

CALL TO ARTISTS: 2020 KENT SUMMER ART EXHIBIT & PURCHASE AWARDS

CITY OF KENT ART PURCHASE AWARDS: A total of \$15,000 will be used to purchase artworks from one or more artists.

CENTENNIAL CENTER EXHIBIT AWARDS: 3-5 solo or duo exhibitions in the Centennial Center Gallery.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to Artists residing in Washington State. Kent residents and first-time applicants are encouraged to apply.

DEADLINE: Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 5:00 PM (PDT)

HOW TO APPLY: The City of Kent is utilizing 4Culture's on-line application system. Applicants must provide information and submit required materials through this system only. Please review all application guidelines prior to starting your application. No application fee is required.

➤ [READY TO APPLY](#)

BACKGROUND

More than 40 years ago, the citizens and leaders of Kent recognized that the arts are a significant part of the quality of life, growth and vitality of a community. The mission of the Kent Arts Commission is to provide leadership in establishing cultural opportunities and arts education; to improve the quality of life and enhance the aesthetic environment; and to promote Kent as a center for great arts. Over its 40-year history, the Commission has provided Kent residents access to the region's best performing, visual and literary arts.

OPPORTUNITY

The City of Kent seeks prints, photographs, paintings, works on paper and other types of artwork for the juried *Kent Summer Art Exhibit*. All artworks selected for the juried exhibit are then eligible for *City Art Purchase Awards* and *Kent Arts Commission Exhibit Awards*. To accommodate a large number of accomplished, regional artists, the exhibition is displayed salon style in the Centennial Center Gallery and adjacent conference rooms. The exhibition will be on display from June 3rd through August 19, 2020.

An Awards Panel will award a total of \$15,000 to one or more artists to receive The City Art Purchase Award. This panel will also choose between 3-5 artists to receive the 2020-2021 Kent Arts Commission Centennial Center Gallery Exhibit Award. Artists are eligible to receive multiple awards.

All participating artists and their guests will be invited to the Summer Art Exhibit Reception Wednesday, June 3, 2020 (6:30-8:00 pm).

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

The *Kent Summer Art Exhibit* will be juried by the *Exhibition Panel*, which will be composed of regional arts professionals. The *Exhibition Panel's* selection criterion is guided by the values of the *Kent Arts Commission*. *Exhibition* selection will be based foremost on artistic merit. The *Exhibition Panel* may also seek artworks offering a variety of media; compelling themes; representing cultural or ethnic diversity; and is suitable for public display. Kent residents and first-time applicants are encouraged to apply.

The *City Art Purchase Awards* and *Kent Arts Commission Exhibit Awards* will be selected by the *Awards Panel*. They will consider all artworks in the *Kent Summer Art Exhibit* for an award. The *Award Panel* will be comprised of some *Exhibition Panelists*, a *Kent City Councilmember*, a *Kent Arts Commissioner* and a *Kent City Employee*. They will purchase up to \$15,000 worth of artwork for the City's portable public art collection, and up to eight artists will be awarded exhibits in the *Gallery*. The awards will be posted at the opening reception. The *Awards Panel's* selection criterion is also guided by the values of the *Kent Arts Commission*. Awards will be based foremost on artistic merit and may also seek artworks from established and emerging artists; in a variety of media and themes; representing cultural or ethnic diversity; and are of appropriate scale and suitable for public display.

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

EXHIBITION READY: Work must be framed or otherwise ready for display. Works on canvas may be unframed. All works must be protected from incidental damage and wired or have backing to hang on a hook. Any work that can be safely displayed upon our gallery's walls will be considered. Very heavy artwork that needs to be secured to a wall stud cannot be accepted.

FOR SALE: Work must be for sale. To help cover exhibit costs, the City of Kent charges a 25% commission on work sold to the general public during the *Kent Summer Art Exhibit*. * The price will be calculated based upon the amount listed on the label, which should include tax.

SELECTED ARTWORKS: Artists are expected to exhibit the artwork selected. If the selected artwork sells prior to exhibition, please notify the City of Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Service.

DELIVERY: Delivery and handling of artwork is the responsibility of the artist. Most artists choose to drop-off and pick-up their artwork in person. Artists may ship their work to the gallery, but should plan to arrange for pick-up of their artwork after the show ends.

The City of Kent provides insurance for artworks while on display at the Centennial Center Gallery in accordance with the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 18.110.020.

2020 SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- Deadline: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 5:00 PM (PST)
- Exhibit Jury: April
- Notification of Acceptance: by April 28th
- Exhibit Agreement Due: before Wednesday, May 6th
- Artwork Delivery: Friday, May 29th (or earlier by appointment)
- Exhibition Dates: June 3rd – August 19th
- Opening Reception & Awards: Wednesday, June 3rd (6:30-8:00 pm)
- Artwork Pick Up: Thursday, August 20th (or later by appointment)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

ALL APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS VIA ON-LINE APPLICATION SYSTEM

ACCOUNT INFORMATION & PERSONAL PROFILE — All required fields must be completed. If you do not reside in King County, or want do not wish to include this information, please use the default of “N/A” for your council and legislative districts.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST — Please provide a brief statement about why you are interested in this opportunity with the City of Kent. (50-150 words are recommended).

ARTIST’S EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE — In lieu of a resume, we are asking you to describe or list any experience, expertise, education, training and past accomplishments related to your art making practice.

WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTION — You may only submit images of artworks that are **currently available for exhibit and purchase**. Please list artworks in the order in which you want them reviewed. Include:

- Image number;
- Your full name;
- Title of artwork;
- Medium;
- Date artwork was completed;
- Size of exhibition ready work;
- Indicate whether the work is framed or unframed;
- Sale price including sales tax; and
- A brief description of the work, if appropriate.

WORK SAMPLES — You may submit a maximum of ten (10) JPGs of artworks, in the order in which they are to be reviewed. A maximum of ten (10) JPGs may be submitted. Images must be under 2MB. We recommend 1920 pixels on the longest side and 72 dpi. We accept JPG files only. File names should indicate the order in which they are to be reviewed by the jury. We recommend naming your image files like this: 01_LastName (e.g.: 01_Rodriguez.jpg, 02_Rodriguez.jpg). Files may be uploaded in any order.

Note: Our system may append an account name and numerical code to your files. Images will be presented to the peer-panel, one at a time, in the order you indicated by file name (e.g. 01_Rodriguez).

** If the City of Kent purchases your work for the City Art Portable Collection, we will not take a commission. The Summer Art Exhibit is the only exhibit for which we take a commission. Artists who receive Kent Arts Commission Exhibit Awards can choose whether or not to make their work available for sale during their subsequent exhibition, and the sales will be directly between the artist and the buyer.*