



Request for Proposals - Art of Activism Exhibition Maryland Hall - 801 Chase St., Annapolis, MD, 21401



Today more than ever we need to use art to not only provide beauty and escapism but also to develop agency, educate, and provide discomfort for the social consciousness.

Artists have been using art to communicate societal issues including gender, race, politics, and religion for generations. ***Art of Activism* explores both the historical protest art of the 1960's and the ways in which current Maryland-based Black artists are using their work as a statement of activism.**

Maryland Hall, in partnership with the Banneker Douglass Museum and Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, invite Maryland-based artists, whose work encapsulates activism and social justice through education, to send proposals to take - one of six – 5 ft. by 9 ft. tall Black Lives Matter banners, which are currently hanging on the front steps of Maryland Hall, to use as a canvas for justice. Selected artists are asked to challenge viewers' perception of art by using their individual banner as a platform to discuss social oppression and systemic patterns through visual or performance art. Artists will receive a payment of \$1,000 to design and create their banners.

The 6 artists selected by a panel of jurors, in addition to having their finished banners displayed on our campus, will participate in a curated exhibition, ***Art of Activism, which will be on display at Maryland Hall from (January 8 - February 27, 2021).*** Hand selected protest art from private collections will be shown throughout the building to complement current activist art.

Finally, additional artists will be chosen to create work on smaller *Black Lives Matter* banners that will hang at the Banneker Douglass Museum and will coincide with the *Art of Activism* showcase at Maryland Hall.

All entries will be submitted through Google Drive to ekohlenstein@marylandhall.org. Please read through the *Entries* section on page 3 for more information on submission through Google Drive. *Maryland Hall and Banneker Douglass Museum will have ownership of all banners after the run of the *Art of Activism* exhibition and will have the rights to display or sell the work.

*artists can use their preferred materials of choice. For more information on how finished banners will be displayed email ekohlenstein@marylandhall.org

Jurors:



Chanel Compton - Chanel Compton is inspired and passionate about her role as Executive Director for the Banneker-Douglass Museum (BDM) and Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC). Currently, she serves as Board Chair of the Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center and board member to Afro Charities, Maryland Humanities and Future History Now. Ms. Compton has been a life-long supporter of museums; stating, "A museum can be such a powerful place. As a young person, it was my initial visit to museums and galleries that opened my eyes and mind to new perspectives, cultures, and history. African American museums are instrumental in inspiring a new generation of leaders and innovators because they are a place of empowerment, of learning, and a place of individual and collective transformation." As Executive Director of BDM and MCAAHC, Ms. Compton is dedicated to serving arts communities and artists in Maryland. She has a home and art studio in Baltimore, MD.



Tony J. Spencer - Tony Jerome Spencer was born, raised, and educated in Anne Arundel County. While attending Northeast Senior High School in Pasadena, MD, he developed a love for creating visual art. He obtained both a Bachelor of Arts (1997) and Master's in Public Administration degrees (2011) from Sojourner/Douglass College in Baltimore, Maryland.

Today, Tony is a practicing visual artist and community advocate. He currently serves on the Maryland commission on African American History and Culture. Mr. Spencer is also affiliated with the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland Heritage Areas Authority; Black Artist of D. C., Maryland Federation of Art, Northern Arundel Cultural Preservation Society, Inc., August Wilson Society, and the Toni Morrison Society.



Darin Gilliam - Native Annapolitan, Darin Michelle Gilliam has focused on the arts community as well as her personal business that lend creative consulting and design strategy to small businesses, curated art projects, and organizations.

Her design studio, 19FIFTYTHREE, offers creative direction and design for everything from small projects to full brand styling and curated art installations.

When she is not designing, Darin is serving the creative arts community in Annapolis, Maryland, as the Director of Annapolis Arts Week and Co-Owner of ArtFarm Studios, a 3,200 sq. ft space that cultivates the arts through education, gallery exhibits, and art consultation.

Commission - \$1,000 For the design and creation of an original artwork using the current Black Lives Matter banners hanging on the front steps of Maryland Hall.

Terms of Entry

All entries must adhere to Maryland Hall general guidelines as well as the terms of entry specific to the exhibit as listed below. Any entry that does not follow terms of entry and General Guidelines will be subject to rejection regardless of the Juror's decision.

General Guidelines and Requirements:

Eligibility

- **Only Black artists living in the state of Maryland are eligible for this exhibition work**

- A maximum of 8 original works created within the past 3 years may be entered.

*If an artist is selected based on their 8 submissions, this does not mean all 8 will be exhibited. The final number of artworks to be displayed will be decided upon by the curatorial team once all 6 artists are chosen. Size and subject matter will be a deciding factor. Artworks meant to be displayed together will be considered (please make note of this in submission).

- Works may not exceed 72 inches in width, height or depth, including the frame.

- Work must be original in concept and design and created by the artist. No commercially produced or reproduced artwork will be accepted.

Entries - There is no Submission Fee to send a proposal for this exhibition

- Entries must be submitted through google drive to ekohlenstein@marylandhall.org. *To enter online you must have a google email account, which you can create for free. If you do not have one prior to this submission you can learn more about creating an account here. To learn how to access google drive you can click here.

- Please share a **google folder titled (FIRSTNAME_LASTNAME_ARTOFACTIVISM)** including up to 8 JPEGS as well as upload the submission form.

- Submit one JPEG image per piece entered. Images should be titled **(FIRSTNAME_LASTNAME_TITLE_MEDIUM_PRICE)**.

*To provide the best image for jurors set pixel dimension to around 2000 pixels on the longest side. File size may be no more than 2 MB.

- Images of accepted works may be used at the sole discretion of Maryland Hall and the Banneker Douglass Museum for promotional purposes including but not limited to social media, local newspapers and other media outlets, exhibition invitation, web site or on subsequent marketing materials. Images will be credited to the artist.

- **Artists might be selected for one of two showcases:** *Artists will be notified at the time of selection which showcase they have been chosen for.

- 1. To create artwork on a large 5ft. by 9 ft. tall Black Lives Matter banner to be displayed outside of Maryland Hall and participate in a curated exhibition with 5 other artists inside the galleries.**
- 2. To create artwork on a smaller Black Lives Matter banner to be displayed at Banneker Douglass Museum.**

Artwork Sales

- Maryland Hall will have ownership of all banners on their campus after the run of the *Art of Activism* exhibition and will have the rights to display or sell the work as they see fit. If a work is sold, artists will receive 35% of the profit and Maryland Hall will receive the remaining 65%. Artists will receive a check within 45 days after the last day of the exhibition.

- Banneker Douglass Museum will have ownership of all banners on their campus after the run of the *Art of Activism* exhibition and will have the rights to display or sell the work as they see fit. If a work is sold, artists will receive 35% of the profit and Maryland Hall will receive the remaining 65% profit. Artists will receive a check within 45 days after the last day of the exhibition.

- **Inside the galleries** - Maryland Hall will retain 65% from all gallery sales. Artists will receive the remaining 35% of artworks sold. Artists will receive a check within 45 days after the last day of the exhibition.

- Sale of artwork is taxable and all Maryland sales tax processing will be handled by the Maryland Hall or Banneker Douglass Museum.

- Sold artwork requiring shipment will be handled by the Maryland Hall or Banneker Douglass Museum with costs collected from the buyer. Artworks must remain in the galleries for the entire run of the exhibition. Buyers will be notified to pick up their work or have their work shipped after the exhibition is over.

Exhibition Schedule:

Oct. 16 - Online entry opens for submissions.

Nov. 13 - Deadline for entries

Nov. 20 - All entrants notified by email. Check Maryland Hall website or contact Maryland Hall if you do not receive notice.

Nov. 21-23 - Pick up banners from Maryland Hall

Nov. 21- Jan 3 - artwork creation

Jan 4 - Artwork drop-off. All banners (even those to be displayed at Banneker Douglass Museum) should be dropped-off inside the Chaney Gallery at Maryland Hall between 10 am and 4 pm. Work must be dropped off - **we are not accepting shipments for this exhibition.**

Exceptions can be arranged through ekohlenstein@marylandhall.org.

Jan 4-7 - Install (done by exhibition team at Maryland Hall)

Jan 8 - First day of *Art of Activism* exhibition

Jan 15 - Virtual Tour Live

Feb 25 - Closing Reception AND/OR Panel Discussion

Feb 27 - Last day of exhibition

March 1-2 - Pick up artwork between 10 am - 4 pm.

*Artists can arrange to pick up work between 3-5 pm on the last day of the exhibit (Feb. 27th) if they can only gather work on the weekend. This must be arranged through ekohlenstein@marylandhall.org.

Notification - All entrants will receive notice by email. The notice to accepted artists will include specific details and could vary from RFP. A list of accepted artists and artwork will also be posted on Maryland Hall's website. Artists will be notified that they are to either:

1. To create artwork on a large 5 ft by 9 ft. tall Black Lives Matter banner to be displayed outside of Maryland Hall and participate in a curated exhibition with 5 other artists inside the galleries.
2. To create artwork on a smaller Black Lives Matter banner to be displayed at Banneker Douglass Museum.