



Call to Artists - 2022 Initial Point Gallery Exhibitions

Prospectus:

The Meridian Arts Commission (MAC) seeks proposals for the display of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional artwork, for one- or two-month exhibitions in Initial Point Gallery. MAC aims to have multiple artists in the space each month. Initial Point Gallery is located on the third floor of Meridian City Hall (33 E. Broadway Avenue, Meridian, Idaho), and is open to the public during City working hours. Initial Point Gallery provides 100 feet of total wall space for hanging two-dimensional artwork and four enclosed display cases for three-dimensional artwork.

Eligibility:

This call is open to applicants regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or disability. All artists in the Northwest region are welcome to apply, but artists must be present for scheduled installation and removal. Two-dimensional works displayed in Initial Point Gallery must be comprised of professional-quality, ready-to-hang, original art. Three-dimensional works may be of any medium, but must fit within the four supplied display cases. No artwork will be displayed which: cannot be safely hung or displayed using the gallery's equipment; requires unusual maintenance, handling, or security; or is disruptive or likely to offend the sensibilities of the general public. Selectees will be asked to enter into an Acceptance Agreement with the City setting forth specific conditions of display. Selectees and invitees may reapply annually; if selected again, 75% of the display must be artwork that has not been previously displayed in Initial Point Gallery. Organizations and small, informal groups are welcome to apply.

Deadline:

This call to artists is open and ongoing and applications are welcome at any time. Please note: to be considered for booking in 2022, applications must be received by 11:59pm on May 26, 2021.

Jurors:

MAC will choose the artists to be represented in the gallery and Arts & Culture Coordinator will follow up with applicants on their exhibition offer. MAC may group more than one artist in each exhibit and will inform the artists on how much wall space is assigned to them. In evaluating eligible proposals, the following factors will be considered:

- Adherence to the Call to Artists;
- Quality of work;
- Appropriateness of subject and concept for a functioning government workplace;
- Consistency with City policy and community values; and
- Contribution to aesthetic and cultural atmosphere of Meridian City Hall.

Artwork Guidelines:

All hanging art must be equipped with d-rings for secure hanging. Wires, eyehooks, and clip frames may not be used for hanging. The number of artworks to be included in each exhibit depends on the size of the pieces included. MAC asks that artists plan to have appropriate negative space in between each piece to allow for labels and breathing room. Two-dimensional works should not

exceed 5' in height. Display cases have acrylic tops of varied sizes including: 3½' tall, 3' tall, 2½' tall, and 2' tall. All display case bases are 2' wide and 2' deep.

Exhibition Details:

The Meridian Arts Commission maintains the Initial Point Gallery on the third floor of Meridian City Hall, directly across from the Mayor's Office reception area. The carpeted gallery, filled with natural light, features about 100 feet of wall space for the display of two-dimensional art, as well as four hand-crafted display cases for the exhibition of three-dimensional works of art. MAC schedules gallery installations on the first Friday of each month, with opening receptions for the exhibition that same evening.

In addition to the works of local and regional artists, the gallery has hosted works by nationally- and internationally-known artists. Initial Point Gallery has been chosen as one of only five venues nationwide to host the prestigious annual traveling show of the National Watercolor Society.

Initial Point Gallery is free and open to the public any time during normal Meridian City Hall business hours - generally Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding holidays.

The gallery has a track system that allows for easy hanging and adjustments. MAC works with a small crew of volunteers that can help artists with installing and removing their exhibit. The gallery also has space to display the artist/exhibit statement and price list. The City may promote the artist receptions in the form of social media advertising, posts on community calendar, and/or mention in promotional videos.

MAC requests that artists voluntarily donate to MAC 20% of proceeds from sales of art displayed in Initial Point Gallery.

Sales:

All sales are managed by the artist directly. Commissioners and City Staff can direct patrons to the artists' contact information.

Lodging/Transportation:

Artists are responsible for securing their own transportation and lodging.

DISPLAY INFORMATION:

Initial Point Gallery is equipped with a track system for hanging two-dimensional artwork. Two-dimensional artwork will be hung from cables, using hooks, and therefore must be equipped with two D rings (fig. 1) on the side rails on the back of the frame (fig. 2). The inside of each D-ring must allow a space of at least one-quarter inch ($\frac{1}{4}$ ") for insertion of the hooks; any wire constricting this space must be removed. The D rings should be approximately a quarter of the distance of the total frame height from the top of the frame (or less) in order to avoid slanting away from the wall. Wires, eyehooks, and clip frames may not be used for hanging. Salon style is possible. Initial Point Gallery also provides four display cases, each with different dimensions (fig. 3), for displaying three-dimensional artwork.

