



CALL FOR ARTISTS March 4–April 30, 2020

Exhibition On View
September 18, 2020 - January 24, 2021

The Contemporary Arts Center is pleased to invite contemporary visual artists living across the Gulf South to submit to this year's open call for submissions. Artists who currently live and work in LA, TX, AL, MS, FL are eligible to apply. Eligible artists living in Louisiana are encouraged to apply.

Please review the **Submission Guidelines and Important Dates** below before submitting to the Call for Artists.

For more details and to submit, please visit cacno.org/opencall2020

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Make America What America Must Become

America is an anxious nation chasing a more perfect union. As it's political body struggles along the arc of justice, the truths “we” hold, rarely appear self-evident. Complicated by an overtly mediated era, today's social movements demand a punctuated examination of #historicalconsequence and #power. At this moment, the distance between Art and Politics—reflection and response—seems to be collapsing. In a letter to his nephew on the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, philosopher and American commentator, James Baldwin, offered an optimistic but urgent message, "Great men have done great things here, and will again, and we can make America what America must become."

During a summer of electoral consternation, the CAC presents an open call to artists living and working in the Gulf South. In the context of our shifting regional landscape, we are seeking artwork across media that examines how power is made manifest in culture, politics, economics, and ecology. We are also curious to see works that were created urgently in response to the current political paradigm and reflect broadly on the conjuring and churning of the American fever dream.

This exhibition is organized and presented by the Contemporary Arts Center (CAC), New Orleans. Support for this exhibition is provided by Sydney & Walda Besthoff, The Helis Foundation, and the Welch Family Foundation. This exhibition is also supported by the City of New Orleans through a Community Arts Grant, as well as by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submission Deadlines: The open call will be open from March 4, 2020 (12:01am CST) to April 30, 2020 (11:59pm CST). No exceptions.

Who is Eligible to Submit?

- Contemporary visual artists who live in Gulf Coast states (LA, TX, AL, MS, FL) are eligible to apply.
- Artists must be 18 years and older

Submissions & Fee

- **In support of artists seeking opportunities during and after this health crisis, the CAC is waiving the membership and application fee requirements listed below. All artists living and working in the Gulf South are welcome to apply.**
- You must be a CAC member to submit to this open call, or your application will be disqualified. If you are currently not a CAC member, please visit cacno.org to join at any level before applying to this open call.
- Artist membership to the CAC is \$25 and includes year-round free access to CAC Galleries and discounts to CAC performances, plus 1 guest pass to CAC galleries. For a list of the benefits that accompany membership, please visit cacno.org.
- CAC is ONLY accepting online submissions as indicated on the CAC website
- Applicants must provide the required (*) application information, or your application will be disqualified
- For details or to submit, visit: cacno.org/opencall2020

Artwork, Media, Specs

- All mediums are eligible
- Artists may submit up to 4 artworks. If more than 4 are submitted, only the first 4 submissions will be considered.
- Work previously shown at the CAC will not be accepted
- All selected works must be ready for installation at the time of delivery or work will be disqualified
- Artists must adequately frame work and provide necessary hardware
- In some cases, artists must provide required special AV equipment and/or display stands that are specific to the work
- For each submitted work, applicants must provide general technical elements/specifications
- For each submitted work, where applies, applicants must provide a list of objects/elements that are included with the work and any special display descriptions
- Work made of materials that may be hazardous to your health cannot be accepted
- CAC cannot exhibit any perishable objects or materials, such as food
- More complicated installations may require self-installation, with support from the CAC install crew. All installation takes place in the weeks leading up to the July 18 opening, in coordination with CAC's Chief Preparator/Exhibitions Manager. Please keep this in mind as you apply. CAC is unable to provide travel funds.
- Selected artists are responsible for covering costs and making all round-trip delivery and shipping arrangements in coordination with CAC. CAC has limited

funding available to provide some shipping reimbursement for work shipping to/from a location that is 100 miles, or more, from CAC.

Files and Uploads

- To qualify, eligible applicants must provide all required information on the application form and follow instructions provided by the CAC
- Applicants may upload up to five (5) images/files and five (5) URL links, but you may only enter up to 4 artworks total—as noted above.
- Suggested high-quality image type and size: JPEG 300 dpi at approximately 8" x 10"
- If an artwork is selected, CAC will consider only high-quality images for press and promotion. CAC encourages applicants to submit your best high-quality images.
- Suggested, but not required, use easy to access platforms like SoundCloud, Vimeo, or YouTube for audio/video files. (Indicate passwords, if needed)
- Only the first 5 minutes of video and/or audio clips will be reviewed
- Files MUST be titled exactly as requested on the *Submittable* registration form

IMPORTANT 2020/21 DATES - NEW DATES BELOW:

Wednesday, March 4
Call for submissions launches

Wednesday & Thursday, August 19 & 20
Receipt of hand-deliveries to CAC

Thursday, April 30
Deadline for submissions

September 18, 2020 (6-8:30pm)
Official opening reception at CAC

Friday, June 26
All applicants receive email notification from the CAC

September 18, 2020 to January 24, 2021
Exhibition On View

Monday & Tuesday, June 29 & 30
Selected artists each receive a checklist of their selected work(s) & loan agreement

Wednesday-Friday, January 27-29, 2021
Shipped work returned

Thursday & Friday, January 28 & 29
Return of hand pick-ups from CAC

Monday-Friday, August 17-21
Receipt of shipped work