



**Open Call Dates:** March 5 – May 11, 2018  
**Deadline:** May 11, 2018, 5:00 pm, Central Standard Time  
**Online Application:** <https://sanantonio.gosmart.org/>

## MISSION STATEMENT

Centro de Artes is an institution dedicated to telling the story of the Latino<sup>1</sup> experience in the U.S. with a focus on San Antonio and South Texas through local and regional art, history and culture, and dedicated to sharing the transnational experience of Latinos in the U.S.

## ABOUT CENTRO DE ARTES

The City of San Antonio is the seventh most populated city in the country and the second most populated city in Texas. San Antonio is home to over 1.4 million residents and welcomes 31 million visitors a year. Centro de Artes is located in historic Market Square in Downtown San Antonio, and is one of the most visited tourist sites in city. With its location in the center of our vibrant City, Centro de Artes is unique a platform to connect audiences, including students, the local community, and San Antonio visitors to artists' exhibitions and their creative ideas.

Centro de Artes presents a full season of solo and group exhibitions and programming annually through an open call managed by the City of San Antonio, Department of Arts and Culture. We support emerging and established Latino artists, curators, organizations, and community groups working in all disciplines.

We believe that the beauty of our Latino culture is that we do not have one singular experience or theme. There are a multitude of Latinidades that hail from different heritages, races, ethnicities, nationalities, geographies, histories, genders, sexual orientations, and economic situations. We encourage the freedom to express those experiences in a myriad of ways.

The gallery is free and open to the public, Tuesdays through Sundays, 11am – 6pm We recommend that you visit the gallery in preparation for writing your proposal. For more information, visit [www.getcreativesanantonio.com](http://www.getcreativesanantonio.com).

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<sup>1</sup> In this document, the term “Latino” will be used to represent all genders and orientations.

## CALL SUMMARY

The City of San Antonio seeks exhibition proposals from area, state, and national curators, artists, artist groups, and organizations interested in exhibiting and programming at Centro de Artes starting in January 2019 through December 2020.

Two to four exhibitions may be selected per year. Selected respondents will receive administrative and marketing support for the exhibition. Additionally, some funds are available for curatorial services, artist fees, and other related expenses. The City of San Antonio, Department of Arts and Culture staff will work directly with marketing and installation teams.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Proposals should showcase local and regional art, history, and/or culture featuring San Antonio and/or regional Latino artists and/or art work.
- All practicing professional (emerging and established) curators are eligible to submit proposals individually, in collaboration with one or more curators, or on behalf of an organization.
  - Curators submitting a proposal to Centro de Artes must not act as art dealers, be employed by art dealers, or retain an interest in dealership of any of the art work by the artist(s) included in their proposal.
  - Curators should not include themselves as an exhibiting artist in group show proposals.
- All practicing professional (emerging and established) artists are eligible to apply for a solo exhibition, or as part of a group exhibition.
  - Artists submitting proposals, either on their own behalf or as part of a group, must include information in their Proposal Narrative as to how they will establish an objective perspective in the interpretation of their art work.
  - Artist representatives are ineligible to apply.
- All arts agencies and/or non-profit organizations with a mission or programming that focuses on Latino Arts & Culture are eligible to submit proposals.
- Respondents may submit only one proposal per exhibition cycle, either as curator, artist, or representative of an organization.
- Artwork must be available for exhibition and installation-ready to be considered for selection.

## SELECTION PROCESS

An Evaluation Committee made up of members of the Centro de Artes Committee and City of San Antonio staff will be responsible for reviewing and evaluating proposals in accordance with the stated selection criteria as well as the adherence to the Mission and Strategic Plan of Centro De Artes. Staff will make recommendations, and the Centro de Artes Committee will approve the selections. Once exhibitions are selected, staff will contact the respondent to negotiate terms of agreements which will include, but not be limited to, coordination of loan agreements, exhibition schedules, and installation requirements.

During the Open Call and Selection Process, applicants must not contact any member of the Centro de Artes committee to discuss their application.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Selections will be based on proposal's alignment with the Mission of Centro de Artes, artistic merit and quality of the proposal, respondent's experience and qualifications, and suitability of the exhibition/program to the facility.

The building is considered conducive to artwork exhibits rather than performances. However, performance programming may be considered; programming should consider architectural and acoustical limits of the building.

Artwork dimensions and weight may factor as selection criteria based upon space limitations and/or installation constraints.

Consideration includes maintaining standards of public display and must be appropriate for general audiences in order to be considered for exhibition.

The City of San Antonio maintains final decision regarding the installation and display of all artworks.

The information listed below identifies the criteria that will be used by the evaluation committee when reviewing applications:

### **50% - Artistic Merit and Quality of Proposal**

- Artistic merit and overall strength of the artist(s) and/or art work included in the proposed exhibition.
- The proposal appropriately conveys the respondent's concept.
- Proposed exhibition adheres to the Centro de Artes mission statement/strategic plan and its commitment to telling the story of the Latino experience.
- For individual artist submissions: Artist has provided sufficient information regarding their ability to present an objective perspective of their work.

### **30% - Experience and Qualifications**

- Respondent has an established track record of successful exhibitions/programs, or demonstrates (through education, training, and/or experience) the ability to successfully present a professional exhibition/program at Centro de Artes.
- For individual artist submissions: Artist has at least five years' experience and/or specialized art training, such as a degree or certificate, as well as a professional portfolio that includes publicly displayed works.
- Respondent demonstrates knowledge of Latino culture and history, specifically as it relates to the Centro de Artes Mission.

### **20% - Suitability of the Exhibition/Program to the Facility**

- Proposal is feasible and has the ability to meet city and facility requirements, including schedule, space/architectural limitations, and budget constraints.
- Exhibition/programming content is appropriate for general audiences.

## HOW TO APPLY

All proposals and supporting documents must be submitted via the Online Application available at (<https://sanantonio.gosmart.org/>) no later than **May 11, 2018, 5:00 pm, Central Standard Time**; late submissions will automatically be disqualified.

The online application form will take you through the following questions:

- 1. Contact Information:** Provide information for the primary contact/organizer of the proposed exhibition/program.
- 2. Exhibition/Program Information**
  - a. Proposed Title**
  - b. Proposal Narrative** (600 word limit): Provide a statement describing the concept of your proposed exhibition/programming. Include use of proposed gallery space and installation requirements.
  - c. Artist/Artwork Information**
  - d. Logistics and schedule**
  - e. Exhibition History**
  - f. Proposed Public Programming**
- 3. Line Item Budget and Available Funding Sources**
- 4. Resumes for key staff:** (Up to 4 pages) Only submit a resume for the lead administrator, curator(s), solo artist, or main contact. (Do not submit resumes for individual artists in group shows).
- 5. Work Samples:** Include 10 - 20 images, video, and/or audio files of work that will be included in the exhibition.

## CONTACT

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Torres, Sr. Exhibitions Analyst at [stephanie.torres@sanantonio.gov](mailto:stephanie.torres@sanantonio.gov) or 210-207-1436.

## APPLY

<https://sanantonio.gosmart.org/>