



An Athenaeum Call for Submissions Focusing on Social Justice

**SPEAK YOUR TRUTH
BLACK LIVES MATTER**

Speak Your Truth | Black Lives Matter

Submission deadline: Wednesday, August 27, 2020

Exhibition dates: October 1 through December 1, 2020

The Athenaeum believes art has the power to transcend boundaries to elevate diverse voices, artistic expressions, and opportunities for active engagement accessible to all. We continuously celebrate the creativity of our diverse population in the DMV region and plan to launch an online digital gallery, **Speak Your Truth | Black Lives Matter**, an exhibition that aims to represent the depth and diversity of the DC/MD/VA region and its reflections on the activities associated with BLM. Visual art and poetry are the primary components of this collection, and all works will include text of some sort as an element of the composition

Works will be evaluated based on aesthetic quality as well as effectiveness in communicating a message. Twig Murray, Gallery Director of the Athenaeum Gallery, will select from the visual works and KaNikki Jakarta, Alexandria's Poet Laureate, will evaluate and curate the works of poetry. Selected works will be featured on our website October 1 through December 1, 2020 and in our social media programs.

Submission details:

- There is no cost to enter.
- Entries can be created entirely on the computer, or in reality and then scanned or photographed.
- Poetry can be submitted as a text file, as a visual submission, or as a video of the work being read or performed. Videos must be two minutes or shorter.
- All entries will be emailed to the Athenaeum Gallery.
- Selected works will all be identified with the artist name, a title, and a one sentence statement if desired.
- Images should be excellent screen quality.
- Deadline for submission is August 27.
- Online exhibition runs from October 1 to December 1.

We encourage you to consider making something that:

- Reflects your personal experience or journey
- Helps others understand your experience
- Clarifies a common misconception or explains a perspective
- Gives voice to your fear and frustration
- Expresses hope for permanent change

Email your artwork or poetry submissions as jpgs or pdfs to submissions@nvfaa.org. You are encouraged to submit web links for any poetry video submissions that you have. Please note we are unable to directly accept video files or video attachments at this time.



See it Soon!

Elzbieta Sikorska | Everything is Double

Exhibit Closes Sunday, July 22, 2020

Elzbieta's works each start out with paper that she crafts herself. She explores many themes, but classic design elements and a formal art education in Poland meet and diverge in her beautiful and mysterious ghosts, phantoms, memories, and reflections.

In addition to the in-gallery experience, all of Elzbieta's works are available for viewing on our website, and we have set up a gallery shop where you can purchase her works.

Elzbieta Sikorska | Everything is Double is sponsored by:
BABS BECKWITH, Specializing in Old Town Real Estate for 25+ years
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Above: *Self-portrait with Ashanti*, handmade abaca paper, pencil, pencil washes, crayon, acrylic paint, 20" x 60", 2018

call for entries



Open Call

Submission Deadline:

Friday, August 14, 2020

Exhibition dates:

September 10 - October 18, 2020

This is a time like no other our generation has faced. It is no exaggeration to say that the pandemic has affected every one of us. It has changed how we navigate the most mundane tasks in our lives; in some cases, it may cause long-term change in our social and economic environments. We welcome artists to respond to this particular, unique moment.

Artists are invited to submit works that represent the full gamut of how the global Coronavirus pandemic and its associated 'social distancing' has affected them. Fear, uncertainty, anger and doubt are certainly typical responses but we are also interested in evidence of the creative benefits of solitude and reflection and the time to process them.

We plan to assemble an exhibition that both chronicles this particular moment in time and surprises viewers with unique and unexpected perspectives.

Five \$500 awards will be selected by an independent arts expert, and awarded at the opening reception on Sunday, September 13, 2020, and a **\$500 Viewer's Choice prize** will be awarded at the end of the exhibition.

More information about the call can be found [HERE!](#)

The Athenaeum is participating in the ALX Promise following the health and safety guidelines outlined by the Alexandria Health Department, Commonwealth of Virginia and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More information on the ALX Promise can be found [here](#).

The NVFAA is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in all forms of art, and to establishing programs that will enrich the cultural life of Northern Virginia and the surrounding metropolitan area. The Athenaeum gallery exhibits work created solely by artists living or working in the region and strives to present visitors with a wide variety of excellent art and unique experiences.

The NVFAA is partially supported by funding from the Alexandria Commission for the Arts. The NVFAA is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation or materials in an alternative format contact us at admin@nvfaa.org or call 703.548.0035.

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