

VSA Minnesota presents

An Exhibition of Art by Minnesota Artists with Disabilities



From left to right: Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth, MN; Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, Minneapolis, MN; Rochester Civic Theater, Rochester, MN.

Call for Entries

Deadline: On-going

VSA Minnesota seeks two-dimensional artwork that is of high artistic quality, demonstrating originality, imagination, skillful use of materials, and quality of craft.

VSA Minnesota is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create a community where people with disabilities learn through, participate in and access the arts. VSA Minnesota showcases the accomplishments of artists with disabilities and promotes increased access to the arts for people with disabilities. VSA Minnesota exhibits artwork created by Minnesota artists with disabilities in various locations around the state throughout the year. This includes exhibitions that VSA Minnesota has mounted on its own, as well as those done in partnership with other organizations. Currently VSA Minnesota does not have a permanent gallery space, instead contracts with local businesses to host on-going exhibitions. Interested artists are invited to submit an application to be considered for exhibit opportunities.

By utilizing these venues, VSA Minnesota is able to:

- provide an opportunity for Minnesota artists with disabilities to exhibit their work;
- to focus attention on the achievements of Minnesota artists with disabilities;
- to emphasize that disability is no barrier to creativity;
- provide resources to continue their work; and
- increase awareness within the general population about the talent of people with disabilities.

Alternative formats and accommodations

Braille and large print formats of this call are available upon request. We recognize that some artists may require assistance with this application. For direct assistance, please contact Craig Dunn, Executive Director, 612-332-3888, ext 1 or email craig@vsamn.org.

Exhibition Application Instructions

THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE.

Eligibility

Minnesota artists with disabilities who are at least 18 years of age or older are eligible to apply. See following *Definitions* if you have any questions regarding eligibility.

“Artist”

VSA Minnesota works to highlight artists with disabilities who are actively creating in their art form, regardless of experience or formal training. This Exhibit program supports adult artists. Students are not eligible.

“Minnesota resident”

Artist must have lived in Minnesota at least one year prior to application and must live in Minnesota when artwork is exhibited.

“Disability”

For the purposes of this Exhibition program for adult artists with disabilities, VSA Minnesota uses the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) definition of disability. (See http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII_2010/titleIII_2010_withbold.htm for complete definition.) A person of any age is considered to have a disability if *any* of the following apply:

- a) A person has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, such as hearing, seeing, walking, breathing or speaking.
- b) A person has a *record* of a substantially limiting impairment to a major life activity, such as a person who has recovered from cancer or an individual previously categorized as learning disabled.
- c) A person is *regarded* by others as having a substantially limiting impairment, which in reality either is not substantial (such as controlled high blood pressure) or does not cause any substantial limitations (such as a facial scar or physical disfigurement).

If any of the above apply, an individual is eligible to participate in VSA Minnesota’s Exhibition program. The artist’s signature acknowledging this eligibility is required, but the review panel does not further discuss the disability – only the art and supporting materials.

These definitions are not intended to label people in ways that they may not wish to be labeled; rather, they are intended only to define eligibility in VSA Minnesota programs. If you have a question in regard to these definitions, please contact VSA Minnesota at 612-332-3888 or 800-801-3883 or info@vsamn.org.

Format

Accepted artwork must be:

- **two-dimensional** including but not limited to painting and drawing in oil, acrylic, watercolor, pencil and charcoal, digital art, photographs, collage, fiber art or computer illustration;
- **original**;
- **completed during the past five years**;
- **able to be hung on a wall**, all flat artwork must be matted (if appropriate), framed and wired to hang. Canvases with wrapped, finished, presentable edges do not need additional framing;
- **less than 8 feet** in either dimension;
- **labeled**, including artist name, title of artwork, medium, size, and price.

We cannot accept artwork that is:

- **fragile** and cannot withstand handling, storage and transportation;
- free standing or **cannot be hung on a wall**;
- **not original** or suggests plagiarism;
- **featuring nudity**, out of respect for our public locations which host the exhibitions.

Procedure

- Include completed **On-going Exhibit Application Form** (page 5).
- Submit **up to 10 clear digital images** of the artwork to be considered for exhibition by mail on a CD or by Email (preferred).
 - Images should be JPEG format (.jpg) and low resolution (72dpi).
 - Each digital file must be labeled with the artist's last name, first name and entry number (ex. smithjohn2.jpg).
- Please include Microsoft Word (.doc) or PDF (.pdf) **artwork description** which lists the title of artwork, medium, size, and price; and
- **Artist statement** (200 words or less) and include the following information:
 - A brief description of the artist / art form (medium, techniques, subject, etc);
 - What role has art played in the artist's life as a person living with a disability;
 - If the artist's disability impacts the way art is created, please explain how;
 - A personal quote or any additional pertinent biographical information.
- **Mail** CD, On-going Exhibit Application Form, artwork description and artist statement to:
VSA Minnesota
Attn: On-going Exhibition Application
528 Hennepin Ave. Suite 305
Minneapolis, MN 55403
- **Email** JPEG Images, On-going Exhibit Application Form, artwork description and artist statement to: exhibitions@vsamn.org

Selection Process

VSA Minnesota will determine selection criteria, review submitted artwork and select artists and work for the exhibition. Applicants are asked to present artwork that will best exemplify the extent and quality of their accomplishments. VSA Minnesota will be looking for the development of original ideas in the work submitted -- imagination, competence, and the skillful use of materials. Work that suggests visual plagiarism, e.g., a direct copy of another artist's work, will not be accepted. Artists should not submit work that contains religious or political themes, inappropriate language, or nudity. VSA Minnesota reserves the right not to adjudicate any individual work(s) deemed inappropriate for our mission and audience. Vision Loss Resources and Park State Bank also reserve the right to not exhibit artwork selected by VSA Minnesota based on company values and interests.

Upon receiving submissions, VSA Minnesota will contact accepted artists within one week. Submitted digital materials will NOT be returned and may be archived within the VSA Minnesota database which stores images created by Minnesota artists with disabilities for possible future professional opportunities.

Liability, insurance and arrangements

Pick-up or drop-off arrangements will be made with artists whose work is accepted for the exhibition. VSA Minnesota will insure the artwork up to \$500, over and above that value will be the responsibility of the artist.

Sales

If the work selected by the jury is available for sale to the public, the artist must determine the retail price for the work. All sales will go directly to the artist. Exhibited works that are not for sale should include "NFS" in the submitted list of works. In the event of a sale, the artist will be paid the price of the artwork listed.

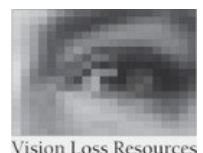
Current Exhibitions

Currently VSA Minnesota works with [Vision Loss Resources](#), 1936 Lyndale Ave S. Minneapolis, to exhibit artwork throughout the year. Selected work (approximately 8 pieces) is displayed in the waiting areas during normal business hours for a four month period. Some exhibits emphasize range and diversity while others have a specific focus (e.g. landscapes, self-portraits, etc.). Visit our website to read more about past art exhibits.

VSA Minnesota is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create a community where people with disabilities learn through, participate in and access the arts (www.vsamn.org).



Vision Loss Resources, Inc. has a mission to assist people who are blind or visually impaired in achieving their full potential and to enrich the lives of all persons affected by blindness or vision loss (www.visionlossresources.com).



On-going Exhibit Application Form

Please complete and submit this page in order to be considered to exhibit.

Artist's name

Title (*i.e. Visual artist, Illustrator, Fiber artist, etc.*)

Website

Mailing address

City

State

Zip

MN

Phone

Email

Submit

- Up to 10 clear digital images** of the artwork to be considered for exhibition by mail on a CD or by Email (preferred) with this form.
- Artwork description** which lists the title of artwork, medium, size, and price.
 - Artists may also choose to have artwork marked "NFS" (not for sale).
 - In the event of a sale, the artist will be paid the price of the artwork listed.
- Artist statement** (200 words or less).

Mail CD, this form, artwork description and artist statement to:

VSA Minnesota
Attn: Exhibition Application
528 Hennepin Ave. Suite 305
Minneapolis, MN 55403



Or Email (*preferred*) JPEG Images, this form, artwork description and artist statement to:
exhibitions@vsamn.org

Agreement

By submitting this completed application, the artist agrees with the terms and conditions of the Exhibition program. The artist also agrees and grants permission to VSA Minnesota to photograph and publish the artwork, artist's biographical information, and descriptions of the artwork for promotional purposes in print, broadcast and/or electronic media, including the Internet.

Signature of Artist (or typed)

Date