

How are Centro de Artes exhibitions funded?

Centro de Artes exhibitions are funded by the City of San Antonio, Department of Arts and Culture utilizing Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds. Centro de Artes has an annual line item budget of \$150,000. Each exhibition will have up to \$50,000 available to cover **all expenses**. The Department of Arts and Culture pays contractors directly for exhibit installation/de-installation, graphic design, exhibition catalogue publication, and opening reception. These expenses generally average \$30,000. Please plan to have available approximately \$20,000 for the remaining expenses, including artist and curator fees, packing and shipping of artwork, photographic documentation of the exhibition, scholar or panelist fees, and other potential exhibition expenses. You will need to include a proposed budget that includes all anticipated expenses, and any additional funding sources with your exhibit proposal. Exhibition funds cannot be used to purchase art work.

How will the City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes promote the exhibit?

The City of San Antonio (COSA) promotes all Centro de Artes exhibits through direct emails, social media and press releases. COSA will create a post card/flyer for the exhibit to be distributed physically and electronically. Where appropriate, COSA will engage community partners to promote exhibits and programs. Selected curator, artist(s), and/or organization(s) are expected to help in promotion. Requests for additional advertising should be considered in the proposed budget.

Does City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes provide an opening reception?

Yes! COSA will schedule an opening reception and provide appetizers and beverages. Opening receptions are generally on Thursday evenings from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

What about other events like lectures, workshops and tours?

Any anticipated expenses for events should be included in your overall budget. City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes encourages all proposals to include a minimum of one (1) public program during the exhibit.

How long will my exhibit at Centro de Artes be on display?

Most exhibits are on display for 4 – 6 months. If your exhibit is selected, City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes will provide you with proposed dates and length of the exhibit.

Can I request specific dates for my exhibit?

Yes. The Selection Committee will consider requests for exhibits that require specific dates. Please include this request in your proposal narrative and ensure your dates are within the time period for which City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes is accepting proposals (January 2019 – December 2020). There is no guarantee that we will be able to accommodate the requested dates.

Can art work or other exhibit materials be sold through City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes?

City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes does not sell exhibited art or materials. We will direct any inquiries for purchase to the artist(s) and/or curator(s) of the exhibit.

Does City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes produce exhibit publications?

City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes will produce an exhibition catalogue to accompany the exhibition.

Can I paint or make other changes to the gallery walls?

Normally, we exhibit on white walls, but will consider painting for exhibition design purposes. This must be approved by the Department of Arts and Culture. We will not allow for any other modifications to the arrangement, location, or size of the gallery walls.

Who will install and de-install the exhibit?

City of San Antonio/Centro de Artes will contract professional art preparators to install and de-install the exhibition. Our timeline generally provides for a 10 day installation and 5 day de-installation. This includes gallery prep and repair times.

When will you announce the selections?

All applicants will be notified in August of 2018.

Who are the Panelists/Selection Committee?

An Evaluation Committee made up of members of the Centro de Artes Committee and Department of Arts and Culture 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.

Can I submit an application as a collaboration or curatorial team?

Yes. The application should be completed under one name. In the body of the proposal, please state the nature of the collaboration.

I'm an artist. Can I still apply?

Yes. Artists are eligible to apply for a solo exhibition, or as part of a group exhibition. You must include information in your Proposal Narrative as to how you will establish an objective perspective in the interpretation of your work.

Can I propose the inclusion of an art work that has not yet been completed?

Yes. If you are proposing new work, please include work samples of already completed works that provide context for the new work the artist is proposing to create. If applicable, include any drawings, plans, or concept sketches of the proposed work.

Do the artist(s) I propose need to be committed when I submit the application?

We encourage curators to submit their best and most realistic list of artists for the exhibition, and that the artists are committed to participating. We understand and expect that the plan for the show will evolve over the course of a year, and that the list of artists may change. If a proposed artist does drop out of the show, we require that they be replaced by a comparable artist.

Can I submit my application by email or regular mail?

No. Applications must be submitted through the online system, <https://sanantonio.gosmart.org>

Questions from the Information Session held on 03/24/2018

What is a curator?

A curator is the person who selects and interprets art for an exhibition. The curator determines how the art work will be displayed and writes essays and interpretive texts for the exhibition and catalogue.

What is a CV?

A Curriculum Vitae, or CV, is a record of all your professional activities as an artist, curator, or museum professional. This document is similar to a resume, but is generally longer and more detailed. For the purposes of this call for exhibition, we will accept either document.

Is there a minimum number of artworks that need to be on display?

Due to the size of the space, we normally display 50 – 60 pieces per floor, depending on how it is installed and the size of the individual pieces.

Are artist groups required to work with a curator to submit their proposal?

If you are proposing a group show with multiple artists, you are not required to work with a curator, but need to work with a person who is qualified to objectively write essays and interpretive texts for the exhibition.

With regards to the suitability/feasibility criteria, what should we prioritize?

The Centro de Artes Committee will consider whether the proposal is feasible and has the ability to meet city and facility requirements, including schedule, space/architectural limitations, and budget constraints. When you write your proposal, you should take into consideration the specifics of your exhibition to determine how to best present and explain the challenges or limitations.

Are there any limits to the type of media you are looking for?

We will consider exhibitions in all media, as long as it fits with the Centro de Artes Mission and showcases local and regional art, history, and/or culture featuring San Antonio and/or regional Latino artists and/or art work. While the space was designed for and is more conducive to display of two-dimensional art installed on the walls, we are open to considering all types of exhibitions, including memorabilia, costumes, sculpture and other types of objects.

Can I make contact with members of the Centro de Artes Committee throughout this process?

Applicants are prohibited from communicating with Centro de Artes Committee Members about their application throughout the Open Call process, which is expected to last until the end of August 2018. Violation of this provision may lead to disqualification of your application from consideration.

Can I submit a detailed sketches or storyboards as work samples?

Please choose work samples that best exemplify the art work that will be in the exhibition. We will accept detailed sketches and story boards as part of your application, but we primarily want to see examples of the artwork that is being proposed. If it is a group show, at least one example of artwork for each artist must be submitted.

If I am proposing doing a group show, will all of the artists be considered as one collection, not as individuals?

Yes, proposals for a group exhibition will be considered as a whole.

Is there a submission fee?

There is no submission fee.

I am just beginning my career as an artist, am I required to be a well-known or recognized artist to submit a proposal for this space?

As directed by Centro de Artes Committee, the focus of this space is on Latino art and culture and the exhibitions presented here should be at the standard of a museum. Although museums are not typically where an emerging artist would have their first exhibition, we encourage artists of all levels who meet the eligibility and submission requirements to apply.

Does the budget cover framing?

Yes, you would just need to include it as a line item under Artist Fees – Framing.

In the online application system, can I start an application, save it, and then go back to it to complete it?

Yes, you can start an application, save it, and return to it throughout the application period of March 5 – May 11, 2018. Before you submit your final application, please ensure all required documents are included. After you submit, you will not be able to return to the application to make changes.

Does my exhibition have to fill the entire building?

You do not have to submit an exhibition proposal for the entire building, but we do request proposals submitted fill at least one of the floors. On the second floor, the area around the stairwell may be considered on its own, for a smaller exhibition.

Is this a good opportunity for artist collectives or groups?

Yes, artist collectives and group shows are most conducive to the space, given its size and the amount of work needed to efficiently fill the space.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Centro de Artes Call for Exhibitions & Related Programming

Last Updated: March 24, 2018

Would the committee consider a show that includes musical or theatrical performances?

Yes, however, keep in mind that the space is designed for visual art exhibitions. The quality of the acoustics is not good for sound and the floor does not work well for dance and performing arts. The committee will consider the feasibility of the exhibition to the space as part of the selection criteria.

Have a question that isn't answered here?

Email Stephanie Torres, Sr. Exhibitions Analyst: stephanie.torres@sanantonio.gov