**CHARLES ALLIS/VILLA TERRACE CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT**

***REQUEST for PROPOSALS***

SUMMARY

The Charles Allis Art Museum and Villa Terrace Art Museum (the Museums) accept proposals from curators, artists, and collectives to guest curate exhibitions at the Allis or the Villa.

Guest curators curate, manage, install, de-install and plan all programming for the exhibition.  

PROPOSAL DETAILS

Proposals can be submitted for solo or group exhibitions. Both museums are housed in historic mansions, and the galleries are former domestic spaces, each with their own character and architectural language. We highly recommend visiting the Museums before beginning your proposal. Ideas that propose original or unique artwork, performances, and installations made specifically for exhibition at the Museums in response to the space and the history of the buildings and collections are especially welcome. We support examination and interpretation of the buildings, their history, and their content. The Museums are interested in offering innovative emerging and established artists an opportunity to develop their curatorial practice while gaining valuable exposure and experience.

Proposals associated with other regional nonprofit organizations are of special interest to us because they foster collaboration and exchange between communities, and they further our goal of providing a context for diverse, area-specific art production. Consider including artwork directly involving the local community or addressing regional subject matter.

The Museums’ curatorial department will collaborate with each chosen guest curator to develop and execute the exhibition plan. The Museums require that guest curators manage all exhibition logistics and planning, including the exhibition budget, installation, and de-installation, with assistance from the museum’s curatorial staff and contract preparators.

Top of Form

Curatorial Proposals submissions checklist:

1. A curatorial statement of 500–1,500 words describing the purpose or curatorial intent of the exhibition and how it fits within the context of museum (your proposal should be for either the Villa Terrace or Charles Allis — they are quite different museums and the same proposal will not likely fit both).
2. A current résumé including a list of recent curatorial projects (if available).
3. Digital images of artwork intended for exhibition and a corresponding image list. The image list must include the artist’s name, artwork title, medium, dimensions, and date of work. Feel free to add two or three sentences of description if it helps us understand the image. Digital images should be saved in JPEG format with a minimum dimension of 1500px (short dimension). Image files should be labeled with the artist’s last name and a number corresponding to the image list (example: appleseed\_01.jpg)
4. Detailed exhibition budget (see attached budget template).

Proposals should be emailed to:

Shana McCaw, Senior Curator

smccaw@cavtmuseums.org

The Museum’s Curatorial Advisory Committee will make every effort to review and respond to submissions in a timely manner. The Committee meets quarterly.

If your proposal is accepted, we will contact you to discuss scheduling and next steps.

MUSEUMS - OVERVIEW

The Charles Allis Art Museum

The Charles Allis Art Museum was designed by prominent Milwaukee architect Alexander Eschweiler for Charles Allis — the first president of the Allis-Chalmers company — and his wife Sarah in 1911. This Tudor-style mansion and its art collection were built with the sole purpose of bequeathing it and the Allis art collection to the public, to delight, educate and inspire. The permanent collection features 19th-century French and American paintings, Chinese and Japanese porcelains, Renaissance bronzes, Japanese netsuke, and original antique furnishings.

The Charles Allis Art Museum is one of the few such ensembles preserved intact in its original form, and some items in the collection are the only known examples of their kind. To complement this collection, the museum holds several changing exhibitions each year.

In 1998, the community enhanced the Allis by contributing $1.4 million for the construction of the Margaret Rahill Great Hall. Designed by Uihlein/Wilson Architects, the Great Hall tripled the space available for museum programming, community use and private rentals.

The Charles Allis Art Museum is a rich cultural institution that serves the entire Milwaukee community. Museum exhibitions and programs seek to celebrate Milwaukee’s diversity and Wisconsin art and artists. With strong private and public support, and ongoing help from the Friends of Charles Allis, the museum continues to grow and flourish.

The Villa Terrace Art Museum

The Villa Terrace Art Museum was originally the private residence of the Smith family. Lloyd Raymond Smith was president of the A.O. Smith Corporation, at the time one of the largest manufacturers of automobile frames in the country. The 1923 home was designed and built by renowned architect David Adler, in the style of a 16th-century Italian villa.

The villa was deeded to Milwaukee County by Agnes Smith Curtis, Ray Smith’s widow, in 1966, and renamed the Villa Terrace Museum of Decorative Arts. It opened a year later under the auspices of the Milwaukee War Memorial Center and housed a decorative art collection on loan from the Milwaukee Art Museum. In 1974, it was entered on the National Register of Historic Places. The Villa Terrace Art Museum is renowned for its stunning gardens, architecture, and Cyril Colnik permanent collection.

Contact Shana McCaw, Senior Curator, with questions

414-278-8295 or [smccaw@cavtmuseums.org](mailto:smccaw@cavtmuseums.org)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARLES ALLIS OR VILLA TERRACE**  **ART MUSEUM EXHIBITION BUDGET** |  |  |  |
| Name of exhibition: |  |  |  |
| Proposed exhibition dates: |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Expenses* | *Estimated* | *Actual* | *Notes* |
| **Research materials** | | |  |
| Fees | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Travel** | | |  |
| Transportation | $0.00 |  | $300 domestic/$500 int’l max. |
| Per diem | $0.00 |  | $50 per day/3 days max. |
| Lodging | $0.00 |  | $250 max. |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Contract Labor** | | |  |
| Graphic design | $0.00 |  |  |
| Preparators | $0.00 |  | $25/hr. per person |
| Consultation (e.g. exhibition design) | $0.00 |  |  |
| Movers | $0.00 |  | $222 per hr. for moving/transport |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Exhibition Supplies** | | |  |
| Framing | $0.00 |  |  |
| Gallery fixtures/Walls | $0.00 |  |  |
| General supplies (hardware, etc.) | $0.00 |  |  |
| Vinyls, text panels, labels | $0.00 |  | Base cost = $75 |
| Lighting supplies | $0.00 |  |  |
| Floor treatments | $0.00 |  |  |
| A/V and Tech | $0.00 |  |  |
| Other (please list) | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Loans** | | |  |
| Loan Fees | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Exhibition Opening** | | |  |
| Guest speakers (honorariums) |  |  |  |
| Podium or A/V rental |  |  | Base cost = $55 for a podium w/mic |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Shipping** |  |  |  |
| Packing/Crating | $0.00 |  | To/From |
| Postage/Shipping costs | $0.00 |  | To/From |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Artist/Curator Fees** |  |  |  |
| Artist fees | $0.00 |  |  |
| Curator fee | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Honoraria** | | |  |
| Other (please explain) | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Contingency** | $0.00 |  | 5–10% of total expenses |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** | **$0.00** | **$0.00** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Income* | *Estimated* | *Actual* | *Notes* |
| **Outside funding sources** | | |  |
| Raised funds | $0.00 |  |  |
| Donations | $0.00 |  |  |
| Requested from Museum | $0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** | **$0.00** | **$0.00** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Notes: |  |  |  |
| Please make sure expenses and income equal zero when added together. | | | |
| Please use the W.A.G.E. floor-level fee structure whenever possible for artist fees/honoraria: | | | |
| [http://wageforwork.com](http://www.wageforwork.com/home#top) |  |  |  |