

Call for Entries

December 21, 2024



DC Public Library



Construction in front of recently completed Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 1972
Part of the [DC Public Library Photograph Archives, available on DigDC](#)

Looking Back - Look Forward: Sources of Artistic Inspiration

Presented by the Washington Sculptors Group & DC Public Library

LOCATION:

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
901 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
www.dclibrary.org

EXHIBITION DATES: June 12 - September 1, 2025

JURORS: Michelle May-Curry, Babette Pendleton & Linnea Hegarty

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, January 31, 2025 (received by 11:59pm EST *through the submission site EntryThingy*)

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION: This exhibition honors the Washington Sculptors Group's forty years in the DC arts community, while highlighting the role that DC Public Library plays as the archive for much of the District's cultural history. Each selected artist will receive an honorarium for participating in the show. The amount of the honorarium will depend on the number of works in the show.

WSG members are invited to submit work made using or responding to materials in archival collections held by the Library, or responding to concepts embodied by the Library and its holdings of literature, artifacts, and primary source documents, as well as the Library's role as community

gathering space. These could be from the WSG Archives or from other archival collections held in The People's Archive.

The pieces can be three-dimensional freestanding sculptures, as well as wall-hung works. Artists are encouraged to visit the library and learn about its archives.

The People's Archive

<https://www.dclibrary.org/plan-visit/martin-luther-king-jr-memorial-library/peoples-archive>

DCPL Public Art & Exhibits

<https://www.dclibrary.org/using-the-library/public-art-exhibits>

ABOUT THE JURORS

Babette Pendleton is the Program manager for the Corcoran / National Gallery Partnership. Within this role she manages the newly established Corcoran Institute which serves as an interdisciplinary lab for art, experimentation, and research. Babette assists the Corcoran Director in managing all aspects of the National Gallery of Art/GW partnership to establish and grow the institute. Responsibilities include management of programming, exhibitions, artists-in-residence, visiting artists, student workers, and contractors related to the partnership.

Pendleton creates activated environments, immersive installations, and performances through her multidisciplinary work as an artist and curator-producer. Her national and international curatorial work manifests in forms of collective and collaborative organizing, project management, visionary and strategic consulting, and exhibition/performance producing. Pendleton is also currently the director of Yellow Fish Durational Performance Art Festival. The festival brings awareness to the significance and study of Time while facilitating community involvement in historical and contemporary thought surrounding Durational Performance Art. Pendleton maintains a rigorous performance and land art practice utilizing forms of movement, sculpture, and photography. She holds a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts and an MFA in Curatorial Practice from Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA).

Dr. Michelle May-Curry is a curator, professor, writer, public humanities consultant, and photographer based in Washington, D.C. She is the Curator at the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and core faculty in Georgetown University's Master's program in Engaged and Public Humanities.

May-Curry has held fellowships at Harvard University, as well as the Carr Center in Detroit. Her scholarly and curatorial work has appeared in the New York Times and American Quarterly, and exhibitions at The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, The Art Institute of Chicago, Harvard Art Museums, The Carr Center Gallery, and The 2019 Havana Biennial. She received her Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan.

Linnea Hegarty is the Director of Events, Exhibits and Development at the DC Public Library, where her recent initiatives have included major traveling exhibitions and locally focused exhibitions grounded in the library's collections, as well as cultural partnerships with local and national institutions. Hegarty brings more than 17 years of experience in leadership positions at nonprofit and political organizations to the DC Public Library. Prior to joining the Library, for seven

years, she served as the Executive Director of the DC Public Library Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides programmatic resources to the DC Public Library to supplement local government funding. Linnea lives in Mount Pleasant, DC, with her husband and two young boys, where they are frequent visitors at their favorite neighborhood library.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday, January 31, 2025 (received by 11:59pm EST)

Looking Back - Look Forward will be juried from digital images submitted through the **EntryThingy** site, and there is a \$5 processing fee for uploading images.

Artists must upload submissions through EntryThingy at <https://www.entrythingy.com/d=washingtonsculptors.org?start=list>

No entries will be accepted by mail or email.

SITE VISITS / SITE PLANS

Artists are encouraged to make a site visit in advance of submitting their applications and can visit any time during public hours, posted on the [MLK Library website](#) (Mon-Thur 9:30 am – 9 pm; Fri & Sat 9:30 am – 5:30 pm; Sun 1:00-5:00 pm; check [dclibrary.org](#) for holidays and closures). The Exhibition space is located on the first floor, southwest corner of the Library at 901 G Street NW, with visibility to the G Street sidewalk through large plate-glass windows (near the corner of 10th and G Streets, NW).

A guide to the 10th & G exhibit space with photographs and a scale floor plan [may be accessed here](#).

ELIGIBILITY

The exhibition is open to members of the Washington Sculptors Group only. Artists who are not already members may join WSG by paying annual dues of \$45 (\$15 for full-time students). Prospective members may join online using PayPal on the WSG website www.washingtonsculptors.org, or download a membership form and mail check and membership form to the WSG address. Existing WSG members must renew their dues for 2025 to be eligible for this exhibition.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Individual artists or teams may submit freestanding sculpture and wall-hung sculpture that fits the theme.
- Works should be no larger than 8' h x 8' w x 7' d (if freestanding) and no more than 50 lbs. Wall hung works may not exceed 11' in height; lightweight works to be hung in the window may extend up to 18' in height (see guide to the space, above)
- Note that the MLK Library is a public space and not a museum. The ability to accommodate oversize, fragile, high value, or multimedia items is limited and special requirements should be noted in your application.
- Each artist or team may submit up to three (3) works, with two images per work (maximum of six images). Submissions must be made through the EntryThingy website (see instructions below).
- Submissions **MUST** be anonymous—please remove any identifying labels from titles, file names, images, statements, etc. Submissions that are not anonymous will be disqualified.

- Accepted work must be delivered in person on the dates listed in the calendar below.
- Artists are solely responsible for delivery and installation of their accepted work on the specified installation date and de-installation of their work on the pick-up date. All work accepted and exhibited must remain on display for the full duration of the show. WSG and the library will not receive shipments of artwork or mail inquiries.

INSURANCE, COMMISSIONS, AND SALES: The Library’s contracted insurer will insure works on loan that will be in place for the time period of the Exhibits Contract between WSG and the Library. Insurance during transportation is the responsibility of the artist. All inquiries regarding sales and sales must go directly through the artist. DC Public Library does not handle sales or take commissions on any sold work.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTRYTHINGY

Please view this instructional video on using EntryThingy if you need help and feel free to contact us at exhibits@washingtonsculptors.org if you have any questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvvRAM85ZAM>

- All submissions must be anonymous.
- Submit all images with a resolution of 300 dpi and a maximum of 2MB each. Video files must be smaller than 50MB each (about five minutes).
- Files should be named with only the title of the work (no first or last names). Use the actual title for each work. Example:

Title 1.jpeg

Title 1 (detail).jpeg

Title 2.jpeg

etc.

- The EntryThingy platform allows you to submit a brief statement specific to your entry where you can explain how your art work relates to the exhibition theme. The platform also offers you a chance to say more when describing each piece you submit. To avoid being disqualified, do not include your name in either the artist statement or any of the description paragraphs. You can start your application, sign out from EntryThingy, and come back to complete your submission later. However, the platform will not let you edit the statement specific to the entry when you come back. It will let you edit the paragraphs describing each piece.

1) Applicants should go to <http://www.entrythingy.com/> and click on the tab (at the top) “for artists”.

2) Click on “list of current calls”.

3) Scroll down and click on the *Looking Back - Looking Forward* listing. 4) Create a login account to <http://www.entrythingy.com/> if you don’t have an account, or if you do, login to your existing account with the “Click here to login” button. After logging in, select the *Monumental Washington* call and complete the entry steps.

5) There is a \$5 entry fee.

6) All applicants will receive ‘accepted’ or ‘not accepted’ notifications via email

CALENDAR

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|---------------------------|---|
| Exhibition Dates: | June 12 - September 1, 2025 |
| Submission Deadline: | Friday January 31, 2025 (received by 11:59pm EST) |
| Artist Notification: | On or after March 1, 2025 |
| Drop off & Installation: | June 9 - 11, 2025 |
| Opening Reception: | June 12, 2025 |
| Artist/Juror Talk: | TBD (There may be multiple events) |
| Deinstallation / Pick up: | September 2-3, 2025 |

Please contact exhibits@washingtonsculptors.org with any questions.

Contact membership@washingtonsculptors.org with questions about joining WSG or your current Membership Status.

The Washington Sculptors Group is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness of sculpture and fostering exchanges among sculptors, sculpture enthusiasts and the public. Organized in 1984, membership has grown to over 400; WSG sponsors frequent public programs and organizes professional sculpture exhibitions juried by prominent curators. Visit www.washingtonsculptors.org to join WSG, to view the Web Gallery of members' work, and to subscribe to the WSG newsletter.

About The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library

Named after one of the nation's most prominent civil rights leaders, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library is the central location offering a wide range of opportunities and services. The building, a historic landmark, was designed by architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. It is his only public library and his only building constructed in DC. Between 2017 and 2020, the building was renovated. The entire interior was completely redone, including a new auditorium, dance studio, recording studios, tool library, offices, and a rooftop garden. The library hosts temporary exhibits in five spaces throughout the building.

The DC Public Library celebrates art and exhibits as a source of learning, discovery, growth, and connection. Exhibits at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library are key to expanding visitors' knowledge of the District's rich past and are a portal to engagement in the DC's present and future. The Library's Art & Exhibit program is guided by its Art & Exhibitions Policy.



This project is supported in part by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.



WASHINGTON SCULPTORS GROUP

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Supporting Sculptors and the Arts Since 1984