

CECELIA JOYCE & SEWARD JOHNSON GALLERY

AAN GALLERY STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

AAN Mission

The mission of the Artists Association of Nantucket is to foster the visual arts on Nantucket. By promoting, supporting, and encouraging the work of Nantucket artists, providing educational programs in the arts, and preserving the legacy of Nantucket artists, we create a vibrant arts community.

The Artists Association of Nantucket is Nantucket's art colony and the Joyce & Seward Johnson gallery is the public face of the AAN showcasing the work of its Nantucket member artists. The gallery advances the overall mission of the AAN, promotes the artist members and their individual artwork, provides a forum for emerging artists, mounts exhibits from the Permanent Collection, and engages AAN patron and business members and the overall community in support of Nantucket artists.

GALLERY / ARTIST RELATIONSHIP

The AAN Gallery Committee, appointed by the board of directors, and Gallery Staff, including the Sales Manager and Curator of Exhibitions, collaborate to assure that the gallery offers the best possible forum to showcase member artists and their works.

- They develop a range of exhibitions, special shows, and innovations to promote success.
- The Sales Manager is responsible for decisions related to the operations and sales in the gallery, and for maintaining a harmonious relationship between the artist and the gallery.
- The Curator of Exhibitions is responsible for the presentation of the artwork, as per the criteria outlined here, as well as decisions on accepting work.
- Artists should inform the staff of up-to-date artist information.
- Our commission structure is 65% artist / 35% AAN. Interested customers are sometimes referred to the artist's home studios and other galleries displaying their work, with an expectation of a 10% referral on new sales that result. However, sales of specific works at first seen at the gallery or works commissioned through the gallery are subject to the regular 65/35 commission structure.
- Any recommendations, suggestions, or concerns related to the gallery should be brought to the attention of the Sales Manager, Curator of Exhibitions, or the AAN Executive Director.

MEMBERSHIP

- Affiliate Members can show in 5 exhibitions a year of their choosing, plus any open exhibitions. Full Artist Members can show in all regular gallery exhibitions.
- In order to exhibit at the AAN gallery, artists must be up-to-date with their artist membership dues. Submitting work at the gallery constitutes an immediate renewal of an artist's membership. If the artist is unable to pay more than a down payment on their dues at the time of submission, the balance due will be considered a debt overdue to the association.
- Membership is renewable annually on January 1 and ends Dec. 31.
- Members can exhibit only in the categories they are accepted for in the review process. Artists who have been members since 1990, or earlier, are not bound by this restriction.
- Applicants can exhibit in five categories: Two-dimensional art: oil, watercolor, print-making, drawing, mixed media, etc.; Three-dimensional art: sculpture of any material, mobiles, assemblage, or ceramics; Jewelry; Fiber arts; and Photography.
- Annually, we ask that you submit dues of \$200, a signed artist agreement, a current biography for the Gallery, a completed W-9 form, and an artist volunteer card and other membership materials which will be included within the renewal letter.
- Members must also volunteer 10 hours/year and make a donation of art—submitting their best work--to an AAN special event, including the Summer Auction & Gala. Hours can be bought out.
- If an artist does not pay their dues for three years, he/she must submit a new application for membership (excepting emergencies) including a portfolio prepared for AAN Review.
- Our commission structure in the gallery is 65% of the sale to the artist and 35% to the AAN. The structure is the same for outside exhibitions, but may differ for fundraising or special events.

- ☛ Artists are encouraged to attend artist business meetings and artist social events. New artists are also encouraged to get involved, familiarize themselves with the AAN, ask questions, and introduce themselves to their peers.

ARTWORK

It is in the best interest of the artists to submit their best quality work for exhibition. All artwork submitted for exhibition must meet the criteria outlined below and the Curator of Exhibitions is responsible for ensuring that accepted work meets all criteria.

Final decisions in the gallery, including the placement of the artwork in the space, issues of size restrictions, late or early submission, framing, and carried-over work, are made at the discretion of the Curator of Exhibitions.

Exhibition themes are not meant to exclude any art. If you don't have work that relates to the theme, please bring in artwork anyway.

SUBMISSIONS

- ☛ The Pick Up & Drop Off Schedule, available at the gallery and on the AAN website, provides the full exhibition calendar, themes, size restrictions, number of works, etc.
- ☛ Artists should submit new work for exhibition on the designated day. The Gallery Staff may accommodate other arrangements, if there are special circumstances, especially in shoulder seasons.
- ☛ Free expression is encouraged and supported but as a public gallery representing a wide membership of artists, the right to not display works that are deemed to have objectionable content is reserved.
- ☛ Artwork in any exhibition that is in a series or thematically linked can hang together upon request by the artist.
- ☛ Artists are required to pick up previously shown work on the designated pick up / drop off day; the AAN is not liable for loss or damage to work left behind--for whatever reason--at the gallery and/or then moved for storage at the workshop at 1 Gardner Perry Lane.
- ☛ Though the gallery will accept previously-shown artwork and carry some works over for an extended showing, artwork submitted in the core season of July and August should be new and not previously exhibited in the gallery.
- ☛ Size restrictions: in July and August, art should not exceed 50" on any side including the frame. Also, we have a "one big one small" requirement in these core months. If you submit a sizeable work, your second submission should be small. Small works--as in our small works exhibitions--are defined as 11x14" or 12x12" or smaller, including the frame (though thin frames on max sizes are fine).
- ☛ All framed artwork should be in a form suitable for gallery hanging. Frames should be in excellent condition and should have hanging wire or other common means for hanging the work. Cheap photo frames often have off center hook-eyes or prop feet and hang poorly. Use a wire, please.
- ☛ Unframed canvases with 1 1/4" to 2" gallery-wrap sides are acceptable when the sides show no staples and are white or cleanly painted.
- ☛ Damaged frames or poorly finished unframed canvases are unacceptable.
- ☛ Paintings that are slightly tacky are acceptable, and should be noted by the submitting artists as such. Truly wet paintings are unacceptable, except for at the Wet Paint Auction, as they may damage the integrity of other submitted artwork.

Jewelry

- ☛ Display cases in the gallery are generally for jewelry and small art, unless under temporary circumstances for special exhibition.
- ☛ Artists may submit 6-8 items. The display of more than 6 items is at the discretion of the gallery staff based on space available in the display case.

- ☛ Artisan jewelry should contain unique and/or handcrafted features. Work assembled entirely from manufactured and publicly available materials does not meet these criteria.
- ☛ Work should be refreshed by the jeweler when possible. If it is not, it may remain on display at the discretion of the Gallery Staff.
- ☛ Jewelry at the gallery is not insured under the AAN's gallery insurance. The AAN is not liable for loss or damage to jewelry not on display and left behind--for whatever reason--at the gallery and/or moved for storage at the workshop at 1 Gardner Perry Lane.
- ☛ Arrangement of jewelry in display cases will be coordinated by the gallery staff.

Bins

- ☛ Artists are limited to a total of 6 works of original art and giclée prints.
- ☛ Giclée prints are not segregated from original art in the bins, so they must be clearly marked as reproduction prints by the artist.
- ☛ Works on paper displayed in the bins must be shrink wrapped or contained in a clear covering. Matted work is preferred, but loose work mounted tightly against a backing is acceptable. Work with damaged or loose covering or mounting may be removed for refreshment at the discretion of the gallery staff.
- ☛ Bin work should be refreshed when possible.

3D art, small artworks, and miniature artworks

3D art, some small artworks, and miniature artworks will be displayed on stands provided by the gallery throughout the gallery at the discretion of the gallery staff.

- ☛ 3D art must be stable on a suitable presentation base.
- ☛ 3D art can be displayed for 2 consecutive exhibitions. An extension of this time period is at the discretion of the Gallery Staff.
- ☛ Miniature artworks must have clean edges or frames, be no larger than 4 inches on any side, and, if there is a frame, employing a thin frame.
- ☛ An artist may submit 4 miniatures in addition to the artwork for individual exhibitions and they may be displayed for consecutive shows and refreshed when possible.

GALLERY AESTHETICS AND EXHIBITIONS

The gallery presents a full season of works by AAN artist members.

- ☛ There are 12-13 exhibitions April through December with opportunities for artists to be featured in additional ways, such as the Artist Spotlight Show (see below).
- ☛ The AAN Permanent Collection is highlighted throughout the year and at least one special exhibition or event is mounted annually, sometimes in the gallery.

Open Exhibitions, Juried Exhibitions, Artist Spotlight Shows, and Pop-Up Shows:

☛ Open Exhibitions (i.e. Collaboration, Cellography) are open to all island artists, provided they follow the theme of the exhibition and any other exhibition restrictions (i.e. size, presentation).

☛ Juried Exhibitions are restricted to artist members, unless otherwise stated. Work may or may not be excluded from juried exhibitions at the discretion of the juror(s). Artists are expected to retrieve work that is not accepted according to the published schedule, often immediately after jurying.

☛ Spotlight Shows are designed to offer a small solo exhibition running concurrent with a gallery exhibition. Spotlight artists are required to: apply on a first come/first served basis, hang their own wall, publicize themselves, provide a sizeable hors d'oeuvre for their opening reception, and to present a talk or art demonstration at the gallery during the time period of their Spotlight Show. Exceptions to these requirements are at the discretion of the Gallery Staff. Artists are restricted to one show every two years. Spotlight artists must maintain contact with the gallery to arrange their show. We suggest the artist print and mail their own invitation to augment our PR.

☛ Pop-up Shows, are held outside the gallery space and are governed by theme, criteria and restrictions of the individual exhibition. The AAN handles transportation, signage, etc. Works submitted to pop-ups must be in the artists accepted categories.

The gallery facility includes:

- ☛ Two floors of well-lit exhibition space with movable walls for flexibility.
- ☛ Glass case(s) and a hutch to display jewelry and others work by members.
- ☛ Bins to hold unframed original artwork on paper and giclée prints.
- ☛ Integrated areas for gift cards, hats, and other manufactured AAN items. AAN flyers, postcards, workshop catalogs, schedules, membership materials, and other AAN-specific items are displayed.
- ☛ Artist promotional cards posted in designated areas.

Electronic artist newsletter and gallery public relations

- ☛ The association sends out an electronic artists newsletter at a minimum of every two weeks in season.
- ☛ To get a listing of an upcoming, dated exhibition of your work, or another opportunity that you host, you need to email the simple facts to the gallery@nantucketarts.org at least a week before the event. We will write a condensed entry in our newsletter calendar listing. This email must come from you, the artist member, as we do not construct this calendar from emails from galleries, guide listings, or other sources.
- ☛ Notices of gallery openings are posted in public spaces around town, as well as in exhibition postcards mailed on a regular basis.
- ☛ Exhibition sponsors are acknowledged in promotional materials and emails.
- ☛ Press releases promoting exhibitions and Spotlight Shows are sent to local media.

ONLINE EXHIBITIONS

The gallery maintains an online presence with artworks for sale sampled from each scheduled gallery exhibition. Over the course of the year, sampled works are chosen from as many AAN artists as possible. Sales may handled by telephone or by a shopping cart system.

Outside Exhibitions Hosted by AAN

- ☛ Artist submissions to our annual Gala Auction, Spring Sweep, Wet Paint, and pop-up shows should be in the media of their acceptance to membership. Our Sidewalk Art Shows are an exception.

VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteers are critical to the operation of the gallery. Artists may fulfill their volunteer requirements through a variety of activities.

- ☛ Support Friday night openings by helping with set up, bringing hors d'oeuvres, or pouring wine and beverages at Friday night openings.
- ☛ Supplement gallery staffing at lunch, breaks and evening hours.
- ☛ Distribute PR materials
- ☛ Help with gallery refreshing, plantings, clean up, etc.
- ☛ Ask about other opportunities