

About Tempe Galleries

(UPDATED 9/16/10)

Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts

700 W. Rio Salado Parkway

Tempe Post Office

500 S. Mill Ave.

Tempe Public Library

(Lower Level Youth Library, Main Floor, Connections Cafe and 2nd Floor) 3500 S. Rural Road

Edna Vihel Activity Center

3340 S. Rural Road

Tempe Galleries provides original art encounters that broaden the mind, relate to multiple age groups and create interest in a variety of fields and subjects. Exhibitions are meant to inspire thought, enjoyment and discussion. Tempe Galleries features a variety of curated, traveling, juried and permanent collection exhibitions ranging from contemporary original art by locally- and internationally-recognized artists to themes of popular culture and interest.

Tempe Galleries is managed by the city of Tempe Library and Cultural Services Division and is a division of the Community Services Department, which is dedicated to serving the public and improving the quality of life for residents.

Unsolicited proposals: The Tempe Galleries program is not currently accepting any unsolicited proposals.

Frequently asked questions by artists

- *How do I apply for Tempe Galleries exhibitions?*
On an ongoing basis, the city of Tempe offers opportunities for artists to apply for the annual “Call for Work” for the Community Galleries every fall and the “Call for Work” every two years for the Biennial at the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts. To subscribe online to receive e-mail news and mailings, visit www.tempe.gov/arts/news/subscribe.htm.
- *How far in advance does the city plan exhibitions?*
Exhibitions are scheduled at least 1 to 2 years in advance.
- *Do I have to be an Arizona resident to exhibit?*
Many of the Tempe Galleries’ “Call for Work” opportunities are targeted for Arizona artists to apply. However, the galleries feature national and international artists on occasion through curated and/or traveling exhibitions.
- *Do I have to be 18 years of age to exhibit?*
Many of the Tempe Galleries exhibition opportunities are targeted for artists who are at least 18 years of age. However, Tempe Galleries does coordinate an annual exhibition of Tempe Union High School District students (“Art 6”) and an annual exhibition of the city of Tempe’s Young Artist Studio.
- *What kind of artwork does the Tempe Galleries show?*
Many of the Tempe Gallery spaces are not traditional museum environments. Depending on the location, each venue has its own focus and unique approach to showing original art in public spaces. The commonality between the spaces is that they are frequented by many different age levels and people with a variety of interests. With respect to families, the Tempe Galleries program does not show works with themes of an obscene and or overly violent content as determined by the City, unless otherwise indicated in age appropriate signage, placement and advertising. The Tempe Galleries does show a wide range of original artworks in a variety of traditional and contemporary 2D and 3D media and subject matter. The City always retains curatorial discretion for displaying works of art.
- *Does the exhibited artwork have to be new?*
Unless otherwise agreed upon by the artist and the city of Tempe, accepted artwork must be original works by the artist that was completed within the past two (2) years and not previously displayed in a city of Tempe Gallery.
- *What do you mean by “original art?”*
For the purposes of the Tempe Galleries, original art is the authentic artwork created by an artist. Visual art takes many forms such as painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, digital animation, etc. We recognize that some art making processes create one-of-kind objects, some create limited editions and some exist in a digital format. However, for the purposes of display and education, the Tempe Galleries’ intent is to only display originals (not reproductions) made by the artist and label the art-making process as accurately as possible. Tempe follows the definition of original art stated in the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990.

The Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 defines a work of visual art as: “. . . first, a painting, drawing, sculpture, print or still photographic image produced for exhibition purposes *only*, existing in single copy; second, a print in a limited edition of 200 or fewer, all signed and consecutively numbered by the artist; third, a sculpture in a multiple cast, carved or fabricated sculptures of 200 or fewer, all consecutively numbered by the artist and bearing his signature or identifying mark; fourth, a still photographic image produced for exhibition purposes *only* in a limited edition of 200 or fewer, all signed and consecutively numbered by the artist.”

Examples of original art guidelines for city of Tempe

Two-dimensional art

Fine-art prints in limited editions (200 or fewer) are original works of art when the artist is active in the making of each print.

Mass-produced prints (offset posters) are NOT original works of art.

Digitally-created artwork printed in limited editions (200 or fewer) are original works of art.

Digitally-printed copies of paintings and drawings are NOT original works of art.

Limited-edition photographs (200 or fewer) are original works of art whether printed photographically or digitally.

Large-format giclée “murals” are original works of art when they are produced on a computer for a specific space and not reproduced for any other use. Ready-made giclée prints not made for a particular space, and that can be sized to fit several spaces, are NOT original works of art.

Three-dimensional art

Limited-edition (200 or fewer) sculptures in a multiple cast, carved or fabricated, are original works of art.

General guidelines for exhibiting artists

- City of Tempe (“city” or “Tempe”) employees and volunteers are not eligible to exhibit in city of Tempe Galleries.
- Acceptance into an exhibition by the city of Tempe Cultural Services Division/Tempe Center for the Arts is an agreement by the artist to all terms set forth in the prospectus and/or invitation to exhibit. An exclusive license and copyright permission is hereby granted to the city to photograph and reproduce accepted artwork and/or application artwork and materials for promotional, educational and publicity purposes at the city's sole discretion. The city of Tempe is not responsible for photographs taken by the public.
- The city reserves curatorial privilege to exclude any artwork or material that: does not meet the standards established by the exhibition agreement and/or application; is not the quality expected by the artist/lender; does not meet suitable condition requirements for display and/or insurance coverage; if the artist/lender has not met deadlines and required materials required by the city.
- The City reserves curatorial discretion for placement, display, lighting, and all other aspects of exhibition of works.
- Delivery and pick up dates shall be designated by the city.
- Artists are responsible for delivery and/or shipping costs and coordination to and from Tempe. The city will not be responsible for damage during the shipment for any reason.
- Artists are responsible for all costs associated with the creation of the artwork and preparation of artwork for exhibition (such as framing, hanging mechanisms, display holders, etc.)
- Loan Agreements will be completed before delivery. Complete inventory lists (with title, media and insurance value) of accepted artwork are due to the city at least 2 weeks prior to the exhibition start date.
- All 2-dimensional (2-D) artwork must be framed and ready to hang.
- Frames should be prepared ahead with D-Ring hooks and pre-wired for hanging on hooks or nails. Artist hereby agrees to allow the city to install additional hanging mechanisms on the backside of frames. Please frame works with Plexiglas.
- Pedestals can be provided for 3-dimensional (3-D) artwork. Please notify city staff if you wish to bring your own.
- If artwork or display mechanisms require assembly, artist may be requested to assist in the installation.
- All applicants and accepted artists are encouraged to visit city of Tempe Gallery spaces before applying and/or exhibiting.
- In no event will City be responsible for costs or expenses attendant to exhibiting art, or submitting any proposal or responding to a “Call for Work.”

For information and specific loan agreement policies, contact the Tempe Community Galleries at michelle_dock@tempe.gov or 480-350-2867.