

Davis Gallery Exhibition Proposal Application 2026-2027



The University of Denver's Davis Gallery is a student-powered initiative for creative projects located off the lobby in Shwayder Art Building. The Davis Gallery was founded in the name of Helen Davis, a generous supporter of the arts, with additional funding from LinkAGES, fostering inter-generational connections. Constructed during the 2021-2022 academic year, the space first opened to the public in January 2022.

The Davis Gallery is oriented towards student professional development, community collaborations, and experimental exhibitions. By providing a safe space to show works and share ideas, the gallery hopes to facilitate exciting conversations and opportunities for the DU campus community and beyond.

Exhibition proposals are reviewed annually by the Davis Gallery Committee. If you are interested in submitting an exhibition proposal for the Davis Gallery, please complete the following application and submit it to davisgallery@du.edu by noon on Monday, April 13, 2026.

Davis Gallery Exhibition Proposal Application

2026-2027

Please submit this completed application via email to the Davis Gallery (davisgallery@du.edu) no later than 12:00 pm Mountain Time, Monday, April 13, 2026.

Contact and Timeline Information

Exhibition Organizer(s)

Email(s)

Phone Number(s)

Preferred Contact Method

Undergraduate and graduate student applicants must have a faculty advisor. The advisor must email a brief statement of support to the Davis Gallery Committee (davisgallery@du.edu) by the application due date.

Faculty Advisor

Faculty Advisor Email

The Davis Gallery Committee reviews proposals every year with approximately two exhibitions per quarter. For the 2026-2027 year, the following exhibition slots are currently available. Dates are approximate and subject to change.

1. September 3 – October 11, 2026
2. October 15 – November 20, 2026
3. January 14, 2026 – February 21, 2027
4. April 1 – May 2, 2027
5. Mid-June – mid-July, 2027

Which slots would work for your exhibition? Please list your choices in order of most favorable to least favorable. Please indicate if there are any specific factors or reasons for your selections (for example, the exhibition occurs around an anniversary, coincides with another event on campus, or includes an open call). Students, you might consider if you will have a particularly heavy course load and work around that.

Exhibition Information

Title

Exhibition Statement

The exhibition statement should be about 500-700 words, explaining the scope of the exhibition. Please be as specific as possible in this statement of your curatorial vision. What are the conceptual, experimental, aesthetic, and narrative goals of your exhibition?

The Davis Gallery was created to support interdisciplinary exhibitions and programming. Please also describe how your proposal addresses at least one of the following areas. Proposals that engage with multiple values are encouraged as well.

- Student-driven (i.e., student work and/or student organized)
- Community collaboration (i.e., addresses social issues and/or engages cross-departmental partnerships)
- Relevant to the greater DU community on and off campus (student, faculty, staff, alumni)

If you need more space, please attach a separate document and indicate below.

Affiliation

Is this exhibition affiliated with any university department, coursework, or campus organization? If so, please indicate which. If you are not affiliated with any, simply write “not affiliated.”

Object Checklist or Call for Art

Please attach a preliminary object checklist. Checklist should include images (if possible), title, artist, date, medium, and dimensions for each artwork. Please also indicate whether artworks are completed or in process, and if they are in process when they will be completed. If the exhibition organizer(s) plan to ask students or community members to create art for the exhibition, please include a fully drafted call for art, and include an approximate timeline for production of artworks. Examples of checklist and call for art are included in the attached supplemental document.

Technology Needs

Please indicate any technological needs. This includes televisions/monitors, speakers, projector, etc.

Interpretation

Please share a brief overview of the interpretive plan for the exhibition. Interpretation includes wall labels, gallery guides, programming, etc. What do you want to communicate to the audience and how will you do so? This will look different for every exhibition. While some exhibitions include a lot of explanation and interpretation, others find success with very little interpretation, leaving more space for viewers to craft their own understanding.

Programming

Is there any specific programming or events that will accompany the exhibition? A performance or artist talk? Art making activity or panel discussion? All exhibitions will have a reception, typically celebrating the opening of the show.

Experience

What experiences and skills do you bring to this process that will help create a successful exhibition?

Is there anything else you would like to share with the committee?

Organizer Signature(s)

Faculty Advisor Signature
(For student organizers)

Thank you for your interest in being included in the 2026-2027 exhibition program for the Davis Gallery.

Finalists will be contacted to schedule an informal interview with the Davis Gallery staff prior to final selection. Note that being asked back for an interview does not guarantee a slot in the exhibition calendar.