

**Revised Awards Program 2020-2021**  
**Graduate Student Excellence in the Visual Arts Exhibition Award**

**Introduction:**

The Graduate School is pleased to announce a **revision** to the art competition that was established last year to recognize the artistic talents of graduate students at Florida State University. Cash awards will be coupled with **an exhibition of the selected works in the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House on the FSU Campus** for one year (March 2020-March 2021).

**Description:**

We are looking for **high quality works of art** that clearly show excellence in visual arts. In addition, the artist's statement will be assessed for its success in conveying to the judges (and a broad, general audience) why the artist was moved to create the piece, what the artist is trying to convey to the viewer and how successful the statement was in creating a deeper understanding and connection to the specific work presented. Consider the combination of the art work and the statement about the work to be a type of visual "Three Minute Thesis" combo.... bringing to life what the artwork is about.

**In the statement, we are looking for the "so what factor."** Questions to consider addressing are: What is this?; Why does this piece matter?; Why is it important?; What is the connection to your field of study and what broader connections can one see in the work?, etc.

While all mediums will be considered, there are limited exhibition spaces in the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House as noted below. The graduate awards will be presented at the *Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence* held each spring in the month of April. Up to eight applicants will be selected as finalists whose works will be exhibited at the Honors House. From that group, another jurying will select three graduate student winners each of whom will be awarded \$500. In addition, there will be a \$250 People's Choice Award that will be determined by the votes cast by the attendees of the opening exhibition. The award winners must agree to display their "winning" art work in the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House and the installation must remain up for one year (March 2020-March 2021). Please note that the winners will be invited to exhibit 2-3 additional works in the Graduate School offices and 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Gallery Hall. The other finalists will each be recognized with an Honorable Mention designation and receive a \$50 award and are encouraged to provide their artwork for display in the Honors, Scholars, and Fellows House. Installation of selected works will be on Monday, March 23 (right after spring break).

**Eligibility:**

The competition is open to all currently enrolled, degree seeking graduate and professional students in good academic standing. Applicants should consider the criteria for submitted artwork noted below under **Guidelines**.

**Selection:**

The identification of the award recipients will be a two-step process. First, a diverse panel of judges (faculty, staff, students) will identify a group of up to eight finalists. The judges will consider technical/artistic merit, personal appeal, as well as the artist's statement. Second, three graduate student winners will be chosen from this group by a committee of faculty and staff from the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House, and the Art on Campus Director.

**Deadline:** Submissions are due by 11:59 on February 20, 2020

**Application/Submission Process:**

This announcement is posted at: [https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5vFMpktVhKHvqUB](https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vFMpktVhKHvqUB)

1. Applicants must complete the form which is on the link above:
  - A. This will ask for:
    - i. your contact info,
    - ii. student status info.,
    - iii. image of your work in **jpeg format**,
    - iv. work specifications and completion date,
    - v. Technical description of work (Materials used, size, date made)(Max: 100 words)
    - vi. **Artist's statement** about the work that includes the conceptual background of work and the ideas/meaning/story of the work. The purpose is to have a broad audience understand the work and create in the viewer a strong connection to the work. Note that while visual quality of the work is an important element, **a major part of the award is for the the ability of the artist to convey an Understanding and Appreciation of the Visual Arts to the audience.**
    - vii. Artist's Statement must be MINIMUM: 300 words, MAXIMUM: 500 words

**Guidelines**

*General*

Artworks in all mediums will be considered for the awards as long as they can be hung on the wall in the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House and have a maximum depth of 3", unless otherwise noted under the *Space and Size* section. All submitted works must be actual works, not mock-ups for work and all selected works need to be "READY TO HANG".

This is a public space and works containing explicit violence or nudity will not be considered. Works that are deemed potentially dangerous or too delicate/fragile will also not be considered.

Not more than three unique pieces may be submitted by each artist; Diptychs and Triptychs are considered as a single piece. Each work submitted must have its own description of the ideas/meaning behind the work (300 word minimum – 500 word maximum). **Please make the description addressed to a broad audience. Part of what will draw the audience and judges to the work will be how well articulated the meaning and ideas behind the work are presented**. If you submit multiple works that are not part of a unified series, please make sure each work has a specific statement attached to it.

An artist may not receive more than one award in a given year. Finalists who are not recognized with one of the three awards will receive an Honorable Mention and \$50.

Examples of accepted mediums are as follows:

- paintings on canvas or board (oil, acrylics, etc.) (ready to hang with wires or hooks)
- watercolor (should be framed or protected and ready to hang)
- drawings (colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal; it is recommended that charcoal & pastel drawings be fixed) Works on paper should be framed or mounted.
- mixed media & collage: must be two dimensional or low relief, (and ready to hang)
- computer-generated art & photography (Must be printed and ready to hang)
- low-relief sculpture in any medium (also ready to hang or the artist must install it themselves)

### Space and Size

Specification for each of the main exhibition spaces by floor. See floor plans below.  
Artwork(s) must conform to one of the following size restrictions

**\*\*Please note\*\***

Sizes below are FINISHED FRAMED SIZES. With Diptychs and Triptychs the combined pieces will fulfill the size requirements.

#### SECOND FLOOR:

- Front Lounge and Entrance area (by elevator) where the **Finalist Exhibition** will be installed.
  - There are 8 possible spaces and works can range from a Maximum Size of 60"H x 84" W to a Minimum Size - 30"H x 30"W
  - Diptychs, Triptychs & series groupings OK
  - Constraints: Furniture (Grey couch: 36"H) and low lighting (black)

#### FOURTH FLOOR: There are 4 external wall hanging areas (for additional works from the winners)

- Maximum Size - 60"H x 36"W
- Minimum Size - 30"H x 30"W
- 5-6 additional smaller areas inside of the Graduate Office

### Installation, Hanging, and Framing Guidelines

- All winning artwork must be “ready to hang”
- Students are responsible for framing their “winning” works
  - Please consider the following information for submittals:  
Frames can be whatever the artists thinks is best for the work but they need to be as sturdy as possible. No “snap on” frames are to be used. Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be considered for the overall size. Plexiglas or glass should be used to protect all artwork EXCEPT works in oil or acrylic on canvas or board. Artwork on canvas/hardboard should be on a wide profile gallery wrapped with a finished painted edge or have a framed edge and be “ready for hanging”. Artwork does not have to be framed to be submitted for consideration, but all selected works on paper will have to be framed by the student for exhibition purposes and receipt of award.

**If you have any general questions, please contact The Graduate School at 850-644-3501.**

**If you have questions regarding artwork eligibility or installation, please contact the Art on Campus Director, Professor Lilian Garcia-Roig at [lgarciaroig@fsu.edu](mailto:lgarciaroig@fsu.edu)**

NOTE: If artworks are left past a year, the Art on Campus Director will have the option of continuing to exhibit the work or take it down and store it for another 6 months. Unless previous arrangements were made with the Director of Art on Campus, all arts works that are not picked up by the student after that 6-month “grace-period” will become the property of Art on Campus and can be exhibited in various FSU locations. All works will be properly labeled and include the students name, graduating date, degree and award designation.

## HONORS, SCHOLARS AND FELLOWS HOUSE Floor Plans

We recommend that anyone interested in applying for this award consider going to the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House and see the space for themselves.

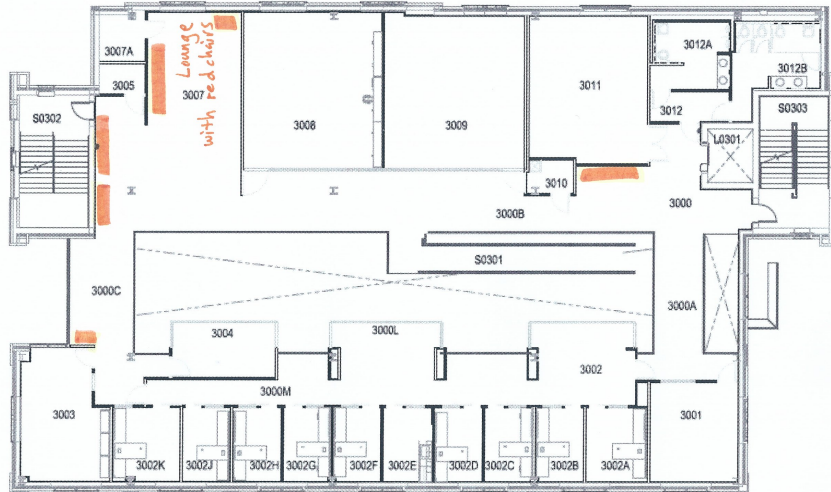
If you identify a new space (one that is not highlighted below) that you think would be a good fit for your work and the space, please mention this in the "additional info" section of the submission form so that we can consider it.



SECOND FLOOR

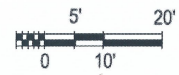
North





THIRD FLOOR

North



FOURTH FLOOR

North

