

Open Call for Curatorial Proposals 2025

Instructions & FAQ

About

Angels Gate Cultural Center (AGCC) is currently seeking curatorial proposals for guest curated contemporary visual art exhibitions in 2026 and 2027. **Proposals are due by 11:59pm on August 15, 2025**

AGCC is requesting exhibition proposals with unique curatorial perspectives and approaches that are interested in investigating contemporary culture through a diverse array of artistic practices, aesthetic sensibilities, experimentation, and innovation.

Curatorial themes AGCC is interested in presenting:

- Contemporary themes that address urgent issues of our present day society, local or global
- Curatorial themes that attempt to generate radical empathy and understanding for historically marginalized groups and/or cultures
- Proposals that demonstrate a strong understanding of how AGCC's location adjacent to the Port of LA and diverse communities of San Pedro relate to, and are a part of, Los Angeles
- Experimental explorations that push beyond traditional use of media, blur the line between artist and audience, or intersect with other disciplines of knowledge and creativity
- Proposals that are intersectional of the concepts above.

Additional consideration will be given to artists and independent curators based in the greater Los Angeles area who do not already have a history of regularly showing or curating at the Center within the past 3 years. Artists and curators who have recently shown at the Center are still welcome to apply.

Exhibition Opportunity

- Up to 2,000 square feet of exhibition space
- Curator Honorarium of \$500
- Artist Honorariums ranging between \$100 - \$450 per artist (dependent on size of group show, site specific works/special considerations, budget availability, etc.)
- Installation by gallery staff
- Marketing materials and publicity
- Gallery didactics
- Gallery supervision during public hours Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am – 5pm
- Exhibitions will open to the public for a 6 – 15 week period with an additional 2-week installation period

Please Note:

Funding for exhibitions is dependent on exhibition-specific grants, of which AGCC has recently experienced a historic reduction in public arts support alongside many cultural institutions. The following items are not guaranteed to be provided by AGCC: exhibition catalog, art shipping and transport, event honorariums, art materials budget, and performance fees. Proposals should indicate flexibility in desired needs to accommodate future budget challenges.

We are seeking:

- Exhibition proposals from independent curators, emerging, midcareer or established
- Proposals that are conceptually rigorous and focus on artists, projects, and themes that are innovative, challenging, relevant, and engaging
- Group exhibitions of 3 – 9 artists
- Ideas or topics that are not well-represented in the commercial sector
- Exhibitions that have not had the opportunity to be previously shown in the Los Angeles area
- Proposals that are in conversation with the current discourse in contemporary art
- Proposals that are aligned with the mission of AGCC as a nonprofit, community-service oriented cultural center
- Proposals that include local and greater Los Angeles area based artists
- Extra consideration will be given to proposals that demonstrate understanding of AGCC and engage the communities in which we exist

Guidelines

Curators will be responsible for the curation of artists, and must be present onsite for part of the installation, opening reception, programming, and deinstallation of the exhibition.

- Programming – in order to serve the community of AGCC, exhibitions will be required to provide a programming component (artist talk, art performance, screening, etc.)
- Applications may be submitted by an individual, curatorial team, or organization/art space, but curators must have residency in the United States
- Curators with artistic practices may include their artwork as part of a curated group exhibition, however a strong case for inclusion of the curator's own artistic work must be demonstrated within a compelling curatorial theme.
- No solo-shows submitted by the artist will be accepted. In general, AGCC does not produce solo-exhibitions, with rare exceptions.
- Applicants may submit more than one proposal
- Visual representations of the concept, themes, artists, or works to be shown is required in the application
- Preference will be given exhibitions that have not been previously shown, and lack resources and need AGCC's support. Need should be stated in the Curatorial Narrative.
- Proposed artworks cannot be selected by a fee-based call for art or juried submission.
- A shipping and transportation budget is currently not available, local works are highly encouraged. A budget for shipping may become available later if an exhibition-specific grant received.
- Proposals may be submitted at any time, but only those received by the open call deadline will be prioritized for the 2026-2027 exhibitions calendar
- Applicants must follow all submission requirements in the Application Checklist including maximum description lengths as indicated or be disqualified.
- Facilities at AGCC are former WWII era military barracks. While AGCC is currently working on improving accessibility, the second-floor gallery is not fully accessible at this time (see our [accessibility statement](#)).
- Please read the FAQ for additional information.

FAQ Curatorial Call for Proposals 2025

Will AGCC insure the artwork? Yes, the center insures exhibited work for fair market values only, up to a total combined value of \$200,000 of all works on view (we may show 2-3 exhibitions simultaneously) and up to \$25,000 per artwork. AGCC cannot insure works over these limits.

Does art have to be for sale? No. The artists may decide to list works for sale at their discretion. However, any sales of works exhibited must be facilitated by the Center with a 25% commission to AGCC.

Does AGCC manage and provide for the cost of art shipping & handling? At this time, AGCC does not have a substantial shipping or transportation budget. Local works that can be delivered by the artist are recommended. Curators may decide to allocate part of their budget to shipping/transport.

Can I have additional financial support? As a nonprofit, AGCC resources are limited. All accepted proposals will be referenced in grant applications to fund our exhibitions program in general. Occasionally, additional funding for non-standard support (catalogs, shipping) is secured but cannot be guaranteed at the time of application.

Will there be a contract? Yes, the Guest Curatorial Agreement between AGCC and the Curator will specify the timeline for deliverables (list of works, images, etc.), division of responsibilities, budget, services provided, and release of liability.

Will preparators install my exhibition? Yes, AGCC has a small but experienced team of gallery staff that will assist with installation, however hours will be limited to business hours during the installation period. Complex installations will be required to be installed directly by the artist.

What marketing and publicity will AGCC provide for my exhibition? AGCC will create and distribute a press release package, design/print show cards, design digital materials, and publicize your event online, in newsletters, and create advertisements in art publications when possible. All exhibition marketing will be designed by AGCC staff and must adhere to AGCC branding standards. Compliance with AGCC's deliverables timeline is required for AGCC to adequately promote and create marketing materials.

Is there a programming component requirement? In order to serve our community as a cultural center, exhibitions must have a separate, stand-alone event (not included in the opening reception) that encourages community participation. This may be an artist talk, film screening, workshop, performance, or other event that augments the exhibition and is free to the public.

Will there be public gallery hours with supervision? Yes, the gallery is located in the Center's main building of operations and public gallery hours are Thursday – Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

How many proposals will you accept? AGCC will not offer exhibitions opportunities to all proposals submitted, and will accept 2-3 exhibitions to be shown in 2026 and 2027.

How much space in the gallery can I have? Exhibitions will be allocated space based on the scope of work proposed, availability of our gallery spaces, and accessibility needs. Curators may request

specific gallery rooms ([see floorplan](#)) or both floors of the gallery. AGCC recommends an in-person visit to determine appropriate space to request.

How are applications chosen? Selection of accepted proposals will be made by AGCC staff and an advisory panel who will extend exhibition opportunities to proposals based on artistic excellence, relevance to the South Bay Harbor communities, and the proposal's need for organizational support.

How can I learn more? AGCC will host an open information zoom session on Tuesday, July 8th at 7pm. Details on how to register are coming soon. For additional questions, please email gallery@angelsgateart.org

APPLICATION CHECKLIST (submit all items to be considered):

1. Completed **Proposal Information Form**
2. **Curatorial Narrative** describing the purpose, themes, artists and works to be included, and relevance, limited to a maximum two-page document (word or pdf). Pages beyond 2 will not be read.
3. **Labeled images** that are representative of the proposal consolidated into a single document via pdf or powerpoint file, up to a maximum of 15 pages. (individual image file attachments will not be accepted)
4. **Curatorial Experience**, brief statement or cover letter outlining your curatorial and/or artistic experience, curatorial approach/practice, achievements, or other upcoming curatorial projects, limited to one-page, maximum. If applying as a team please specify previous curatorial collaborations.
5. **Curatorial or artistic resume** with exhibitions and roles identified. Optional: additional images or web links that show past curatorial work is highly encouraged (images should be labeled and consolidated in a single document, word doc, pdf, or powerpoint)
6. **Optional** – resumes of proposed artists to be exhibited or other significant contributors. AGCC understands that artists may change in development.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit all materials in the checklist as attachments to a single email by **11:59pm on Friday, August 15th 2025** to gallery@angelsgateart.org, with the email subject: Curatorial Proposal: Title, Name. In the body of your email list the file names and purpose of all email attachments. You will be notified if your submission is received.

Curatorial Proposal Information Form 2025

Curator Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

(Optional) Link to curatorial website _____

Exhibition Title _____

70-word maximum summary of your proposal (attached a separate detailed Curatorial Narrative):

List tentative artists to be included in your exhibition. Provide links to the artist's website or social media.

Artist	Artist Website

Has this exhibition proposal or a version of it been shown before? If yes, please describe:

What special installation/exhibition equipment is required? _____

Do you have a preference for the gallery rooms utilized? ([see floorplan](#)) _____

Do you have any schedule conflicts in which you are unavailable for the 2-week installation and subsequent 6-15 week exhibition period in 2026 and 2027? If so, please list:

List two references with phone numbers who can speak to your curatorial and/or artistic experience:

YOU ARE NOT DONE!

Include this form with the submission of all materials indicated in the *Application Checklist* listed in the Instructions. To submit, please see *How to Apply*.