

BFA EXHIBITION 2025 in JOSEPH GROSS GALLERY—APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

KEY DATES

ONLINE SUBMISSIONS OPEN: 11.25.24

ONLINE SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 01.31.25

ARTWORK DROP OFF: 02.11.25 10am-1pm + 02.12.25 10am-4:00pm

EXHIBITION RUNS: 03.03.25–03.28.25

RECEPTION: 03.27.25

ARTWORK PICK UP: 03.31.25 + 04.01.25

WHAT IS *THE BFA SHOW*?

This is an annual exhibition of graduating BFA artists' work, the culmination of years of learning and developing their craft. The selection of artworks is a collaboration between students and their faculty mentors, and the exhibition is curated by the gallery director/curator with student gallery managers.

ELIGIBILITY:

BFA Degree students graduating in 2025 (Spring, Summer, or Fall)

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

- **SELECT WORK**
- **MEET WITH INSTRUCTOR.** Meet with one of your department's instructors. They will determine if your selection meets BFA Standards and discuss any potential fixes and installation needs to be addressed before applying, ie - how the artwork will be installed (framed? On a pedestal? With special hardware? An installation?). This can be done during class, a critique, or office hours.
- **STUDENT + FACULTY CONTRACT** Prepare this document for your submission form, digitally signed acknowledging all Terms and Conditions. If the work meets BFA standards as evaluated by the faculty mentor, they sign the contract, approving the submission.
 - download as PDF, "fill and sign" on **Adobe Acrobat**
 - **Remember to rename this file "artistlastname_firstname_nameofwork.PDF"**
 - Send this file as a PDF to your faculty for them to sign
- **BFA SHOW SUBMISSION FORM** - this is the **LAST STEP** in the process. It's a Google form, sign in to Gmail using your UA NETID - youremail@arizona.edu, only **after** meeting with your faculty mentor. Be sure to upload all required items and specify installation details if applicable. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Fill this out with information about the work you're submitting. You will need to include image(s) of your work and the contract.
 - 1800px on longest side at 150 ppi

- **Remember to rename the file “artistlastname_firstname_nameofwork.jpg”**

For time-based works: link to vimeo or youtube in the space allotted, upload a screenshot/still of your time-based work.

The Gallery Director will reach out with any follow-up questions/concerns. **If you do not receive a follow-up email, plan to:**

- Drop off work: February 11th–12th
- Pick up work: March 31st–April 1st

TLDR:

Prepare work to [professional installation standards](#), or prepare questions for faculty regarding the best way to do so. Contact DPS **well in advance of submission** for questions: planning a print, [framing](#), [D-ring installation](#), or other quote/consultation.

- Meet with your faculty mentor to approve of work and discuss [FACULTY + STUDENT CONTRACT](#)**
 - download as PDF, “fill and sign” on [Adobe Acrobat](#)
 - Remember to rename this file “artistlastname_firstname_nameofwork.PDF”**
 - Send this file as a PDF to your faculty for them to sign
- Image(s)** - share the image(s) with your faculty mentor to prepare for submission
 - 1800px on longest side at 150 ppi
 - Remember to rename the file “artistlastname_firstname_nameofwork.jpg”**
For time-based works: link to vimeo or youtube in the space allotted, upload a screenshot/still of your time-based work.
- Fill out the [BFA Application form](#)** (Google form, sign in to Gmail using youremail@arizona.edu) *only after meeting with your faculty mentor*. Be sure to upload all required items, and finalize installation techniques with your faculty mentor. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

FAQ:

- **Am I required to apply to the BFA Show?** If you will be graduating in May, summer, or December of 2025 AND seeking a BFA degree, then yes. The BFA exhibition is a graduation requirement.
- **Can Juniors or underclass people apply? What about BA Majors?** No, but please participate in the UAUA (UA Undergraduate Art) annual show! It’s open to all levels and degree types. It occurs each fall.
- **WHO CAN SIGN MY CONTRACT?** Faculty members within your dept./Faculty members with whom you are currently **in an advanced-level class**. Ideally, this will be faculty you’ve worked most closely with and/or faculty most familiar with your work.

If you’re unsure who should advise you with your application, contact the chair of your department:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| ○ Joe Farbrook (3DXM) | ○ Sama Alshaibi (PVI) |
| ○ Lawrence Gipe (2D) | ○ Kelly Leslie (IDA) |
| ○ Carissa DiCindio (AVCE) | |

- **When (or how) will I know if my work was accepted or rejected?**
 - **You will receive a copy of your submission form.** If your faculty has approved of your work and signed your contract, you have uploaded and filled out all required parts, and after submitting, you see a message which states **“Your submission has been received. Thank you for submitting artwork for the BFA Exhibition! We will be in touch with any questions, otherwise, prepare for drop-off!”** with drop-off details, you have been accepted.
 - **My application/work was selected for the show! Is there anything I need to do in the meantime?**
 - Make sure your work is hang-ready before the drop-off dates (Feb. 11–12th)
 - Keep an eye out for email announcements regarding dates for the reception and save these dates in your calendar!
 - Mar. 03–28th: Exhibition Open
 - Mar. 31–Apr. 1st: Pick up work
 - TBD: Reception
 - **What are the most common reasons for an application to be rejected?**
 - Your application was submitted late
 - The work dropped off is not prepared to professional installation standards:
 - The work is unfinished, wet, or not ready for installation at the time of the drop-off date
 - The work you are dropped off has been significantly altered and/or is not the work you and your instructor submitted/agreed upon at the time your application was submitted
 - The dimensions of the work you submitted are different from the dimensions in your application or your work exceeds the space allowance.
 - The installation method is not up to professional standards. (unframed, missing approved hardware, not spray-fixed, unstable, etc.)
 - Your work was dropped off late.
1. **Ok, but for real. What happens if I get rejected? Does that mean I don’t get to graduate?** This will vary from case to case. If your work was rejected, contact your department chair to discuss alternative solutions.

Additional important info. to to discuss / plan for artwork submission

Eligible work is completed, or capable of being completely finished and ready-to-install by the end of the submission period.

Conditions to consider:

- **What if my work is sequential?** If your digital work is sequential (magazine cover and illustrations, graphic novel, etc.) think about how print and display impact your narrative. **ie** do you print several sequential images on the same picture plane (framed or mounted to foamcore at DPS, etc.) so they feel unified instead of separate, do you make a diptych, etc.?. Choosing full bleed or borders and layout will also impact how the works are read.

- **What if I'm submitting editorial or client work?** Showing how design actually lives in the world can be really exciting. If you're submitting a logo, beer label, T-shirt, coloring book, or any designed artifact, why not just make the thing itself? Potential solutions:
 - Production: PhotoTex and ProCoat are adhesive print products at DPS which are great for advertising, logos, banners, etc. Borders or full bleed will be an important decision here as well.
 - Display: Be in touch if you need a shelf, bracket, table, or specific display solution and we can try to work with you on it!

Discuss INSTALLATION NEEDS:

- **Your installation method** must be prepared according to professional standards. For more information, [see this document](#). Do you want to do something non-traditional? (hang a work from the ceiling, perform, install a collaborative work, have your sculpture displayed on the floor, etc.) - email lydiasee@arizona.edu with your faculty mentor cc'd with image documentation/proposed idea and relevant details *well in advance of submission*.
- **While it is impossible to allot specific "space allowance" due to the unpredictable nature of large group exhibitions, it is ideal to consider presenting your work in less than 2 square feet (2 square feet = 24" x 12" or 12" x 24" or 17" x 17" - if you need help, try this square foot calculator).** That said, each graduating class is different, and each division has varying space and presentation needs (for instance, several students may share one video monitor on a particularly video heavy year, and the following year each student might be able to have their own monitor // or a series or diptych presented vertically rather than horizontally would save linear space and could accommodate more than 2' vertical). If you foresee needing substantially more or less space than 2 sqft, talk through it with your faculty and the gallery director *well in advance of submission*.
- **Additional text/subtitles/translations** - if you would like to include additional text, a handout/giveaway pamphlet, a translation, etc. there are many options. To inquire about options, email lydiasee@arizona.edu with your faculty mentor cc'd with proposed idea and relevant details *well in advance of submission*:
 - translated can text appear in closed caption/subtitle in the video, which will need to be edited into the file yourself.
 - print your own text as a handout and display it in a bracket you make yourself or the gallery has a few simple brackets to use
 - if you would like to adhere text to the wall near your work, this should be explained in your installation plan. You'll need to send the text with your submission and specify that it be added to your label. **If it's going on the label, it can be 50 words MAX.**

DIMENSIONS:

Accurate dimensions are IMPORTANT. In order to plan the show, curators, preparators, and exhibition designers must have accurate measurements of an art object.

- We ask for dimensions: "in inches: height x width x depth (if applicable). If your work is time-based (video etc.) include runtime."
- All dimensions (both digital, print) should be listed as inches: Vertical" x horizontal" x depth"(if applicable)

If the dimensions of the work are inaccurate—more than just a few inches could make it impossible to install in its allocated space, and depending on the curation of the show, there may not be room for it if it's way bigger (ie - you submitted the unframed dimensions of a work on paper but at drop-off with the new frame and mat, the piece is 9" wider and 7" taller).

UPLOADING IMAGES TO THE FORM

****** *WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH PIXEL DIMENSIONS vs INCHES on the application form/dimensions field?***

Prepare your work so it accurately represents how it will be installed. Take a photo of this and upload it to the application form. This image will be used by the gallery for the curatorial process/or by the curator as an installation reference. The pixel dimensions required guarantee the image will be high-quality enough for the curatorial process, and for marketing, and for archiving.

- For help documenting your work, see [Resources for documenting work](#).