

# ***WATER*: Summer Exhibition and Artist Residency Description**

Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts

Deadline: March 22 | 5 p.m. | Free Application

**About the Exhibition:** The Gallery at TCA is seeking applications from Arizona-based artists to apply for the 2019 juried exhibition, *WATER*. The water theme is open-ended and is expected to include artworks that reflect a wide range of topics such as water in the desert, sustainability, mythology, history, science, beauty and more. All media will be considered. The exhibition will be on display May 24-Aug. 31, 2019.

**About the Artist Residency:** Based on the success of 2017's *Biomimicry* and 2018's *Draw* exhibitions and residencies, the Gallery at TCA is pleased to present its third artists-in-residence program for the *WATER* exhibition. Arizona-based visual artists may apply for use of one of three studio spaces inside the Gallery for twelve weeks during the *WATER* exhibition. Artists will be selected by a jury panel. Selected artists will be eligible for a stipend up to \$2,000. Residency responsibilities include:

- 1) Creating new artwork onsite at the Gallery at TCA. Schedules will vary but average commitment is 6-8 hours a week.
- 2) Answering questions from visitors in the Gallery.
- 3) Creating and teaching three hands-on art workshops for all ages including: Saturday family workshop, Friday night workshop and one hands-on booth at DRAW-A-THON event (June 22).
- 4) Display previously created artworks that fit within the theme of the exhibition
- 5) Participate in at least three group meetings or presentations with the Gallery at TCA staff and water experts.

**Professional Development Features:** The Gallery at TCA will work with each of the selected artists to create a unique residency experience. In addition to a customized studio space inside the Gallery, the TCA will connect artists with other professionals and organizations. Depending on areas of interest, the Gallery at TCA will plan brainstorm sessions, tours and/or presentations with local experts to enhance the residency experience. These opportunities might include hands-on collection research at a museum or a behind the scenes tour of a scientific laboratory.

During the residency, artists will be challenged to hone their skills and explore new knowledge. The Gallery at TCA is looking for application proposals that show the strength and quality of the artist's prior work as well as their level of interest and desire to grow, learn and share. Selected artists will work in assigned Gallery studios each week throughout the summer. Artists are expected to work with the exhibition theme of *WATER* during their time in residence. The work created may be an extension of a current project, research for new artwork and/or a departure into new works. By the end of the residency, artists will be asked to share their plans, experiences, sketches and/or new artworks at a public end-of-residency reception on Friday, August 9, 2019 from 5:30-7:30pm.

**NEW Bonus Public Art Opportunity:** During the residency, these three artists will participate in one-on-one discussion sessions with public art staff, learn about past projects within the Tempe program and meet with local artists and professionals who have worked in public art. At the end of the 12-week residency, each of the three selected artists-in-residence will have the opportunity to propose a temporary project relating to water and their work created during the residency. These proposals will be reviewed and if awarded, the temporary public art project will be commissioned by Tempe Public Art.

**Application Process:** The *WATER* application process is free. A jury panel will review applications and select artists for the exhibition and/or the artist-in-residence program. Selections will be announced by April 12. Application materials include:

- Digital images of 10 artworks completed within the last two years to show level of quality, craftsmanship and innovation of prior work (jpeg images only at 300dpi).
- Image list with thumbnail images, titles, sizes and dates.
- Two letters of recommendation from arts professionals speaking to the artist's reliability to complete contracted work.
- Short biography statement and an artist statement.
- Short letter of intent about interests in the theme of water, the exhibition, and if applicable, the summer residency. For residency application, please include a brief description about ideas for research and development for creating new artwork/s in conjunction with the theme. Planning sketches and/or digital renderings are encouraged.

**Inquiries:** michelle\_dock@tempe.gov or 480-350-2867