



Northern Illinois University

NIU Art Museum

Guidelines for Exhibition Proposals

Thank you for your interest in submitting a proposal for an exhibition at the NIU Art Museum. Exhibits should be conceptualized around a theme relevant to our mission and may involve a historical, social, cultural, intellectual or political focus. Please be as specific as you can and do not hesitate to provide additional information.

Programming

The museum's Exhibition Advisory Committee is made up of the Director, Assistant Director, NIU Faculty, and respected community members including museum professionals, artists, and members of the Art Museum's Annual Giving program. We present an average of 10-14 exhibitions annually within our 4 galleries. Each year the museum hosts exhibits that range from works in the permanent collection, traveling exhibitions of national and international contemporary or historic works, in-house curated exhibitions, as well as the biennial Faculty Show. Exhibition schedules are set two to three years in advance and have a duration of 6-8 weeks. The museum's calendar runs from late August through mid-May.

Our Mission

Serving Campus and Community by Balancing Traditional and Contemporary Art to Explore Connections Made through Visual Culture.

Positioning Statements

As an art museum belonging to an academic institution, the dual roles of the NIU Art Museum are to contribute significantly to the university's educational curriculum, and to provide opportunities for art education and cultural enrichment through outreach and service to the people of the northern Illinois community. The NIU Art Museum educates, preserves, exhibits and enlightens by balancing the challenges of contemporary art with the riches of traditional visual media for a comprehensive examination of visual culture. It does so with National Standards and Best Practices for Museums in mind.

In alignment with the university's mission and values, the NIU Art Museum consciously tries in its exhibition curation and programming development to:

1. *Work to create a thriving community*
2. *Make global interconnections reflective of rapid societal and economic changes*
3. *Challenge inequities by engaging diversity*

By doing so, we align our mission with that of our non-museum parent organization: to promote excellence and engagement in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, creativity and artistry, and outreach and service.

Past Exhibitions

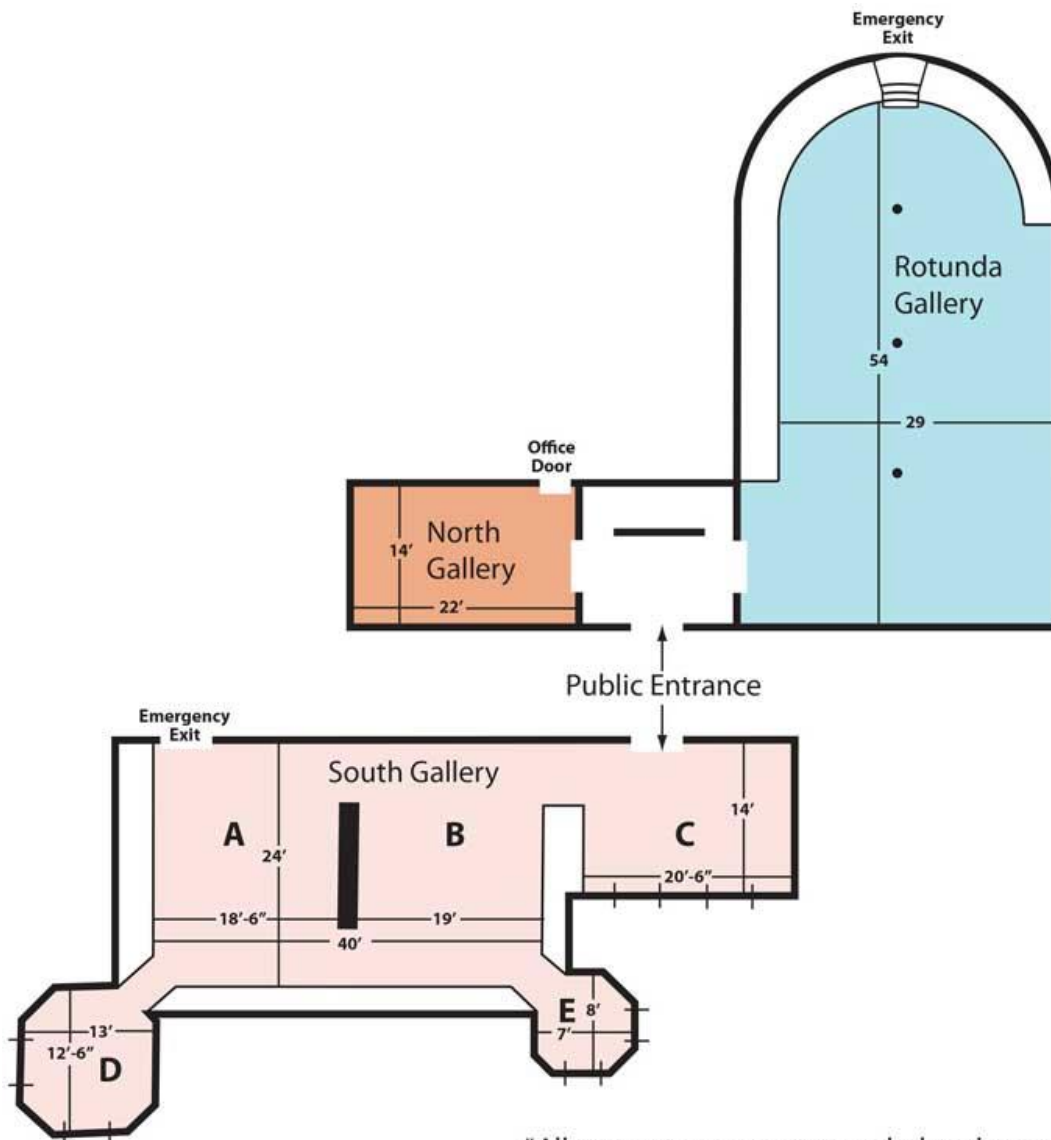
For examples of the NIU Art Museum's past exhibitions please visit

<https://niu.edu/artmuseum/exhibitions/past.shtml>. Images of previous exhibitions can be viewed on the museum's flickr page here <https://www.flickr.com/photos/niuartmuseum/albums>.

Our Space

The NIU Art Museum consists four exhibition spaces: Rotunda, North, South Galleries, and the Hall Case Gallery in the corridor marked Public Entrance on the floor plan below. It is strongly recommended that artists include drawings, maquettes and/or detailed floor plans of how they intend to utilize the gallery space.

Floor Plan



*All measurements are rounded to the nearest half foot

Specific Gallery Spaces

Rotunda Gallery

The 1,400 sq. ft. Rotunda Gallery is comprised of 138 linear running feet of wall space. It is the largest of all the spaces and boasts a unique curved wall at the far end of the gallery. Approximately half the wall space has horizontally placed air cycling vents that are located 27 1/2" from the floor to the top of the vent. The ceiling height is 10' and has drop-ceiling tiles with weight-bearing limitations. There is ample LED track lighting and recessed lighting as well as hardwood floors. Wall surfaces of the galleries are drywall backed with plywood. It is an open floor plan with three 18" diameter columns that bisect the center of the room. The Rotunda has the potential for an additional six movable walls that can be utilized to maximize the linear wall space. They measure 72"l x 24"w x 96"h, have a 6" recessed base, and each can add an additional 12 linear feet.



North Gallery

The 325 sq. ft. North Gallery has 63 linear running feet of wall space. This space is best suited for installations, smaller one-person exhibitions, didactic displays, and film or video. The ceiling height is 10' and has drop-ceiling tiles with weight-bearing limitations. There is ample LED track lighting and recessed lighting as well as hardwood floors. Wall surfaces of the galleries are drywall backed with plywood.



South Gallery

The 1,366 sq. ft. South Gallery has 216 linear running feet of wall space. This gallery is best suited for a large one-person or group show. The space is divided into three adjoined rooms totaling 1181 sq. ft. and has two additional turrets. The small turret is 45 sq. ft. and the large turret is 140 sq. ft. Both have 11' ceilings and windows that break the wall space. Approximately one-third of the wall space has horizontally placed air cycling vents that are located 27 1/2" from the floor to the top of the vent. The ceiling varies in height from 10'-11' and has drop-ceiling tiles with weight-bearing limitations. There is ample LED track lighting and recessed lighting as well as hardwood floors. Wall surfaces of the galleries are drywall backed with plywood. The South Gallery has the potential for 4 movable walls that can be utilized if a more intimate setting is desired. They measure 72"l x 24"w x 96", have a 6" recessed base, and each can add an additional 12 linear feet.



Hallcase Gallery

These cases are located in the main hallway of Altgeld Hall, directly outside both of our public entrances noted on the floor plan.

Specifications and Dimensions: The five cases measure 10" deep x 70" w x 47" h. The wooden built-in dividers provide ten separately locked, paired wooden alcove cases (47"x35"x10") with adjustable glass shelving measuring (9.75"x35"). The viewable tempered glass window openings measure (38.5"x27.5"). The right side of each case has access to a single standard 110v grounded electrical outlet.

The cases have no external direct natural light. Ambient light from the hallway ranges from 7 – 11 foot candles at the glass window and 4.5 – 10 foot candles depending on location inside the case. Interior lighting has been achieved with temporary moveable LED fixtures. Reflected, overhead lighting is provided by 30W daylight and spx fluorescent bulbs in each pendant unit.

