Call For Artists

Lan Su Chinese Garden invites artists working in a variety of media to submit applications for review for public exhibition in the garden in the 2024 calendar year. Exhibitions typically average two-month durations in an enclosed pavilion within the garden. Artists are highly encouraged to visit the garden to understand the unique exhibit spaces and environment for a more well-informed submission. Of interest are works from Portland-area/regional artists with themes relevant to the cultural programming and mission of the garden, although all manner of subjects will be considered.

Note that art will be displayed in all weather, in a non-temperature-controlled environment.

Review of complete applications begins immediately upon receipt. Incomplete applications may not be considered. We have several exhibit slots available for new and recurring artists starting March 2024. All artists considered for exhibition will be contacted for follow up. If selected, agreements will be entered for exhibition sales on a commission basis.
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To Apply:

- In a separate document (.pdf or .doc only), include the following:
  1. Full Name and pronouns
  2. Phone number
  3. Email address
  4. Website, portfolio and/or social media links (if any)
  5. Biography, up to 100 words, in third person. A brief explanation of why you want your art to be at Lan Su Chinese Garden.
  6. Optional: A proposal of the exhibit you are planning (themes, etc).

- Please mention if there are any months you are unable to exhibit.
In the same email, attach at least 3 high-resolution images of recent work, representative of what you would want to show in the garden. Include details about size, format and, if possible, retail gallery price ranges. Formats: .jpg or .tiff.

- Email all materials, in one message, to art@lansugarden.org
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FAQ

What is Lan Su Chinese Garden?
Lan Su Chinese Garden, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, serves approximately 165,000 visitors annually. The Mission of Lan Su Chinese Garden is to cultivate an oasis of tranquil beauty and harmony, to in-spire, engage and educate our global community in the appreciation of a richly authentic Chinese culture. Much more than just a beautiful botanical garden, Lan Su is a creative wonder — a powerfully inspiring experience based on a 2,000-year-old Chinese tradition that melds art, architecture, design and nature in perfect harmony.

What art mediums are accepted?
Currently we are only accepting pieces that are hangable with a wire or with D hooks. (No saw hooks) This includes all original 2D art, but we will accept 3D art that can feasibly hang from gallery rails against a wall. We are especially artists working in textiles, comics, fashion, printmaking, jewelry, mixed media and other mediums less-represented in galleries to apply.

What types of work have shown in the past?
To see examples of artwork that has previously exhibited at Lan Su, search the hashtag #ArtAtLanSu on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter or visit the garden to see the current work on display.

How will I know that my submission has been received?
We will be sending confirmation emails to all individuals that apply. If you submit work and do not receive a confirmation email, please contact us at art@lansugarden.org.

What makes a Lan Su show successful?
Artists utilizing social media channels to promote their show & artists who participate in “Meet and Greets” or demonstrations during their exhibits tend to sell better and engage more visitors.
We encourage everyone at any level to apply and we welcome all artists from all kinds of backgrounds. Our goal is to support you as an artist and to showcase your talent!

How many pieces do I need to have?
The number of pieces necessary varies on size of your work. For example, you will need 8-12 pieces of larger works (around 40” - 60”) but around 12-20 pieces of smaller works (around 12” - 20”).

I’ve already shown at Lan Su, can I apply again?
Yes! We are always looking to establish deeper connections with our talented community!

What is your commission rate?
Lan Su offers a 50% consignment rate on all art exhibited, and artist merchandise sold in the garden shop during the exhibit. Sales benefit the care and continuation of Lan Su, a non-profit organization.