The Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum is now accepting proposals for the fall 2021 Teaching Gallery exhibition.

Deadline for proposals: March 22, 2021, 5 pm
Dates of exhibition: August 31, 2021–January 4, 2022 (dates subject to change)
Notification: Week of March 29

The Teaching Gallery is an exhibition space within the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum that is dedicated to exhibiting works from the Museum’s collection with direct connections to Washington University courses. Teaching Gallery exhibitions are intended to serve as parallel classrooms and can be used to supplement courses through object-based inquiry, research, and learning. Recent Teaching Gallery exhibitions have been organized by faculty in art, architecture, art history, anthropology, classics, East Asian studies, American studies, African and African American studies, and social work, among other disciplines. To review past Teaching Gallery exhibitions, visit kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu/TeachingGallery.

Teaching Gallery proposals are submitted as part of a competitive process. Proposals should include a description of the critical issues of the course being taught, exhibition concept, and how they relate to the works of art (2–3 paragraphs). Applicants are encouraged to explore the Museum’s collection at kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu/collection/explore. Typically, proposals also include the course syllabus and a preliminary checklist with no more than 15 artworks. The checklist does not need to be finalized but should indicate how it supports themes related to the course. The director and curators of the Kemper Art Museum assess and select proposals based on the strength of the connections between the exhibition and related course and the proposal's feasibility, including the availability of the artworks.

For questions or to submit an application, please contact Meredith Lehman, head of museum education, at 314.935.7918 or lehman.meredith@wustl.edu.

GUIDELINES

Selection and Display of Artworks

Following the acceptance of a Teaching Gallery proposal, the faculty member works with a Museum curator and registrar to determine the number and type of artworks that can be accommodated in the installation. The gallery contains approximately 475 square feet. Note that some artworks may not be available based on condition, prior commitments, or security issues.
During the exhibition's installation, the Museum curator and registrar consult with the faculty member to determine the final layout of artworks in the gallery space. Museum staff install title signage and standard object labels for each artwork, which include the artist's name, title of the work, date, and medium.

Communications

To promote the exhibition and make it accessible to Museum visitors, the faculty member provides several texts, including a short description (approximately 150 words) for promotional materials.

The faculty member works with the curator and head of publications to create a handout, which typically consists of an essay (approximately 750 words) introducing the exhibition concept and contents, a checklist of the artworks in the exhibition, and additional resources for further information as relevant. The design and production of the handout are managed by the publications office. For examples of previous handouts, see kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu/TeachingGallery.

Opportunities for Learning

Teaching Gallery exhibitions are installed for an entire semester to facilitate class visits and student assignments throughout the duration of the course. They are open to the public during regular Museum hours. With prior arrangement class visits can also be scheduled outside regular hours.

In addition to using the exhibition for teaching purposes for his or her class, the faculty member also gives a 45-minute public talk on the exhibition while it is on view. The talk is publicized on the Museum’s website, in the Museum’s newsletter, and around campus with flyers.

Schedule

5–6 months in advance of the opening
   Review artworks in the Museum’s collection with a curator and registrar to develop a preliminary checklist for the exhibition

4 months in advance
   Submit a proposed checklist to the curator
   Provide a short description of the exhibition for promotional materials
   Schedule the public talk

3 months in advance
   Submit the final checklist and a proposed layout

2 months in advance
   Submit final text for the gallery handout and respond to edits

2–3 weeks in advance
   Install artworks in the gallery space
   Review final edits and design of handout