



## **CALL FOR ENTRIES: *The Art of Hope***

**Deadline: August 13, 2021**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creative expression has the power to heal. For artists facing mental health challenges, their artwork allows them to convey the sometimes confusing and intense emotions they feel. Or, the creation of art is an escape from their challenges. In this way, creative expression can be a potent self-care strategy, regardless of individual talent.

Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana (MHANI) invites artists from Northeast Indiana to showcase interpretations of mental wellness and mental illness in *Art of Hope*, an exhibition in its third year featuring art that relates to mental health. Works chosen for gallery display will be on exhibit from October 27, 2021 through November 21, 2021 at the Rolland Art Center at the University of Saint Francis. Artworks may also be available for viewing in online galleries.

### **NEW! Youth Category**

For the first time, *Art of Hope* will feature a separate youth category. Youth under 18 years of age are encouraged to submit their artwork related to mental health. Minors submitting artwork for consideration are required to have guardian approval.

To address the stigma around mental health, artists are also invited to share their personal stories of struggle, recovery, and hope related to mental illness and wellness to accompany their artwork. By sharing their stories, contributing artists can help the community understand that mental health challenges are common, that recovery is possible, and that there is hope for those currently facing a mental health struggle.

## **Submission Guidelines**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Any artist who feels their work fits the mental illness and wellness theme is eligible to enter. **Artists do not need to have a history or diagnosis of a**

**mental health condition, substance use disorder, or other disability.**

Works must be original and ready to hang with wire supports. Artists are allowed to submit 1-3 works of art. There are no size limitations. 2D and 3D works are appropriate; keep in mind that the gallery has limited space to display 3D works. Artwork must not contain images of violence, sexual conduct, or degradation of race, creed, or religion.

**ENTRY FEES**

There are no entry fees for this exhibition: however, artists are responsible for costs related to preparing their artwork and shipping/mailing/delivery.

**TO ENTER YOUR WORK**

An online application form is available at <https://forms.office.com/r/hwY5L2kvzK>. Using the online application, artists will submit their name, title and description of the work, medium, size, and a high-quality photo\* of their work along with any personal narratives (explaining struggle, survival, and recovery).

Narratives are optional. Stories may be published to promote the art gallery, spread awareness of mental health issues, and/or included in the exhibition catalogue. There may also be opportunities for artists to speak about their experiences during gallery events. Submission of narratives implies permission to publish these accounts in the exhibition catalog and elsewhere.

*\*Submitted photos will be used in the jurying process as well as for the exhibit catalog. You can review tips for photographing artwork in the following YouTube video: <https://bit.ly/39A0mDL>*

**SELECTION PROCESS**

We expect a large number of submissions. After entries are received, curators will select representative pieces to be exhibited at University of Saint Francis's Rolland Art Center. Works with incomplete submission information will not be considered. All works selected for display must be suitably prepared for display/hanging, including any specialized hardware or equipment required.

**DEADLINES**

**August 13:** Application form and photo of art entries submitted online

**September 17:** Notification of acceptance for display via email

**October 18:** Delivery of works: Works may be delivered to Rolland Art Center (located at 1200 Leesburg Rd, Fort Wayne, IN). Exact delivery times will be provided at a later date.

**October 27—November 21:** Official length of the exhibition

**October 30 (*Tentative & Subject to Change*):** *Art of Hope* Opening Reception

**November 22 & 23:** Artists pick up work. Exact pick-up times will be provided at a later date.

### **SALES**

Works need not be for sale in order to enter the exhibit (prices are not provided on gallery labels). Contact information for potential buyers will be passed along to the artist. In the event that a sale occurs, the University of Saint Francis charges a 35% commission on all sales.

### **DISCLAIMER**

University of Saint Francis and Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana will not be responsible for loss or damage of works during transit to or from the exhibition site. Accepted works *must* remain on display for the duration of the exhibition. University of Saint Francis and Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana retain the right to reproduce images and narratives of accepted works for the purposes of press releases, website inclusion, marketing, and promotion of this event.