

We nurture the creative lives of emerging artists, emerging curators, and youth by providing support, resources, and platforms that help to strengthen and connect our dynamic communities in New York City and beyond. Emerging artists wishing to present new ideas and projects in the context of NURTUREart's gallery space are invited to submit an exhibition proposal of their own solo or collaborative work for the 2017–2018 exhibition season. Please note that there is a small stipend and materials budget available, depending on the current year's funding.

DEADLINE: Friday, April 21, 2017, 11:59pm

ONLINE APPLICATION FORM: <https://nurtureart.submittable.com/submit/79ef202c-3f50-445b-9b07-9fd90d177e56/open-call-for-artists-20172018-exhibitions>

About NURTUREart's Exhibition Program

We present a full season of exhibitions annually through a juried and free open call. We support both individual artists for unique solo shows as well as emerging curators in preparation of a group exhibition. Our gallery space is a platform to connect audiences, including local public school students, to artists' exhibitions and their creative ideas. Selected artists receive support to prepare for their exhibition, including promotion of their show. A modest artist fee and materials fee, depending on funding, is provided to exhibiting artists.

NURTUREart operates a nonprofit gallery in Bushwick, open Thursdays–Sundays, 12–6pm. We recommend that you visit the gallery in preparation of your proposal or look at some of our exhibitions online through our flickr page (www.flickr.com/photos/nurtureart/).

Eligibility

- Emerging artists are eligible to apply. We define emerging contextually: artists are emerging, or under-represented, who have great potential but have yet to be significantly recognized. Recognition includes exhibitions, critical reviews, fellowships, awards, publications, etc.
- Artists who have a current practice making work in an ongoing dialogue in the contemporary arts are eligible to apply.
- Artists who have shown at NURTUREart in a group show must wait two (2) years to apply as a solo artist or collaborative group.
- Artists who have exhibited a solo show (in the gallery, off-site, or at art fairs) are not eligible to apply.

NURTUREart's Exhibitions

While we accept submissions that include an array of ideas and practices, we try best to align with proposals that fit our mission. Though your proposal does not need to satisfy all of the following, we are committed to:

- Presenting the work of emerging and under-represented artists particularly in the Greater New York City area.
- Proposals that push artistic practice in new and interesting directions.
- Subjects, styles, and approaches that are not well represented in commercial spaces or otherwise difficult to exhibit elsewhere.
- Proposals that consider the nuances and limited space of NURTUREart's gallery. Thoughtful, uncluttered, and adaptable installations—especially that offer “breathing space” to each artwork—tend to work better in our gallery. Exceptions are made when the artistic vision requires otherwise.

2017–2018 Exhibition Schedule

NURTUREart will mount open call exhibitions over the following dates:

- September 8–October 1, 2017
- October 13–November 5, 2017
- November 17–December 17, 2017
- February 2–February 25, 2018
- March 9–April 1, 2018
- April 13–May 5, 2018

Online Application Form

In the Online Application Form, we will ask for:

- **Contact Information**
- **Artist Bio** (limit 200 words): *Provide a brief bio highlighting career accomplishments including relevant education, awards, residencies, exhibitions, publications, etc. If you are applying as a collaborative, the bio should demonstrate a history of collaboration where it can.*
- **Artist Resume(s)** (PDF or Word): *If you are applying as a collaborative, include one single document containing resumes of all of the artists and a history of collaboration where possible.*
- **Proposed Exhibition Title**
- **Exhibition Proposal** (limit 600 words): *Provide a statement describing the concept of your proposed exhibition.*
- **Exhibition Dates Availability**
- **Work Sample**: *Follow guidelines below.*
- **Work Sample Description** (optional, limit 100 words): *Provide any contextual or technical information related to your work sample.*
- **Notes to the Jury** (optional, limit 50 words): *Provide any brief notes you'd like to present to the jury that was not captured in the application.*

Work Sample Guidelines

The Work Sample is a critical element of your application, and it should show the best of your work. Ideally, your work sample should represent the work of your proposed exhibition. Otherwise, your work sample should represent works that are comparable to the work that will be featured in the exhibition.

All submitted work samples should be documentation of your work. You should not submit PowerPoints, trailers, or any other promotional materials of your work. The work sample should be representative of the work itself.

You can submit up to ten (10) images and up to three (3) video/audio files. Video/audio work samples should be for work that is time-based and/or in video format.

Digital Images

Before uploading files to the Online Application Form, you must save them on your computer in the following format: **LastName-FirstName-#.jpg**. For collaboratives, use the primary contact Last Name and First Name.

For example:

Simpson-Lorna-1.jpg

Simpson-Lorna-2.jpg

etc.

- Submit up to ten (10) images.
- Files must be saved at jpegs, 800 pixels in the longest dimension, at 72 dpi.
- Each image filename must be saved as LastName-FirstName-#.jpg.
- During the selection process, images will be projected and viewed one at a time.
- Captions should include: Title, Year, Medium, Dimensions.
- Prints, slides, catalogs, original artwork, and other materials will not be accepted.

Video/Audio

Provide weblink addresses to video or audio clips hosted by a third party (i.e. Vimeo, YouTube, etc.). Be sure that weblinks are active for at least four months after the deadline. Provide passwords for password-protected videos. Each clip will be reviewed up to three (3) minutes by the jury.

- Submit up to three (3) video/audio clips.
- Indicate the cue time if your video is over three (3) minutes long (i.e. start at 0:00 or 1:30).
- Start times for each clip should begin a segment that best represents your work.
- During the selection process, videos will be projected.
- Provide passwords to password-protected videos if applicable.
- Captions should include: Title, Year, Original Format, Original Running Time.

Additional Information

While there are many elements that contribute to a successful exhibition, the components that are critical in the proposal evaluation process include:

- The Artwork: Artwork should be strong and compelling. The work should be cohesive and demonstrate a feasibility to realize the proposal.
- The Proposal: Proposals should be clear and specific. Avoid using jargon. You may want to begin your proposal with (1) a general description of the exhibition concept and (2) relevant parts of your own artist statement. Your proposal statement, generally, should include why this exhibition is important to present as well as why you might be excited by the opportunity. Finally, you can include a brief description of the work samples and how they relate to the exhibition.
- Follow the guidelines and demonstrate that your proposal is feasible to mount. Proposals that are incomplete, late, or do not follow the guidelines will not be considered.
- Finally, please note that a strong work sample is as important as a strong proposal statement. The strongest applications demonstrate a consistency in the concept and artistic vision both written in the proposal and shown through the work sample.

NURTUREart will notify all applicants by July 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact NURTUREart via email at submissions@nurtureart.org.

2017–2018 NURTUREart Exhibitions Open Call for Artists