FACULTY PROPOSALS FOR
EXHIBITIONS AND PROJECTS IN THE SAIC DEPARTMENT OF EXHIBITIONS
APPLICATION
DEADLINE: March 30, 2026

The Department of Exhibitions and its SAIC Galleries serve to enrich and augment the academic curriculum through active discourse on issues and ideas in contemporary art and design. Exhibitions are teaching tools and also vehicles to contribute to the field of contemporary art, design, and theory. They operate as an integrated part of the studio and academic experience and additionally offer meaningful experiences to Chicago audiences.

The SAIC Department of Exhibitions is currently accepting proposals from current faculty for exhibitions or projects to take place in fall 2027 or subsequent years. Proposals may take the form of exhibitions, artist project commissions, performances, programs, publications, or other curatorial projects. These may occur in the SAIC Galleries and other locations on-campus. They may be tied to specific courses, although this is not a requirement for consideration. *

All proposals are co-curated with the curatorial staff and/or Graduate Curatorial Assistants of the Department of Exhibitions. All projects are executed in concert with the Department's operational staff.

Proposals are evaluated according to the following criteria: quality, resources, feasibility, competiveness of proposals received in a cycle, benefit to the curriculum, benefit to participating students and wider community, and contribution to the exhibitions program of SAIC.

If a proposal is intended as an integral part of a **new** SAIC course, the applicant must get initial approval from their department chair and the course must be approved through the new course approval process.

The Faculty Senate Exhibitions Committee reviews and recommends one or more exhibitions / projects for consideration with final review by the Dean of Faculty. The Department of Exhibitions makes the final determination as to feasibility in regard to scheduling, location, and budget for the exhibition / project. Typically, one proposal is accepted for development and implementation in a given cycle.

*Please note that the student-run SITE Galleries maintains a separate proposal process that is only open to currently enrolled students.

Applications should be emailed to Trevor Martin, SAIC's Executive Director of Exhibitions, (tmartin@saic.edu) no later than March 30, 2026.

Questions? Contact Trevor Martin, Executive Director of Exhibitions (tmartin@saic.edu)

SAIC School of the Art Institute of Chicago

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APPLICATION
FOR SAIC GALLERIES AND OTHER ON-CAMPUS SPACES

Contact Information

Faculty Member's Name: _____

SAIC Affiliation (your title and department): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Project working title: _____

If the proposal is connected to a **new** course, has your department chair approved it and has it been approved through the course approval process? _____

Application form and materials must include:

1. Abstract (150 words)

2. Project description (1000 words), addressing:

- What is your curatorial inquiry or research questions?
- Why is this project important now?
- What form (exhibition, symposium, publication, other) will it take?
- What distinguishes this project from other work on the topic?
- How will you carry out research and planning for your project? What resources will you access?
- If you will have collaborators, list them here and attach CVs.
- How does it relate to current activities in the field of contemporary art and design?
- Why is this topic critical to your practice? Why are you qualified to undertake it?
- How does your project connect to the curriculum, SAIC community, Chicago, and/or elsewhere, and how will those connections be cultivated and enacted?
- What support do you anticipate needing in the research and ideation phase?

3. Include representative work samples and slide script.

4. Include a budget breakdown of projected costs.

5. If a proposal is intended as an integral part of an SAIC course, the applicant must also submit a course description and copy of the syllabus.