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## Finding Exhibition Opportunities

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Where Can I Start Exhibiting Artwork?

Department of Exhibitions
If you are planning on curating a show, putting on a group exhibition with peers, or just checking out display materials (pedestals, video equipment, etc.), familiarize yourself with the Department of Exhibitions located in the Fox Building behind the Meyerhoff Gallery Room 120.

Check out the website listing all gallery spaces on campus.

MICA Juried Undergraduate Exhibition
An annual competitive exhibition held in the Fox Galleries. Any current undergraduate student can submit one work to be considered for the show.

Student Space Gallery
MICA has four gallery spaces that continuously show student artwork: two walls in the Gateway lobby, the Piano Gallery in Meyerhoff House, and Pinkard Gallery in Bunting.

They run 12 student shows a semester! Apply in fall for spring shows, apply in spring for fall. Deadlines and workshops on the SSG Website.

Apply for a personal solo show on campus, no application fee!

Get practice writing your artist statement and curating your own work.

SSG is coordinated by the Student Activities Office.

On Campus Exhibition Resources
As a MICA student, you have a lot of opportunities to show off the work you make around campus.
Studio Visits & Department Exhibitions

If you are an upperclassmen, chances are you have a studio space on campus. Consider letting fellow artists, underclassmen, and faculty in to take a peek!

Departments frequently set up class-specific or media-specific shows in hallways at Brown, Fox, Bunting, and Main. The Center for Identity and Inclusion, Decker Library, and the Learning Resource Center have all been known to curate exhibitions with Calls for Entry—Keep a lookout!

What is a Pop-up Show?

A quick temporary art event that allows artists to exhibit work in a smaller space but usually with other students. Pop-up shows are easier to setup, pitch, and display without needing a gallery space long term.
Local Exhibition Resources

Join the Baltimore community in supporting the arts. Take some steps towards reaching out to galleries, museums, art organizations, and the art community!

Some things you can do to participate:

» Internships
» Volunteer work
» Following organizations on social media
» Talking to faculty, alumni, or peers
» Attending exhibition receptions or artist talks
» Applying to open calls or competitions

There are a lot of different kinds of spaces available to display work, ranging from commercial galleries, university galleries, and museums to non-profit spaces and artist run collectives. Oftentimes, the way to approach these kinds of places is different.

For more commercial venues, check their website to find out the kind of artwork / artists that space represents. If it matches up with your own work or visual style, visit the gallery in person to build a relationship with the managers. Then, think about email etiquette, artist statements, and a portfolio if you plan to reach out online.

For non-profit and artist run collectives, try seeing if they have call for entries. Or else volunteering or attending events may be the best first step to take.
Start with Research:
As most things, finding opportunities to exhibit around Baltimore requires research. Luckily, MICA provides lots of resources to help you discover potential exhibition venues.

MICAnetwork—

- Log in to MICAnetwork using your MICA email and password.
- Go to Job Search.
- Select Advanced Search.
  - Customize Job Location, State to MD or Job Location, City to Baltimore.
  - Customize Position Type to Call for Entry or Competition/Contest.
Places to Start
Consider looking at MICA Internship histories to find venues that students already have good connections with!

- Go to Resource Library
- Internships
- MICA Internship Histories
BmoreArt

Bmore Art is an award-winning art magazine that exists online and in print. Bmore Art’s diverse team of local writers, editors, and artists cover everything happening in Baltimore from writing about current local art shows to maintaining a running list of calls for entry and more.

They have resources links for arts museums, galleries, performance spaces, organizations, studios, educational institutions, and residencies.

Check them out here.

Fine Art Reviews

MICA’s Fine Art Reviews event connects graduating students with representatives from a range of commercial galleries, non-profit galleries, freelance curators, and organizations for a one-on-one interview. The reviews are valuable opportunities to share work with professionals active in the art world and to create contacts that help start careers. While these interviews might not result in immediate exhibition opportunities, the contacts made are long term resources.

Graduating students can apply online for the spring semester reviews here.

Alumni Owned/Operated/Managed Galleries

Current Space
CO-DIRECTORS:
Michael Benevento ’03
Monique Crabb ’03
Andrew Liang ’02

Gallery CA
CURATOR IN RESIDENCE:
Quentin Gibeau ’11 MFA Community Arts & BFA Illustration

New Door Creative Gallery
OWNER:
Michelle Weatherly ’98

School 33
EXHIBITIONS COORDINATOR:
Melissa Webb ’96

Springsteen Gallery
FOUNDERS:
Hunter Bradley ’11
Amelia Szpiech ’11

Open Space Gallery
FOUNDERS:
Eric Bos ’11,
Chris Day ’08,
Neal Reinalda ’09,
Conor Stechschulte ’08,
Brendan Sullivan ’09,
Andrew Kennedy ’10,
Geoff Kixmiller ’10,
Pete Razon ’09,
Matt Bettine ’09,
Molly O’Connell ’08,
Scotty Ache ’09,
Erin McAleavey ’10,
Eric Stiner ’08
Much like looking for local exhibition opportunities, finding non-local exhibition venues requires research and planning. Consider other factors that go into exhibiting non-locally like shipping costs, instructions on how to display work, and catalogues of your own work. MICAnetwork is your friend! When searching, Position Type: to Call for Entry, Competition/Contest.

Research the gallery or organization online and make sure the artwork shown there matches your work. Otherwise, You might be wasting your time. If it’s a match, follow all application instructions carefully and keep track of when you should hear back.
Back to Basics

Use MICA students and alumni as starting points to learning about different art organizations and galleries. Remember, sometimes the best way to get to know a gallery is by chatting with someone who works or exhibits there! Attend openings at the galleries you want to show in or stop by for an artists talk.

If there are artists you look up to who make work in a similar vein, check out their website! Artists frequently list their resumes or biographies which show, what galleries they’ve shown in and how they took their first steps out of college. This is a great resource to start researching galleries and spaces that may also be interested in your work! Sometimes, this doesn’t mean you start showing at the gallery immediately, but that you start by attending events or interning with them.

Collaborations

As a young artist, it may seem intimidating to try and exhibit work on your own.

Think about asking friends from different departments to help you.

For example, if you are a fine arts major, reaching out to a curatorial studies student could be a good start to putting together your own show.

Consider applying to shows with friends or shows that collaborate between art and design schools. The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art annual collaborative show is a good example.
Where Can I Start Exhibiting Artwork?

What is an Open Call / Call for Entry?

A Call for Entry is an opportunity for anyone to submit work to a competition or exhibition.

Look for more details about application fees and guidelines.

Some websites that are great places to start include Café and NYFA!

Café is an online platform that provides a database of call for entries. By making an account, you can manage what, where, and when you've applied. (It was created by non-profit organization called Western States Art Federation to strengthen the financial, organizational, and policy infrastructure in the Western states.)

NYFA (New York Foundation for the Arts) is an independent organization designed to serve individual artists throughout the US. NYFA frequently posts jobs and opportunities on NYFA Classifieds and maintains an art database through NYFA Source.

Non-Local Exhibition Resources
Online Exhibition Resources

As an artist, maintaining a strong online presence is just as important as your studio practice. It's not always possible for people to view your work in person so displaying your work digitally is important for potential employers and collaborators. Start by learning how to document your work with Career Development's resources and then put together a website!

First Steps: MICAportfolios

If you've never put together a portfolio site before, you're in luck! MICA offers every student a free account on MICAportfolios, which is linked to Behance. MICAportfolios automatically puts your work with the MICA community, making it easier to connect with peers and faculty. Plus, MICAportfolios is used for MICA's annual competitive scholarships so there's plenty of sample portfolios to check out!
Where Can I Start Exhibiting Artwork?

Other sites to consider:

1. Portfoliobox—free for standard version
2. Squarespace
3. Wix
4. Cargo collective
5. MICA website website

This website is a great resource for discovering new platforms. This site was created to address the first steps in creating your own site: what content to put on their, sample website creators, where to purchase domain names, how to document your work, and much more!

Social Media Presence

Link up with other artists, follow art organizations, galleries, or museums you like.

Although many people are skeptical about social media for professional development, if used correctly, social media can increase the visibility of your work.

Use it to:

Build a more personal connection between you and the people who enjoy your work.

Keep up to date about events that can help you build rapport with places you want to work with or exhibit at.

Reach out and follow art organizations, galleries, and museums to understand the types of artists they are showing.

Photo: Kai Lun Qu ’18 Painting Instagram @kailunqu
Resources for Further Exploration

**Book**

ART/WORK: *Everything You Need to Know (and Do) As You Pursue Your Art Career*

Book by Heather Darcy Bhandari and Jonathan Melber

**Web**

**Café**

www.callforentry.org

**MICAnetwork**

micanetwork.com

**NYFA**

www.nyfa.org

**Bmore Art**

www.bmoreart.com

**College Art Association**

www.collegeart.org

**Maryland State Art Council (MSAC)**

www.msac.org