

# Undercroft Gallery at Christ Church

<https://www.ceclax.org/undercroft-gallery>

<https://www.facebook.com/undercrofthouse>

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## **Mission Statement**

The Undercroft Gallery at Christ Church celebrates visual art dedicated to the glory of God, in thanksgiving for His gift of the creative spirit. Gallery exhibitions are intended to enrich the community, and to provoke dialogue regarding the function of art in cultural, religious and daily life.

## **Description of the space and exhibition program**

The Undercroft Gallery marks its 8<sup>th</sup> year in 2024. Located in the undercroft (basement level) of the church at 111 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street in La Crosse, Wisconsin, the gallery is in the Augustine Fellowship Center, immediately below the historic church. The gallery is furnished with a track-hanging system and LED track lighting. It is open on Sunday mornings and by appointment via the artist and church staff. The gallery features rotating exhibitions in keeping with the mission statement. Receptions are typically scheduled on Sunday mornings from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## **Gallery Committee**

Christ Church vestry appoints a committee of at least 3 members. One or more are practicing artists. The committee oversees gallery schedules and functions. It also reviews and recommends artwork for display and communicates with the vestry through a designated liaison.

## **Guidelines for Artists, Art, and Specifications**

Parishioners may, in consultation with the rector and vestry, recommend inviting artists to exhibit work. Established and emerging artists may submit exhibition proposals. Artists' groups and independent curators are also welcome. The vestry or arts subcommittee accepts and reviews recommendations and proposals on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Digital submissions are strongly preferred. **Please do not send original artwork for review.** The vestry reserves the right to decline submissions deemed inconsistent with the mission statement.

The gallery consists of the north (48' of hanging space) and west (13' hanging space) walls of the room. Wall height is 59" from track rail to the chair rail. There is also a hanging track on the east wall (but without track-lighting), with about 18' of hanging space. (This wall is ideal for 3 larger scale works that can be hung in line with the can lights in that area.)

Since artwork is hung from cables, framed artwork must have screw-eyes and picture wire. **Please do not use sawtooth hangers.** Unframed work can be installed with T-pins on canvas-covered foam panels that have hooks that fit the cables.

Provide **label information** with artist's name, title of work, medium, and price (if for sale). Submit an artist statement and label information as separate Word documents. Information that corresponds to the label list should be on the back of each artwork.

The gallery has pedestals that can accommodate 3D work. While every care is taken to ensure respect for the art exhibited, Christ Church is not responsible for any damage or theft that may occur while the art is on display.

The Undercroft Gallery encourages art sales. Artists may designate a portion of sales to the parish to help maintain the gallery and cover expenses such as receptions. In consultation with exhibiting artists, special sales may be made for designated beneficiaries, including local and global outreach efforts.

### **Application Requirements**

1. Name of artist, contact information (including telephone and email) and brief description of the submission.
2. Images of specific work intended to be shown in the Undercroft Gallery. Send no fewer than five (5) and no greater than ten (10) images. Please send jpg files as email attachments.
3. A list of images (doc or docx file): Include title, dimensions and media for each piece. Also include information about how the show might be installed, paying particular attention to any extraordinary considerations and logistics.
4. Artist statement and bio (one page total, doc or docx file)

Artwork accepted for exhibition will be included on the Undercroft Gallery Facebook and Instagram pages and on the church's website. By sending your work, you give Christ Episcopal Church and its diocese the right to edit and use your images, description and statement in a variety of formats, for purposes of promoting the exhibition program.

## **Details**

Every effort is made to consider all submissions, although the right is reserved not to consider submissions that fail to conform to the application requirements or to the mission of the parish and gallery. Artists are generally notified shortly after submissions are reviewed.

Should the submission be accepted, scheduling and agreements will be undertaken in dialogue with the artist or artist's representative and the vestry or subcommittee. Dates will be selected for installation/de-installation, and a gallery reception will be scheduled. Additionally, an artist may arrange to give a gallery talk, in consultation with the vestry. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Jennifer Williams at [annejennx@gmail.com](mailto:annejennx@gmail.com).

These guidelines may be amended with approval of the gallery committee and the vestry. Due to requirements for building security, gallery access is limited to specified times. Information will be posted to the Undercroft Gallery Facebook and Instagram pages and the church's website, [ceclax.org](http://ceclax.org).

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