The Arts Alive SDSU Discovery Series is an annual selection of university produced art exhibits, performances, and film screenings that explore critical issues through the transformative lens of the creative arts. Designed to intersect with contemporary studies in the humanities and sciences, the Discovery Series promotes the arts as an inclusive and impactful research practice that is integral to a comprehensive education. Arts Alive SDSU will support six to eight Discovery Series projects per academic year (three to four per semester) in the maximum amount of $2500 each. The funds may be used for such expenses as visiting guest artists, venue rental, production materials, community programming, etc. In addition to the funds, Arts Alive SDSU will provide Discovery Series events with a robust marketing and public relations campaign, including the custom design of an original graphics package with printed and/or digital collateral, feature articles to be published in PSFA Stories and promoted to local periodicals, professional photographic and video documentation, and prominent representation on Arts Alive SDSU social media.

ELIGIBILITY

• To be considered for selection in the Arts Alive SDSU Discovery Series, the proposed event must meet the following qualifications:
  • The event must be led by a faculty member of any rank within a designated arts area, including those with tenured, tenure-track, lecturer, or hourly appointments in the School of Art + Design, the Creative Writing Program, the School of Music & Dance, or the School of Theatre, Television, and Film.
  • The event must be based in the university curriculum and include enrolled students whose participation earns them credit in an academic program of study.
  • The event must address a sociopolitical or cultural theme relevant to a critical dialogue taking place at regional, national, or global levels (e.g., racial and class conflict, gender identity, immigration and border politics, environmental issues, public health and wellness, etc.).
  • The exhibit, performance, or screening must be open to the public and must be complemented by an interdisciplinary panel discussion or open forum that may take place either during the event or in a classroom, studio, or laboratory setting before or after the event.
  • The faculty lead must collaborate with a colleague from a department in the humanities and/or sciences to situate the arts event into a broader spectrum of the curriculum and campus life.

APPLICATION

• Applications, which are limited to one per faculty member, must include the following components:
  • Name, School or Department, and contact information of faculty lead
  • Name, School or Department, and contact information of collaborator in humanities or sciences
  • Course numbers, titles, and catalog descriptions of all related curriculum
  • Tentative date(s) and location of event, which must be confirmed upon selection
  • Project overview (not to exceed 500 words):
    o Title and genre of event
    o Summary of event, including sociopolitical or cultural issues to be addressed
    o Possible themes and participants for interdisciplinary panel discussions
    o Description of student activities and projected learning outcomes
    o Anticipated value and impact of event
    o Budget outline (maximum $2500)
Discovery Series
Call for Proposals
Academic Year 2020/21

CRITERIA FOR REVIEW
The Selection Committee will evaluate and rank the proposals according to the following criteria:

- relevance of theme to critical dialogues taking place on campus and in the community
- level of innovation, inclusiveness, and impact of proposed project
- qualifications of the applicant and collaborator(s) to realize the production
- potential for sustained transdisciplinary collaboration between areas of study
- clarity and value of student involvement and projected learning outcomes
- appropriateness of scope and budget

Special consideration will be given to:

- the even disbursement of artistic disciplines
- measured calendar spacing
- projects that address themes unique to SDSU or the San Diego region
- potential for community engagement
- faculty who have not yet received funding from Arts Alive SDSU

SELECTION COMMITTEE
The Discovery Series Selection Committee comprises the following membership:

- Chair of Arts Alive SDSU
- Public Affairs and Communication Specialist of Arts Alive SDSU
- PSFA Director of Communication
- Associate Chief Diversity Officer for Faculty Success
- Student Representative of Associated Students
- 3 Arts Faculty Members at Large

TIMELINE
November 1, 2019: Call for Proposals
February 21, 2020: Application deadline
February 21–March 2, 2020: Review of applications
March 2, 2020: Meeting of Selection Committee
March 6, 2020: Announcement of 2020–2021 Discovery Series selections and awards

Please click here to complete the online application

* All applications must be approved by the School Director, who must confirm that the course associated with the proposed event will appear in the class schedule. Please download this verification form for the Director to sign and return to Arts Alive SDSU. The form may be emailed to Eric Smigel.

Please direct any questions concerning the Discovery Series to Eric Smigel (Chair, Arts Alive SDSU) at esmigel@sdsu.edu. APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 21, 2020.