallery Specialist in reviewing applications and creating the exhibition calendar. Each committee member scores each application based on originality, artistic merit, craftsmanship, and potential for community engagement. Scores are then averaged. The top-scoring applications are considered for exhibitions. The committee makes recommendations on the pairing of artists where appropriate. The remaining applicants are placed on a list of alternates.

Artists will be notified of the selection committee's decisions by August 15, 2026.

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Gallery descriptions

The Front Gallery is a non-traditional and highly visible exhibition space in MAC's front lobby. It holds two large, built-in cases with lighting that can accommodate 2D and 3D work. Additional display cases can be moved into the space as needed. This gallery is suited to artists who work in smaller dimensions or have smaller bodies of work. Several successful group shows have also been exhibited in this space, including Print Arts NW, the Oregon Botanical Artists, and the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild. A map for the Front Gallery can be found [here](#).

The Center Gallery is a 740 square-foot, white box gallery just down the hallway. It has 111 linear feet of wall space, including four floating walls. There is also a large glassed-in display window. This space is suited to shows by two or more people, or solo shows by artists with a large body of work. A map for the Center Gallery can be found [here](#).

AV equipment is available for use in either gallery. There are also pedestals that can be used in either location.

Exhibition process

- Exhibits from this Call will be scheduled for a 5-week duration between February 2027 and early 2028.
- A meeting will be scheduled with the exhibiting artist so that they can see the gallery space, meet the other artist(s) if they've been paired for a show, and begin the planning process. This meeting can happen in person or via Zoom.
- The Gallery Specialist installs the exhibits at MAC, with input from the artists. Artwork that hangs on a wall should have a hanger on the back that will support the work. In the Center Gallery, the hanger must be compatible with our [cable system](#). Sawtooth hangers don't work in either location. Frames must be solidly constructed and clean. Installation plans that deviate from these parameters must have the prior approval of the Gallery Specialist. Please reach out with any questions or if you need help exploring options for displaying your work.
- Gallery sales are handled by MAC staff. The artists retain 65% of all sales. The Multnomah Arts Center Association (MACA) utilizes the remaining 35% to support arts programming and access at MAC.
- Shows in the Front & Center Galleries are scheduled to coincide with each other for the same 5-week run. MAC hosts a joint reception for these shows. Additional events can also be planned (i.e. an artist talk, a demo, etc.).

Contact MAC's Gallery Specialist via email at gallery@multnomahartscenter.org with any questions, or to request assistance or accommodations with the application process.