

Kennedy Heights Arts Center

CALL TO ARTISTS:

***Hearts of Liberation:
A Celebration of Radical Black Love
as Collective Care***



Exhibition dates: May 4 – June 29, 2024

LOCATION:

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

EXHIBITION DESCRIPTION: *Exhibition of visual art created by local artists, curated by Asha the Artist.*

In a world marked by struggle and injustice, ***Hearts of Liberation: A Celebration of Radical Black Love as Collective Care*** emerges as a beacon of hope—a testament to the unwavering power of love, resilience, and community. This exhibition delves into the profound concept of Radical Black Love as a driving force behind the ongoing movement for Black liberation. It explores how this love, fueled by collective care and activism, has shaped the past, informs the present, and propels us toward a more just and equitable future.

THEME AND INSPIRATION:

We invite artists to submit works that resonate with the theme of ***Hearts of Liberation: A Celebration of Radical Black Love as Collective Care***. This theme challenges conventional notions of love, transforming it from a mere emotion into a powerful political tool. Drawing inspiration from the writings of bell hooks and the legacy of Black feminist thought, "Hearts of Liberation" aims to showcase a curated collection of artworks that illuminate the depth and richness of Black love and activism. This exhibition will trace the evolution of Radical Black Love from its historical roots to the present day. It celebrates the activists, organizers, and everyday heroes who have embodied this love and demonstrates how it has sustained and empowered communities through generations. Each piece of art should contribute to weaving a narrative of hope, resilience, and solidarity. The works showcased will celebrate love as a communal force for transformation.

ELIGIBILITY:

Eligible artists are those age 18 and over 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

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE:

DUE DATE: Submissions will be accepted until end of day Monday, March 4, 2024.

Completed entries and all questions can be emailed to curator@kennedyarts.org

Notification – by end of day Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION:

- All forms of visual art will be considered – including, but not limited to painting, photography, sculpture, digital art, mixed media, fiber art, and video art are welcome. (Artist must supply all technical equipment for viewing, if video artwork is accepted.)
- Artists may enter a maximum of **THREE** artworks for consideration. They can be from any year.
- Artworks should explore the multifaceted nature of Black love, activism, and resilience.
- Submissions should align with the theme of "Hearts of Liberation" and may touch upon its historical roots or contemporary manifestations.
- Artists are encouraged to submit pieces that evoke emotions, tell stories, challenge perceptions, and inspire reflection.
- **Each** submitted artwork **MUST** be accompanied by a short artist statement that provides insight into the inspiration and message behind the piece. **No more than 300 words each.** If accepted, these short statements will be printed, mounted, and hung with the artwork.

Please name your files as follows:

Artist's last name, first initial and title of the work, for example: SmithB-WishYouWereHere.jpeg.

Image files should be large enough to be seen clearly when viewed full screen on a standard computer, and be correctly oriented with the top of the file being the top of the image.

Please include the following in a Word Document:

Contact information: First and Last name, address, phone number, email, and social media handle (Facebook and/or Instagram).

For each artwork include: Title, Materials, Dimensions, Year, Price (or NFS – not for sale), statement for photo (no more than 300 words each).

- If your artwork is selected for inclusion in this exhibition, the submitted statement and title tag information will be printed and hung with your piece.

All selections will be made by Asha the Artist, Curator

NOTIFICATION:

All Artists will be notified by end of day Wednesday, March 20, 2024

ARTWORK DROP OFF DATES (do not ship artwork):

Friday, April 19 – 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 20 – 11 am to 4 pm

Tuesday, April 23 – Friday, April 24 – 10am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 27 – 11 am to 4 pm

DELIVERY AND RETURN OF ARTWORK:

Artists are responsible for the delivery and pick up of their work. All work accepted for the exhibition must arrive gallery ready with any necessary installation instructions. Artwork differing from entry images may be omitted from the exhibit. Work must be hand delivered. Artists will be notified of when to pick up their artwork after conclusion of the exhibition.

SALE OF ARTWORK:

Artwork may be for sale if desired by the artist, though it is not required. If sold, artist will receive 75% commission, and Kennedy Heights Arts Center will retain a 25% commission on all works sold. Kennedy Heights Arts Center will handle all artwork sales while artwork is in the exhibition. If work is for sale, artists will be required to fill out a W-9 when they drop off their work.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Entry deadline – March 4, 2024 by end of day

Notice of Acceptance – March 25, 2024 by end of day

Artwork drop off Dates – Friday, April 19 – 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 20 – 11 am to 4 pm

Tuesday, April 23 – Friday, April 24 – 10am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 27 – 11 am to 4 pm

Opening Reception – Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 6-8pm

Artwork pick up Dates – July 2, July 3, July 5 between 10am to 5pm and July 6 between 11am to 4pm. All work must be picked up by 4pm on July 6.

Exhibition dates – May 4 – June 29, 2024

Completed entries and all questions can be emailed to curator@kennedyarts.org

THANK YOU!

**Asha the Artist
Curator**

**Mallory Feltz
Director of Exhibitions and Public Art
Kennedy Heights Arts Center
6546 Montgomery Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45213
513.631.4278**