



Call for Artists:
**Target Gallery Solo Exhibition at the
Torpedo Factory Art Center**

Application Deadline:

Sunday, September 18, 2022

Exhibition Dates:

Saturday, April 22 – Sunday, July 16, 2023

Artists Reception:

Friday, May 12, 2023 (subject to change)

Jury Panel: TBA

Torpedo Factory Art Center invites artists living in the DC-metropolitan region of the United States (for the purposes of this opportunity: this includes artists living permanently in the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia) to submit a proposal for a solo exhibition in Target Gallery, the Art Center's contemporary exhibition space.



CALL FOR ARTISTS | SOLO SHOW

SUBMIT BY SUNDAY, SEPT. 18 • torpedofactory.org/artopps

The artist with the chosen proposal will receive an exhibition in Target Gallery, from April 22 - July 16, 2023. The artist will receive a \$3,000 stipend for the opportunity to cover artists expenses. The selected artist will be responsible for the execution of the installation of the exhibition, an exhibition statement between 200 – 500 words, the presentation of an artist talk on Friday, May 12 and taking part in programming on June 9, Artist will be required to visit the gallery and meet with staff prior to installation. Additional opportunities will be made available to participate in public programs.

Applicant Requirements

- **Application:** Submissions will only be accepted through the official form via Submittable. To apply, you must create an account first. This will allow you to monitor the status and receive notifications about your submission. You will only need to create the account once—if you have used Submittable before you can simply log in to your account to submit. This includes uploading your images and paying via Submittable.
- **Fee:** A non-refundable **\$40 entry fee*** includes: the applicants artist's resume/CV, the submission of up to 25 images, an image list, an exhibition proposal, installation proposal, and an additional proposal for supplemental community engagement/program

opportunities.

- **Discounted Fee:** For emerging artists who have been exhibiting for less than five years and have not had a solo exhibition, please [email us](#) a copy of your Artist CV/Resume before **Friday, September 16th at 6pm**, to receive a **discounted application (\$25 entry fee)**. Students, active military, or veterans may also send us proof of status to receive a discounted application. If you intend to use this discount, **do not apply/pay for the original application, you will be sent another one to fill out instead**. The original application is non-refundable.
- **Artwork submission:** It is recommended that all images should be high-resolution (300 DPI). For video work, you may include the video uploads and one still image to represent the video. Submittable has a default max file upload size of 400 MB, and a default maximum total submission size of 800 MB. If you are concerned about the file sizes of your work will exceed this, please contact the gallery to let us know before **Friday, September 16th at 6pm**.
- **Due date:** The application must be submitted via Submittable no later than **11:59 p.m. ET. on Sunday, September 18, 2022**.
- **Payments:** All selected artists receiving an honorarium or sales commission for an exhibition at the Torpedo Factory Art Center must have a US-issued Tax ID number or Social Security Number in order to be paid.
- **Age:** All artists must be at least 18 years old to apply.
- **Proof of Residency:** Artists will be required to provide an image upload to verify their proof of address in D.C., Maryland, or Virginia. This opportunity is intended for artists who permanently reside within this locality.
- **Timeline:** The selected artist will be required to follow the exhibition planning timeline and deadlines set by the Art Center staff.
- **Visits and Check-ins:** Artists will be required to do at least one site-visit in the gallery as well as have up to four check-in meetings with the Gallery Curator, to ensure that those goals are met.

Artwork Requirements

- **All artwork must measure no more than 7' or 84" in any direction.** This is to anticipate the size restraints of the gallery. This is a requirement for all work, 2-D or 3-D, particularly for anything on the wall. If you are planning to frame the work, it must still be within the size restraint. *For site-specific work, we can allow some accommodations to the size, please contact Target Gallery for specific questions.*
- **The artwork must be ready to hang**, if it's a wall hanging work: *it must have a wire or hardware already affixed*. For the solo exhibition, we require the artist to be on-site to complete installation so we do allow work to be created that is site-specific and created specifically for our space but the artist should come prepared with as much prep done in

advance as possible.

- Artists applying with work made of potentially toxic materials or natural/ephemeral materials that could cause allergens or exposure risk to the gallery staff or the public should use caution as the work may be rejected based on unfeasibility for the space. Please reach out to Target Gallery for questions.
 - Artwork cannot be drilled to the floor, ceiling, or into a pedestal (unless the artist provides their own pedestal).
 - Artwork should be a reasonable weight and able to be lifted or moved unaided by tools or technology by a minimum of three people.
 - All artwork must be made within the last five years.
 - **Video work** will be played looped, so please be mindful with the size of the video. It needs to be able to load on a USB/SD card potentially with other videos. We currently use 32 GB SD cards and USBs.
 - For video work, any videos with loud, jarring noise or flashing lights that could be a sensory trigger needs to have a content warning. We will also **require captions/subtitles**, for any video with dialogue accepted in this exhibition to help with accessibility. YouTube and Vimeo both have auto-generated and other caption options that you can employ to help with this as needed.
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Application Overview

Part I. Personal Information – please fill this out as completely as possible. You will be required to upload an image or document to verify your proof of address.

- Please note that the Submittable notifications will automatically be sent to the email associated with the account you use to apply, regardless of what email address you include within the application itself.

Part II. Exhibition Proposal –

- Title of the Proposed Exhibition (if applicable)
- An exhibition proposal:
 - Describes the goal, themes, and overall concept of the exhibition
 - Describes how this body of work cohesively reflects these themes within the exhibition
- Up to 25 image/video uploads:
 - you are NOT required to include 25 images/videos if that does not make sense to your proposal
 - Images should be numbered in correspondence to their number in the Image List.
 - We highly encourage you to take/use high resolution images (300 DPI) for this opportunity.

- Submittable's default maximum file size is 400mb per upload, and the default 800 mb maximum total.
- See our recommendations for images in our "Tips for a Successful Application and Proposal".
- An Image List: explaining title, media, size, date, and a description of the artwork.
 - Thumbnail images of the artwork are encouraged.
- Installation proposal:
 - Describes how the preparation and installation will be physically executed by you using the budget (\$3,000) and timeline provided (see below).
 - Target Gallery can provide: nails, screws, hammers, drills, pedestals (check with gallery for sizes), a projector in Target Gallery (note the lights will have to be dimmed), up to three TV monitors for video work, and the pop-up video projection space (located in Studio 9, down the hall from Target Gallery, see map below).
 - Describes how it will be displayed in the exhibition space (we encourage artists to utilize the Target Gallery floorplan provided below).
 - If you are planning to make site-specific work, talk to how your proposed body of work would be adapted
 - Are there specific installation requirements that your work necessitates?

Part III. Community Engagement and Professional Development

- How does your proposed exhibition engage visitors? Talk to how body of this work will be accessible to viewers and how it invites viewer interest and creativity.
- Propose at least two additional programs ideas (outside of the artist talk in May) to activate viewer engagement with the exhibition in June and potentially July.
 - How do these programs enhance the exhibition and reflect the overall goal?
 - What are the logistical requirements needed to execute these programs? How will this use the budget (\$3,000)? What kind of preparation and time commitment is needed?
- Upload your artist CV/Resume
- How will this opportunity benefit your career as an artist?

Terms of Exhibition

- **Artist Honorarium** – An honorarium of \$3,000 may either be paid half up-front prior to the installation of the exhibition and half after the completion of the exhibition; or it can be paid in one lump sum at the completion of the exhibition. To receive the honorarium, you must fill out the necessary w-9 and submit an invoice to receive your check. Artists that receive an honorarium or sales commission for an exhibition at the Torpedo Factory Art Center must have a US-issued Tax ID number or Social Security Number in order to be paid.
- **Artwork Sales** – **All artwork must be for sale unless mutually agreed upon by the gallery** (for example, video work or site-specific installation can be listed as NFS- not for

sale). Target Gallery takes a 30% commission for all artwork sold during the exhibition or within 90 days of the exhibition if the gallery acts as the agent, while 70% of the artwork sale goes directly to the artist. Payment will be issued within 30 days of the exhibition closing.

- **Insurance** – All artwork is insured for the listed price or worth that is specified in the Loan Agreement, for the specific timeline as set out in the Loan Agreement. The selected artist must sign the Loan Agreement to exhibit their work in the gallery.
 - **Artwork Delivery** - The selected artist will be responsible for the delivery of the work by in person drop-off or shipping. If shipping, they must send the work to the gallery in sturdy, reusable boxes. Return shipping must be issued as a prepaid call tag, enclosed with artwork or as arranged with the gallery. The Torpedo Factory Art Center will not be responsible for shipping costs or any damage incurred in transit or post-exhibition. Artwork left in storage at the Torpedo Factory Art Center after their contract ends will no longer be covered by insurance. Artwork left 90 days after the conclusion of the contract at Torpedo Factory Art Center will become property of the City of Alexandria.
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Tips for a Successful Application and Proposal:

- **Plan ahead.** Review the guidelines and Target Gallery floorplan to anticipate any logistical questions and [reach out to the Target Gallery staff](#). Many applications are rejected based on their unfeasibility for the actual space.
- **Quality images.** High resolution images (300 DPI) are encouraged for this opportunity. We also recommend that the images accurately reflect the quality and technical skill of your work. If you have highly detailed artwork, try to take some detail close ups to allow the jurors to see those details. Submittable's default maximum file size is 400mb per upload, and the default maximum total.

Here are some helpful resources on best practices for photographing your artwork:

- [The Art League](#)
- [Café](#)
- [WikiHow: How to take High Resolution Photos](#)
- **Address the space.** In your proposal, it is important to reference how the exhibition itself will work within the gallery space. Is there enough room for a wheelchair/stroller to navigate around? Is the work blocking the emergency exit? How will it fit?
- **Consider how the exhibition will affect the City of Alexandria.** With a population of 157,631, Alexandria is a diverse and growing community just across the Potomac River from Washington DC. 71% of residents are between the age of 19 – 64. The Average median age is 38.3 with an average median income of \$120K. Per capita income is \$68K. 62% of the population is white while 38% is BIPOC. The City also has a high

population of foreign-born residents from Afghanistan, Ethiopia, El Salvador, and Honduras. 14% of residents speak Spanish. Alexandria also has a rich history dating to before its founding in 1749, including George Washington, being a major slave trade location, and the Torpedo Factory itself.

- **Consider how the exhibition will affect the Torpedo Factory Art Center.** Founded in 1974 in an old munitions plant, the Torpedo Factory Art Center is home to the nation's largest collection of working-artists' open studios under one roof. The Art Center's mission is to ignite the creative spirit. It achieves its mission through engagement with the arts, allowing visitors to interact directly with working artists. The Torpedo Factory Art Center gets up to 500,000 diverse visitors a year. There are going to be thousands of people that will view and interact with the chosen exhibition, so consider how your exhibition will work within such an environment. Are your themes and concepts accessible to someone without an arts background? Take this into consideration as you write your proposal.
- **Be a good neighbor.** Target Gallery is **not** soundproof and is housed within a shared community of artist studios. If your exhibition requires use of strong smells, constant jarring noise, or requires loud music/sound without headphones, then consider whether this opportunity is right for you.
- **Community engagement.** All applicants are required to list a minimum of two programmatic ideas for supplemental public programming outside of the artist talk and reception. Consider how visitors of different ages may engage with your work.
- **What's been selected before?** Review the online catalogs for Target Gallery's most recent solo exhibitions from 2019 to 2022.
 - [2019, Julia Kwon](#)
 - [2020, Tai Hwa Goh](#)
 - [2021, Omolara Williams McCallister](#)
 - [2022, Blu Murphy](#)

Note About Submittable.com:

Torpedo Factory Art Center uses Submittable.com to collect applications, send updates, and notifications to artists regarding their application status. Please be sure to allow the email **notifications@email.submittable.com** in your regular email inbox, as Submittable can sometimes get marked as spam.

If you have an issue receiving emails from Submittable even after whitelisting, please check your spam folder. You can check the status of your application online and see any messages sent from our staff on: manager.submittable.com/user/submissions

For Submittable help, please see this page with FAQ questions for submitters: submittable.help/en/collections/185534-submitters

Exhibition Timeline

Application Deadline: Sunday, September 18, 11: 59PM EST (no extensions)

Phase I Jurying: September 19 – October 3

Phase II Jurying: October 4 – October 21

Artists Notified of Acceptance: Friday, October 21, 2022

Site Visit /Artist Check-in I: November 2022

Site Visit/Artist Check-in II: January 2023

Site Visit/Artist Check-in III: March 2023

Site Visit/Artist Check-in IV: April 2023 (prior to installation)

Installation: Sunday, April 16 – Friday, April 21, 2023

Exhibition Opens to the Public: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Reception and Artist Talk: Friday, May 12, 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Additional Programming Dates: Friday, June 9, Friday, July 14

Last Day of Exhibition: Sunday, July 16

Artwork Deinstallation/Pick-Up: Monday, July 17 – Tuesday, July 18

About Target Gallery

Torpedo Factory Art Center promotes high standards of art and viewer engagement by continuously exploring new ideas through visual art in Target Gallery. The contemporary exhibition space presents about eight rotating exhibitions annually featuring a variety of relevant and timely themes.



Artists interested in receiving information about upcoming opportunities or exhibition openings can visit our website to sign up to receive email updates at: torpedofactory.org/artopps

Contact

Phone: 703.746.4590

Email: targetgallery@alexandriava.gov

Address: 105 N Union St. Alexandria, VA 22314 (located in Studio 2 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center)

This floor plan shows **Target Gallery (Studio 2)** and the pop-up video projection space in **Studio 9**. Please see a more detailed floorplan with wall dimensions for Target Gallery on the previous page.

Projections in Studio 9 will be projected on the back wall on a 150” screen (diagonal), with the rest of the space utilized for visitor seating.

Artists submitting for a solo exhibition DO NOT need to utilize this space, it's available as an option to those that would benefit from it.

For questions, please contact our staff.

