



Call to Artists

Ebb and Flow

Exhibition of ceramic based work, coinciding with The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) in March 2023.

Exhibition runs from February 4, 2023 to April 1, 2023

Location: Kennedy Gallery, Kennedy Heights Arts Center, 6546 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45213

Call to Artists released: November 17, 2022

Deadline for Submissions: January 17, 2023 by end of day

Ebb and Flow is a juried exhibition of ceramic artworks by local artists that explores the inevitable cycle of life and death, and pulls inspiration from the past life of Kennedy Heights Arts Center's physical building as a funeral home.

From the 1950s to around 2000, the building Kennedy Heights Arts Center now inhabits operated as the Stanley High Funeral Home. For decades, this organization provided the community with a vital service of supporting families in honoring the lives of their deceased loved ones. It is with our knowledge, understanding, and reverence for the past of this physical space that inspired the theme for this exhibition.

Ceramics have historically played a large part in funerary ritual practices and have provided insight into cultures around the world - as decorated urns, symbolic objects placed as gravesites, reliquaries for precious relics, and mementoes of loved ones. Clay is a material that holds memory, and there is an intimacy between the material and the maker. Coming from the earth, there is a connection between the material and the cycle of life.

Through this Call to Artists, we hope to inspire local artists to submit works that are reflective of our history as a funeral home, while also delving into the complexity of death and how we respond to it as humans in these contemporary times. These could be standalone objects, wall hangings, or installations. Inspiration could be pulled from personal stories or souvenirs, cultural rituals, or physical spaces.

Our building has a rich history; one of the many reasons why our community rallied behind saving the building from demolition. With its past life as a funeral home, many residents still connect to our space on a personal and emotional level. Currently, the building has another life as art center, and the arts can play such a strong role in processing, coping, and expressing all of our thoughts, feelings, and emotions as we traverse through different life events – including death.

The title, ***Ebb and Flow*** refers to the passage of time, with all its ups and downs, and the cycle of life and death. Death is something that affects all of us, and we have a history with our building that gives us a special opportunity to showcase artworks that address this topic.

Curated by Mallory Feltz, Kennedy Heights Arts Center, Director of Exhibitions & Public Art

DUE DATE: Submissions are due January 17, 2023 by end of day

Artists notification: January 20, 2023 by end of day

Drop off Artwork to KHAC: Saturday, January 21 between 11am -4pm, Tuesday, January 24 – Friday, January 27 between 10am-5pm, and Saturday, January 28 between 11am-4pm

Requirements: Materials of the artwork should be comprised of **AT LEAST 50% ceramic work**, but other materials may be included. Artworks may be functional objects, sculptural pieces, or installations. Artworks can be free standing (pedestal or floor) or wall hangings.

Eligibility: Eligible artists are those who reside in the Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN Metropolitan Area, which includes the following counties: Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties in Ohio; Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky; and Dearborn, Ohio, and Union Counties in Indiana.

Fee: No cost to submit

You are invited to submit up to 3 artworks that interpret the “Ebb and Flow” theme of this exhibit. You may send one over all image and one detail image per artwork (send no more than 6 images). Detail images are not required. All digital images must be clear enough to view without pixilation on a computer screen at full size.

Please name your files as follows:

Artist’s last name, first initial and title of the work i.e.: SmithB-Title01.jpeg

For detail images, please put “detail” after the file name i.e.: SmithB-Title01-detail.jpeg

Include a word document containing: the artist’s full name, mailing address, phone number, email address, and title of the images. If you can submit a brief artists statement about each artwork at the same time, we encourage you to do so (no more than 250 words per artist statement).

Please send your jpeg files and word document to curator@kennedyarts.org for consideration.

Questions can be emailed to Mallory Feltz, KHAC Director of Exhibitions & Public Art, at mallory@kennedyarts.org

www.kennedyarts.org