

Call for Presenters

The **ISEA 31st Annual Experimental Art Symposium “Pushing Boundaries [Reboot]”**, a theme selected in honor of the first Canadian sojourn (originally planned for 2020). It will be offered in conjunction with INNOVATIONS 2022, ISEA’s open juried exhibition hosted by the Art Gallery of St. Albert. The symposium will kick off on Thursday September 1, 2022 and finish on Monday September 5, 2022. The sessions will happen in venues in and around St. Albert, Alberta. This week of sharing, learning and discovery will bring forward exciting and award-winning artists and arts educators. The workshops, demonstrations, and discussions will provide an opportunity for local, national and international artists of all experience levels to immerse themselves in artistic experimentation.

Are you a talented art educator, visual artist, arts business-development expert willing to share your enthusiasm, knowledge and wisdom with fellow experimental artists?

We are looking for an expression of interest from you! We have five days of programming to fill with workshops, demonstrations, and presentations. And we’ve made the process of providing an expression of interest very easy for you.

Current members of ISEA, we hope you are already planning to attend Pushing Boundaries [Reboot] 2022. Presenting at the symposium is an exciting way of being more involved with our ISEA community of experimental artists, and a great way to share your expertise, while enjoying the wonders available in this region of Canada and the opportunities in this wonderful symposium.

What kinds of session concepts are we looking for?

ISEA promotes artistic experimentation and the theme of our 2022 symposium is all about Pushing Boundaries. Please consider how your session concepts address these two ideas. If you’d like to read more about ISEA and its objectives, please refer to Appendix A.

A session can range from a **half hour** keynote speech to an entertaining hour and a half presentation, to a **multi-day** workshop. The symposium is looking to provide a range of experiences for artists of **different experience levels**. An introductory session about a medium, technique, or approach to making art may be of interest to new artists as well as very experienced artists, but we also hope to provide sessions that are exciting to experienced artists looking to push the boundaries of their existing art practice.

Here are just a few ideas to use as a starting point for your expression of interest but don't restrict yourself to these:

- Art workshop, hands-on and in-depth
- Career development workshops or presentations
- Critique sessions
- Technique and medium demos
- Demos with hands-on
- Topic-based presentations
 - Art history
 - Color theory
 - Appropriation in art
 - Science and art
- Artist talks (about your practice)
- Topic-based panel discussions
- And in the spirit of pushing the boundaries:
 - Stand-up comedy act about experimental art
 - Studio tour and Q&A
 - An Art Pecha Kucha session
 - Photographer's tour of Big Lake
 - Walking tour of St. Albert public art
 - Collaboration sessions with artists of other media

We can't wait to hear your ideas!

How to Apply?

1. Review and complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) form for each of your session concepts.
2. Email the completed EOI form(s) in either Microsoft Word or PDF format to presentersapply@iseaartexhibit.org.
3. Guidelines
 - a. You may submit up to five EOIs.
 - b. The session abstract is a description of the experience and should be written to inspire!
 - c. The session abstract must be **150 words or less**.
 - d. Keep the title theme and ISEA's mission and objectives in mind while you write the abstract.
 - e. Possible session durations: 1 hour, 1.5 hours, 3 hours (half day), 6 hours (1 day), 1.5 days, 2 days, 3 days, 4 days, or 5 days
 - f. The preliminary price for a full class must be stated in Canadian dollars. The price must include all expenses for which you expect to be reimbursed, e.g., preparation, travel, accommodation and sustenance. Participants may be asked to provide materials for workshops.
 - g. The symposium expects to have access to the following resources in some session facilities:
 - i. Printing press
 - ii. Kiln (suitable for clay and glass)
 - iii. Digital projectors
 - iv. Sink water sources

- h. Please consider the minimum space requirement per participant in the logistics requirements section of the EOI.
- i. ISEA plans to broadcast two or three sessions via the internet to engage members that are unable to attend in person.
 - i. This may either be a pre-recorded broadcast, live-recorded broadcast or a live simulcast.
 - ii. Another option is to present a session via online conferencing.
 - iii. Your pricing for an online presentation may be different from your price for an in-person presentation.
 - iv. Options will be discussed with you as part of the engagement process.
 - v. The EOI form allows a single session to be proposed as both in-person and online formats.

The Engagement Process

There will be three stages in our engagement process:

1. Expression of Interest

- a. This Call for Presenters is being communicated as broadly as possible.
- b. The EOI form is designed to be a short, easy to complete application.
- c. Your EOI must be **received by November 5, 11:59 p.m. MT to be considered.**
- d. ISEA may retain any EOI received.
- e. All EOIs will be assessed based upon the following:
 - i. Information submitted on the EOI form.
 - ii. The fit of the EOI within a curated mix of potential symposium offerings.
- f. The local organizing committee will recommend engaging presenters in two phases:
 - i. September 13 – first shortlist from submissions received prior to September 10.
 - ii. November 8 – second shortlist from all submissions received.

2. Engagement with Shortlisted Presenters

- a. Direct engagement by a local organizing committee member with each shortlisted presenters will explore scheduling, logistics (e.g., presentation equipment, artistic resources, participant material lists) and confirmation of pricing.
- b. Presenters may be engaged more than once for the same or different sessions.
- c. Short listed presenters will have the opportunity to ask questions of the local organizing committee and adjust prices accordingly.
- d. The engagement may include discussion and clarification of the submitted abstract, if the concept is very intriguing and might be enhanced for the ISEA audience.
- e. ISEA is targeting December 10, 2021 for engagement with all successful presenters.

3. Formal Agreement with Presenter

- a. An agreement between ISEA and the presenter will be drafted to include the confirmed schedule, logistics, and pricing.
- b. The presenter will review, and sign if the terms of the agreement are satisfactory.
- c. The president of ISEA will review and sign.
- d. The agreement will be drafted to include the following:
 - Dates and times of the session(s)
 - Agreed to price per session
 - A description of the proposed session
 - A description of the required resources that ISEA will provide
 - A list of materials that the attendees are expected to provide, in the case of hands-on sessions.
 - The presenter will promote the sessions and event through the regular marketing efforts of their business.
 - The presenter will provide media and content, such as a face shot and personal profile, to ISEA for use on the symposium marketing materials.
 - ISEA will promote the sessions through website, press release, direct email, and social media marketing.
 - The copyrights of teaching materials must be owned by the presenter and will not be violated by ISEA, but retained by the presenter.
 - The presenter will grant ISEA the right to use the proposal contents in marketing materials for the session and symposium.
 - The presenter will grant ISEA the right to use the syllabus in marketing the session, if the session is longer than a half day.
 - The circumstances under which the agreement may be terminated by either the presenter or ISEA. This will include not registering a minimum number of attendees prior to August 20, 2022.
 - ISEA will provide prompt notice of the cancellation of a session to the presenter.

Appendix A - Background

ISEA was founded thirty-two years ago to offer artists a society that celebrates the creation of art through innovation and experimentation. The society encourages artists to explore new techniques, discover new compositional approaches, and find new concepts to create – with no rules to limit creativity. Whether the art is realistic or abstract; it is the approach to making the art, the desire to grow through experimentation and the aesthetic results that count.

The International Society of Experimental Artists was founded by Maxine Masterfield and Gracie Hegeman. ISEA, a non-profit organization, currently has approximately 500 members and was founded on the principle of “Where Art Meets Innovation”. www.ISEAartexhibit.org

Mission

ISEA's mission is to promote public interest in experimental art and encourage and support artists' creative journeys through exhibition, education and communication.

Definitions

Experimental Art: Experimentation lies within our willingness to play, explore and create. It relies on our experience, knowledge, and capability, in combination with imagination, reason, and play to create something unique, new colors, or concepts. It is about having an attitude of exploration, looking at the “what ifs” in art. Experimental art can be realistic or abstract, it is the approach to making the art that counts.

Experimental Artists: ISEA members are artists who try unique processes, materials, and concepts in an effort to enhance their experience through their art. ISEA artists are experimentalists not traditionalists.

Core Values

- Encouraging self-discovery and experimentation
- Valuing our individual members
- Respecting others' methods and processes
- Meriting trust
- Promoting diversity
- Sharing knowledge with each other
- Being a family
- Acting with determination
- Instilling camaraderie
- Remembering where we have come from