

2021 REAL ART AWARDS

- Open call for emerging artists living in New England, New Jersey, or New York
- Entries accepted through March 31, 2021
- \$2,500 prize, solo exhibit, and more
- Project supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts

APPLY ONLINE: www.realartways.org

Six chosen artists will each receive a \$2,500 prize, solo exhibition, exhibition documentation and commissioned essay, curatorial assistance, and the opportunity for an artist talk. There is no charge for artists to participate.



2021 Real Art Awards Jury:

Kameelah Janan Rasheed: Artist and writer

Hasan Elahi: Artist and Director of the School of Art at George Mason University

Will K. Wilkins: Executive Director, Real Art Ways

About Real Art Ways

Real Art Ways is committed to presenting innovative contemporary art, building community, and supporting artists. Our visual arts programming ranges from solo exhibitions, to smaller group exhibitions, to long-planned, major multi-disciplinary projects with visual arts at the center of the work. Since 1975, Real Art Ways has fostered an alternative space for artists to thrive, encouraging new ideas, experiments, and risk.

56 Arbor Street Hartford, CT 06106 • www.realartways.org • 860.232.1006

REAL ART AWARDS

2021 APPLICATION RULES

ELIGIBILITY

Emerging artists living and working in **New England, New York or New Jersey** are eligible to apply to this call. We encourage any self-identified emerging artists that can make a compelling case to be considered as emerging to apply; the jury will determine their competitiveness based on review criteria. Artists should not be enrolled in a degree program during the time of exhibition. For more information, check our **Frequently Asked Questions** document.

Artists working in all media are encouraged to apply. Applicants should be aware of Real Art Ways' mission and our commitment to innovative, non-traditional contemporary work.

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HOW TO APPLY:

WORK SAMPLES

Six (6) images or videos of recent or current work, JPG files only at 72 DPI, a maximum of 1280px on the longest side and 5MB file size. Video submissions must be MOV or MP4 formats, no larger than 300MB. **Video submissions cannot exceed 3 minutes in total.**

RESUME / CV

Three (3) pages max. PDF document only

WORK SAMPLE LIST

Submitted media must be accompanied by a corresponding Image List, including Title, Date, Medium, and Dimensions.

OPTIONAL: STATEMENT

One (1) page max, telling us whatever you feel is relevant to your practice. Proposals for site-specific, socially engaged projects or new work are accepted.

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IMAGE FILE NAMES

File names **MUST** be formatted to include the artist's last name, first name, and number of work (01-06) corresponding to the WORK SAMPLE LIST.

LastNameFirstName_01.jpg

LastNameFirstName_02.jpg

Etc.

OTHER FILE NAMES

Title all files with the following format:

LastnameFirstname_worksamplelist.PDF

LastNameFirstName_resume.pdf

LastNameFirstName_statement.pdf

DEADLINE

Materials must be submitted online no later than March 31, 11:59 PM EDT, 2021

SELECTION

Selectees will be notified no later than Friday, May 8, 2021

QUESTIONS?

Please address questions to:

Neil Daigle Orians

Visual Arts Manager

norians@realartways.org

No phone calls, please.

56 Arbor Street
Hartford, CT 06106



REAL ART AWARDS • FAQ

What are the Real Art Awards?

The Real Art Awards is an open call competition for emerging artists. Each selected artist receives a solo exhibition, cash prize of \$2,500, commissioned essay, professional documentation, curatorial assistance, and other support. Participation for artists is free of charge.

Who should apply to the Real Art Awards?

Please be aware this process is extremely competitive. We typically receive between 300-500 applications and only 6 artists can be chosen. Artists have been selected on their second and third application. Those applying should be early in their careers or otherwise embarking on new, innovative works. Applicants are encouraged to get to know the programming at Real Art Ways before applying.

What does the jurying process look like?

Jurors begin by looking at images. Artists should submit the highest quality samples of their work. Other information (statement, CV/resume, etc.) is viewed later in the jurying process.

How do I know if I'm "emerging"?

Our definition of "emerging" is intentionally flexible and subjective. Artists should not have received major solo exhibitions, grants, or other awards at this stage in their career. Age is not taken into consideration when determining an artist's status as "emerging." Artists who can make a compelling case to be considered as emerging should apply; the jury will determine their competitiveness based on review criteria.

What is Real Art Ways?

Real Art Ways is a multidisciplinary art organization in Hartford, Connecticut. Artists have always been central to Real Art Ways' mission. Over the last 45 years, our programming has focused on innovation, community, and artists. Our galleries and arthouse cinema are (typically) open 7 days a week. Education programs offer students a chance to connect with contemporary art and film. For 15 years we have offered a juried open call for artists.

Does work submitted have to be available for exhibition?

Work submitted should have been created within the last 3 years. Upon selection, artists will work with Real Art Ways to plan their project or exhibition, which can include new work.

How does COVID-19 impact exhibitions?

The safety of our staff, guests, and community is Real Art Ways' top priority. We are upholding rigorous cleaning and safety protocols in accordance with the CDC and state guidelines, including our office and gallery spaces. Galleries are open Thursdays - Sundays with limited hours as well as available by appointment. If and when Real Art Ways temporarily closes, gallery programming may be frozen but confirmed exhibitions will not be cancelled.