

The Allegany Arts Council is pleased to announce a juried competition for members of the Allegany Arts Council to take place August 6-27, 2022, at Maryland Federation of Art, Circle Gallery in Annapolis, Maryland.

From Mountain to Marina: Allegany Arts Council at Maryland Federation of Art celebrates the artistry of Allegany Arts Council members in a new forum, the Circle Gallery in Annapolis, MD. Any Allegany Arts Council member in good standing may submit entries for jurying. Entries are \$25 for the first two (2) entries and \$5 for each additional entry up to six (6) in total. Up to 50 submissions will be juried into the final exhibit.

The deadline to enter is June 8, 2022.

From Marina to Mountain: Maryland Federation of Art at Allegany Arts Council celebrates the artistry of Maryland Federation of Art members in a new forum, the Saville and Schwab galleries of the Allegany Arts Council. MFA members may submit entries here (<https://www.mdfedart.com/portfolio/258/>) and the deadline to enter is June 8, 2022.

About the Juror

Eric Key is an art lover, investor, and collector who—by his own admission—“can’t draw a straight line,” Key came to the university in 2008 with more than 35 years of experience in art administration, after serving most recently for more than a decade as executive director of the Kansas African American Museum in Wichita. Formerly, he served as the Director of Programs for The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (Dallas, Texas). Over his tenure in the art field, he has served as curator for the African American Museum Dallas (Dallas, Texas), Assistant Curator of African American History at Old City Park (Dallas, Texas), and Special Collections Librarian/University Archivist at Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, Texas) where he has sharpened his knowledge of the art field, and worked with countless number of artists, curators, and directors. Throughout his tenure, he has curated more than 200 culturally diverse exhibitions

Key’s fascination with and passion for the world of art came slowly for Key. A native of rural Smithfield, Virginia—the “ham capital of the world”—Key was raised by a hardworking family; his great grandmother was a seamstress, his mother a housewife, his father the descendant of slaves. His great-grandmother especially encouraged him to get an education, though she didn’t fully

understand what that meant, beyond earning a high school diploma. Still, her encouragement helped to motivate Key.

He enrolled at Hampton University (formerly Hampton Institute) in Virginia, where he majored in political science. And subsequently received a Master in Museum Studies. In doing so I took a job in the University Museum, and I think that's what really did it. That's when the light came on. I realized that I enjoyed everything about art—I enjoyed studying it, handling it, meeting the artists, the whole nine yards. A joy came over me! I realized that I wouldn't get rich in this field, but I also learned that it was rewarding to me spiritually and intellectually, and I made the choice of being happy versus being rich." His thesis project was titled "African Masks from West Africa".

Key joined the staff at the University of Maryland University College in 2008 as the Director of the Arts Program. His passion carries over into his work, and from the time Key joined UMUC in 2008, the university has added almost 2200 individual pieces to its collection, while at the same time increasing the percentage of the collection that is on public display at any given time, from 50 percent to approximately 80 percent. He is responsible for the overall care of the collection, its development, and its future. Moreover, he is responsible for a robust visual art exhibition program.

Prizes

The Allegany Arts Council will offer five Juror's Choice Awards at \$100 each.

Rules and Eligibility

All members of the Allegany Arts Council in good standing are eligible to apply, regardless of membership level. Entries are \$25 for the first two (2) entries and \$5 for each additional entry up to a total of six (6) per artist. Up to 50 submissions will be juried into the final exhibit.

All works submitted must be for sale – no exceptions. MFA will retain a 25% commission on all works sold with payment to the artist no more than thirty (30) days after the exhibition concludes. Any sales exceeding \$600 by an individual artist will require a completed W-9 to process payment.

Artists are required to submit a high-res image (no less than 72 dpi) as part of the entry. Images will be used for inclusion in a digital gallery which will be housed on the MFA website during the exhibition dates.

The call for entry will open April 25, 2022, and end at 11:59PM (EST) on June 8, 2022. Selected artists will be notified July 5, 2022.

The juried competition will accept both two and three-dimensional works, although Circle Gallery may place some limits on three-dimensional work due to equipment limitations. Entrants should consider the following:

- Two-dimensional work must be suitably framed (clip frames not allowed) and under glass or Plexiglass when appropriate (plexiglass must be on works larger than 24"x30").
- Artwork which is intentionally unframed, such as stretched canvas, must have well-finished, painted edges. Edges may not be taped. Mats, if used, must be well cut and clean.
- All prints, including photographic prints, must be signed and numbered, and include a certificate or label of authenticity.
- All wall or suspended work must be equipped with a secure wire hanging system. The gallery does not supply framing, hardware, or wire.
- Any works which must be directly affixed to walls must be approved and artist must provide all hardware necessary for safe installation.
- Entries which require electrical outlets should indicate in the entry form comments the specific needs for installation.
- The artist is responsible for special security of artwork, such as jewelry.
- When two or three-dimensional work is unusually heavy or difficult to handle, timely assistance may be required of the artist. Prior notice is required for any three-dimensional works exceeding 50 pounds, and two-dimensional work exceeding 20 pounds to ensure gallery floor or wall can bear weight load. Three-dimensional work must fit through a standard single door. No work may be more than 72" in any direction.

Upon notification, invited artists will be required to deliver work to the Allegany Arts Council for delivery to MFA. All works must be bubble-wrapped, boxed or presented in the same manner as if shipping to ensure safety of the works. All works will be installed by MFA staff.

Important Dates

Call for Entry Opens: April 25, 2022

Deadline to Enter: June 8, 2022

Artist Notification: July 5, 2022

Public Opening for MFA Artists at Allegany Arts Council:

Saturday, August 6, 2022, 6:00PM-8:00PM

Allegany Arts Council, 9 N. Centre Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

Annapolis ArtsWalk:

Thursday, August 18, 2022, 5 PM to 9 PM

Maryland Federation of Art, Circle Gallery, 18 State Circle, Annapolis MD

Closing Reception for AAC Artists at Maryland Federation of Art

Saturday, August 27, 2022, Time 4 PM – 6 PM

Maryland Federation of Art, Circle Gallery, 18 State Circle, Annapolis, MD