



# ARTIST CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

## Boise City Seeks Artist(s) to Create Artwork for a Juried Boise Visual Chronicle (BVC) Exhibition

**DEADLINE:** Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 1:00 pm Mountain Time (MT)

**APPLICATION INFO SESSION:** March 19, 2025, at 12:00 pm MT

[ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK](#)

**EXHIBITION LOCATION:** Erma Hayman House (617 Ash St. Boise, Idaho)

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### Opportunity

The Boise City Department of Art & History invites artists to apply for the opportunity to participate in a juried exhibition at the [Erma Hayman House](#). Developed by a community-based jury, the exhibition theme seeks to highlight the “American Experiment” through contradictions in American values. This jury will select up to fifteen (15) artists, or artist teams, to display artwork. First-person perspectives and concepts that relate to Boise and the Erma Hayman House are strongly recommended.

All selected artists will receive a \$350 stipend and offer their works for sale. Artworks will be eligible for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> honors and one artwork will be selected for purchase by the City for the Boise City Visual Chronicle Collection. The exhibition will be on display from approximately mid-August – January 2026. Purchases will be delivered after the conclusion of the exhibition.

This opportunity is limited to current Idaho artists. Applicants must be 18 years or older.



*Tell Me More* (2019), Kate Walker



*Nuestro Pueblo* (2008), Allison Corona

## Project Background

The Boise Visual Chronicle (BVC) is a City-owned collection of artwork depicting life in Boise. The collection provides a rich visual documentation of Boise's changing landscape, people, and perspectives, and forms a unique portrait of artistic vitality in our region. This exhibition will coincide with and support the City of Boise's commemoration and celebration of America's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and asks artists to reflect on the "American Experiment" as it relates to Boise today:

America's founding was a revolutionary experiment – the creation of a new nation in search of a more perfect union. Our nation's history is complex, full of advancements and setbacks, as the American experiment continues to seek perfection. Fueling this experimentation is deep-seated tension: many of America's core values are contradictory, and the country has struggled to find a balance that will deliver on the promise of a more perfect union:

- Americans value embracing tradition as well as the comfort and safety that can come from assimilation.
- Americans value abundant opportunity and innovation as well as preservation and stability.
- Americans value the power of the individual as well as the power of the collective.
- Americans value ownership and boundaries as well as mobility and shared space.
- Americans value the freedom to evolve the American experiment by continually shifting the balance of these contradictions.

We all play a part in shaping the ongoing American experiment and here in Boise, while the contradictory nature of American values may seem amplified, so too is our ability to impact the experiment. "You can make a difference in Boise," is a sentiment that can be intimidating, but is also part of the allure of Boise. Boise artists can reveal new perspectives, test innovative ideas, and push boundaries – making a difference in Boise and adding to the American experiment.

Applicants are asked to propose artwork that references contradictory American values that have impacted the American experiment. First person perspectives and concepts that relate to Boise and the [Erma Hayman House](#) are strongly recommended.

## Project Goals

This exhibition opportunity intends to:

1. Highlight American history through the lens of experimentation.
2. Emphasize the contradictory nature of American values.
3. Connect American experimentation and the expression of contradictory values to Boise and the Erma Hayman House.



## Artwork Logistics

- Artists must be current Idaho residents and be able to deliver finished artwork in-person, or in-person by a representative. Artwork may not be shipped to exhibition location.
- Artists may propose any materials so long as they are appropriate for indoor display. This may include but is not limited to 2D works, written works (that can be displayed), audio and/or video (must include necessary equipment), and 3D works.
- Proposed 2D artwork may not exceed 40” in width or height. Final artwork dimensions will be determined in collaboration with A&H staff.
- Proposed 3D artwork may not exceed 20” in height, 40” in width, and 20” in depth. Final artwork dimensions will be determined in collaboration with A&H staff.
- Proposed artwork must be valued under \$10,000.
- Selected artists will meet with A&H staff to discuss specific dimensions, framing and display requirements, and sales logistics.

## Anticipated Project Timeline

Description	Date
Call to Artist released	March 5, 2025
Application info session (recording will be posted online)	March 19, 2025, at 12:00 pm MT <a href="#">ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK</a>
Questions & clarifications due via email	March 28, 2025, at 5:00 pm MT
Application deadline	April 3, 2025, at 1:00 pm MT
Selection and contracting	April 2025
Artist(s) creates artwork	May – July 2025
Artist(s) provides title and value information	June 30, 2025
Artist(s) delivers finished work	August 12, 2025
Artwork displayed	August 2025 – January 2026

## Application Requirements

You can access the application by clicking this link:

[2025 Boise Visual Chronicle \(BVC\) Application](#)

Online applications must be submitted through “Submittable” which allows free submissions and uniform review. Limit **ONE** submission per artist or artist team.



The online application form requires the following information:

### 1. Initial Application Questions

### 2. Statement of Interest (upload/type, 500 words or less, video under 3 mins.)

- Choose a set of contradictory values (listed in the call or not) and briefly explain:
  - How have these values impacted your life?
  - How have these values impacted the American experiment?
  - In what ways has the American experiment shaped Boise? How are those values explored in local settings like the Erma Hayman House?

### 3. Concept Description (upload/type, 500 words or less, video under 3 mins.)

- Proposed medium
- Proposed dimensions
- Describe how you would visually communicate your chosen set of contradictory values.

### 4. Previous Work Examples (upload)

Provide three images of work samples that demonstrates your ability to meet the defined project opportunity. Jurors will reference these examples to better understand the potential of your concept. **Work samples should not include your proposed concept.** Past work examples must be consistent with material, quality, and aesthetic of proposed artwork. **Images are to be in JPEG format, 300 dpi, not larger than 10” on the longest side.**

### 5. Artist Resume (upload)

Upload a current artist resume. Include any websites or social media accounts relevant to your work as an artist.

### 6. Optional: Demographic Information (type)

Please describe how you identify (this can include race, gender, cultural background, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, etc.) and how this may or may not pertain to your proposed concept.

## Selection Criteria and Process

Criteria for jurying submissions and maximum point requirements are as follows:

1. Eligibility, application completion, Idaho artist (Pass/Fail)
2. Relevance of statement of interest
3. Quality of concept description
4. Aesthetic considerations
5. Evidence of artist’s ability to follow through



Jurors will use the following rubric to score applications:

CRITERIA	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<b>Relevance of statement of interest</b>	Statement of interest does not clearly address all requirements.	Statement of interest clearly addresses all requirements.	Statement of interest clearly addresses all requirements, makes a strong personal connection, and relates to the greater American experiment.	Statement of interest clearly addresses all requirements, makes a strong personal connection, relates to the greater American experiment, and connects national to local.
<b>Quality of concept description</b>	Concept description does not clearly address all requirements.	Concept description clearly addresses all requirements.	Concept description clearly addresses all requirements and highlights the experimental history of America and Boise.	Concept description clearly addresses all requirements, highlights the experimental history of America and Boise, and would contribute to a broad yet cohesive exhibition.
<b>Aesthetic considerations</b>	Past work examples indicate that proposed artwork would not be aesthetically pleasing.	Past work examples indicate that proposed artwork would be aesthetically pleasing.	Past work examples indicate that proposed artwork would be exceptionally aesthetically pleasing.	Past work examples indicate that proposed artwork would be exceptionally aesthetically pleasing and contribute to a broad yet cohesive exhibition.
<b>Evidence of artist ability to follow through</b>	Artist has not provided adequate evidence of ability to follow through.		Artist has provided adequate evidence of ability to follow through.	Artist has provided ample evidence of ability to follow through.



Artists will be selected by a jury, a group that may consist of project stakeholders, an Arts & History Commissioner, and a local artist. Jurors may give preference to artists that are not represented in the Public Art Collection.

**Questions & clarifications** must be submitted to Lianna Hamby, [lhamby@cityofboise.org](mailto:lhamby@cityofboise.org), by March 28, at 5:00 pm MT.

**Applications are due by April 3, 2025, at 1:00 MT.**

## **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING**

The City of Boise is proud to be a welcoming community striving to ensure a safe, equitable, and inclusive city that celebrates the diversity of the people who live, work, and play in our community and recognizes the fundamental human dignity of all.

## **ADA AND LANGUAGE ACCESS ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT**

In our commitment to engaging everyone, the City of Boise is actively removing barriers to participation, including for our residents with disabilities and those who prefer a language other than English. If you need an accommodation to access City of Boise's services, programs, or activities, please contact us at [artsandhistory@cityofboise.org](mailto:artsandhistory@cityofboise.org) or 208-608-7050 (TTY 800-377-3529).

En nuestro compromiso por lograr la participación de todos, la Ciudad de Boise está eliminando activamente las barreras a la participación, incluso para nuestros residentes con discapacidades y aquellos que prefieren un idioma distinto del inglés. Si necesita una adaptación para acceder a los servicios, programas o actividades de la Ciudad de Boise, póngase en contacto con nosotros en [artsandhistory@cityofboise.org](mailto:artsandhistory@cityofboise.org) o en el 208-608-7050 (TTY 800-377-3529).

