

BROOKLYN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Public Perspectives Exhibition Series Independence Community Gallery at the Brooklyn Historical Society

Call for Exhibition Proposals

Deadline: May 15, 2009

About Brooklyn Historical Society

As an urban history center, the Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS) plays a central role in recording and reflecting upon the socio-political, historical and cultural fabric of the borough of Brooklyn and the United States as a whole. Housed in a Landmark Building, built in 1881, BHS provides adults and children access to its unparalleled museum, library and archive collections, through educational programming, exhibits, curricula, workshops, walking tours, and our website. It is through innovative programs and expanded community awareness that we are able to carry out our mission as a center for dialogue and discourse, with a commitment to engage the broadest audience in an ongoing dialogue about Brooklyn, its history, and its future. For more information, please consult our website at www.brooklynhistory.org

About the Program

BHS launched the *Public Perspectives* exhibition series in the Independence Community Gallery in 2006 to showcase three community-curated exhibits per season. The *Public Perspectives* series furthers the BHS mission by providing Brooklynites with an active voice within the Society, lending insight into the contemporary ideas and views of the borough's diverse residents.

Exhibition Proposal Guidelines

Applicants are invited to propose original, visually compelling exhibits that explore themes that further BHS' core mission: to connect the past to the present and make the vibrant history of Brooklyn tangible, relevant, and meaningful for today's diverse communities. Exhibit concepts should involve a historical, social, cultural, intellectual or political focus. Proposed exhibits may relate to a larger project, but the proposal submitted to BHS should be specifically designed for the *Public Perspectives* program. Exhibitions of living artists must be curated to feature the work of two or more Brooklyn artists. ***Applications for solo artist exhibitions are ineligible***, however two or more artists are welcome to collaborate on group presentations.

Applicants are required to plan an educational public program in conjunction with the exhibition. Examples of such programs include talks by artists or curators, panel discussions, workshops, screenings, exhibition walk-throughs, or outreach to community groups or schools.

Who Can Apply

- Individuals who live or work in Brooklyn
- Brooklyn community groups or non-profit organizations *
- Brooklyn-based school groups

Proof of Brooklyn address may be requested. Applicants who have had a proposal accepted and exhibited by BHS are not eligible to submit another proposal for two years following their exhibition.

*Organizations must conceive of a thematic exhibition, not highlight the organization itself.

Application Process

Brooklyn Historical Society accepts proposals for the Independence Community Gallery program once per year through an open call for exhibition proposals. Applications and guidelines are available from BHS, local community centers and cultural partners, or can be downloaded from the BHS website at www.brooklynhistory.org. Applicants must complete the application form, provide all requested support materials, and attend an informational meeting to be considered. A panel of advisors comprised of cultural professionals and community representatives reviews the applications and selects the three finalists. **Selected exhibitors will be notified by June 30, 2009.**

Informational Meeting for Applicants

There will be an informational meeting for applicants on **Thursday, April 16 at 6 p.m.** and **repeated on Wednesday, April 22 at 3 p.m.** at the Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont Street. This meeting will give applicants the opportunity to see the Independence Community Gallery, tour BHS, and learn about our resources and facilities. This will also be a time for any questions regarding the application process. *Attendance at one of these meetings is strongly recommended. Please RSVP to Janice Monger at jmonger@brooklynhistory.org or (718) 222-4111 x225.*

Award

Selected exhibitors will receive a \$1,000 award and up to \$1000 to cover exhibition-related materials and expenses.

Space Considerations

The Independence Community Gallery is 55' long by 7 ½' wide with 8' high walls. There is over 60 linear feet of exhibition wall space. The walls are painted white and track lighting is available. A floor plan is attached.

Brooklyn Historical Society 128 Pierrepont Street Brooklyn, NY 11201 718.222.4111

The *Public Perspectives* Exhibition Series is made possible by the Lily Auchincloss Foundation. The Independence Community Gallery is sponsored by the Independence Community Foundation.

Public Perspectives Exhibition Series
Independence Community Gallery
at the Brooklyn Historical Society



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Application Requirements / Checklist

- Completed application form with all contact information, including Brooklyn address.
- One-page **typed** project description (500-word maximum. No less than 10 pt font)
Clearly explain your exhibition concept, give specific examples of how the images support this theme, and discuss the connection to the BHS mission. Please include your ideas for the related educational public program.
- List of names of those contributing to exhibit
- Resume of applicant and contributors
- Images: Submit up to 12 images in **one** of the following formats:
 - o one slide sheet with a maximum of 12 slides
 - o digital images on CD in jpeg file format (size approx 4x5" to 8x10" at 72dpi)
 - o A set of no more than 12 printed images (no larger than 8x10")
 - o DVD or VHS video (*please cue tape*)
 - o Website address (*only if appropriate or important to the proposal*)***Original artwork or portfolios will not be accepted.***
- Image list numbered in accordance with the slide sheet, CD, or printouts. Include: the artists'/individuals' names, titles of work, dates, media and dimensions. *Please note that BHS reserves the right to final approval of work included in the exhibit.*
- Draft installation plan. *See attached floor plan.*
- Self-addressed stamped envelope must be included for return of slides and support materials. *BHS is not responsible for lost materials or slides. If postage is not provided, materials will be discarded.*
- Budget, estimated. *Provide a draft budget breakdown of costs associated with mounting your exhibition (i.e. printing of photographs, framing, graphic design, lecturer fee, etc).*

Send packages by regular U.S mail or hand-deliver during public hours to:

Public Perspectives
Brooklyn Historical Society
128 Pierrepont Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Deadline: May 15, 2009

Please Note: Only send packages by regular mail or deliver in person during public hours: Wed. – Sun., 12 – 5 pm. Do not send packages requiring a signature as they may be returned.

Complete application packages must be received no later than 5pm on Friday May 15.
LATE OR INCOMPLETE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

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Exhibition Proposal Application
Deadline: May 15, 2009

Please type or print clearly.

Name of Applicant(s)/
Primary Contact _____

Organization/School/Group
(if applicable) _____

Street Address _____

Brooklyn, NY _____
**proof of Brooklyn address may be requested* zip code

Phone Number of Applicant _____
or Primary Contact for Groups

Email _____

Title of Exhibition _____

Exhibition Summary (*Please summarize your exhibition concept in one sentence*)

Please indicate your preferred exhibition dates by numbering 1- 3 for your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice:
Exhibition Dates Preferred: Sept. – Dec. 2009 ___ Jan. – Apr. 2010 ___ May – Aug. 2010 ___

Informational Meeting

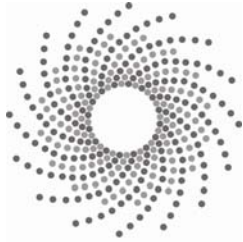
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I attended an informational meeting: yes no

Public Perspectives Exhibition Series

Independence Community Gallery at the Brooklyn Historical Society

Floor Plan of Exhibition Space



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128 Pierrepont Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Lower Level

