



DETAILS Call for Art *Creative Spirit* Member Show



Important Dates

Application Due	September 7, 2026
Notification	September 14, 2026
Drop Off Artwork	October 11, 12 – 1 PM, and October 13, 9 - 11 AM
Exhibition Dates	October 15 – December 4, 2026
Opening for Public, GNP	October 15, 2026, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
20 th Year Party	October 23, 2026, 7 - 9 PM
Pick Up Artwork	Sunday, Dec 6, 12 - 1 PM, Monday, Dec 7, 10 AM – 1 PM

Click [HERE](#) to submit application by September 7, 2026.

Call for Member Artists

Over the past 20 years, hundreds of visual artists have exhibited their work in the Atrium. The continuous thread connecting this vibrant community is our *creative spirit*.

Our creative spirit—whether understood as magical, mystical, divine, or beyond definition—inspires us to create art.

Is it this spark that drives our divergent, complex, and deeply personal responses to the world we live in? What inspires you to create? How does your artwork reflect your unique worldview or artistic identity?

To celebrate our membership's creativity over the last 20 years, we invite you to submit artwork that visually expresses your personal *creative spirit*. Whether your piece is defined by realism, abstraction, fantasy, personal experience/feelings, function or something else, we want to receive members' artwork that showcases your unique worldview or artistic identity.

To accommodate the high number of artists and artwork, there will be both an exhibit in the Atrium and a virtual gallery on our website.

Before Submitting the Application:

1. *Collect artist and artwork information.*
 - Contact information (email, cell, mailing address)
 - Short Bio/Artist Statement
 - Portfolio URL
 - Artwork: titles, dimensions, medium, prices/not for sale
2. *Collect one to three digital images of original visual 2-D or 3-D artwork.*
 - Label each image with your last name and a brief title.

- Format as JPEG. The dimensions of each file should be high resolution images - at least 1400 pixels on a side and at least 800 KB.

3. *Optional – Submit a favorite quote.*

- Submit a favorite quote (someone else's or one of your quotes) in the application about the theme of creativity, the creative process, and creative spirit. The quotes may be printed on "table tents" and placed on high-top tables during the [20th Year Party for Members, Exhibiting Artists, and Supporters](#), October 23. We may use the inspirational quotes in our quarterly newsletters and bulletins, and in a virtual gallery.

4. *Renew your membership and \$25 annual dues.*

- To submit to the *Creative Spirit* Member Show, you need to be a member in good standing of *Art in the Atrium First U*. The Membership Year is 7/1/26 - 6/30/27. To pay your \$25 annual dues, click [HERE](#). Scroll down to *Join/Renew Membership*. You do not need to be a member of First Unitarian Church of Providence (First U) to be a member of *Art in the Atrium First U*.

Details - Understandings

5. *Exhibition Dates*

October 15 – December 4, 2026. Gallery Hours: M - F, 9 AM - 5 PM & Sundays 9 AM - 1 PM. Location: One Benevolent Street, Providence RI 02906

6. *Two Exhibition Events*

- Opening Reception in Partnership with Gallery Night Providence
Thursday, October 15, 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Open for the public and GNP visitors. We hope all exhibiting artists attend the 20th Year Party on October 23 as well as the public reception.
- 20th Year Party for Members, Exhibiting Artists, and Supporters
Friday, October 23, 2026, 7 - 9 PM in the Atrium. It's a party! Bring your significant other. Get dressed up! Special cocktail – The Michelangellini, sweets, community, and live music with Cathy Clasper-Torch and Mary King. Click [HERE](#) for details.

7. *Celebrating Artists - Displaying Artwork*

While Atrium wall space is limited, our curatorial team works hard to design a beautiful, well-balanced exhibition. We aim to include one piece from every submitting member in the Atrium gallery space to ensure every artist is celebrated. Images of artwork that we are unable to display in the Atrium gallery will be prominently displayed in our virtual gallery on the [exhibition web page](#). The curatorial team includes Nancy Smith Worthen (coordinator), Karen Rand Anderson, Sally Barker, and Ewa Rose.

8. *Sale of Artwork*

75% of sales price goes to the artist and 25% goes to *Art in the Atrium First U* to support program expenses and a cause in the wider community. Transactions are handled by team members during the reception and exhibition period.

9. *Maximum Dimensions of 2-D or 3-D Artwork, Presentation, and Hanging Wire*

Maximum size of 2-D artwork is no greater than 30 inches, on the longest side. 2-D artwork must be suitably presented, framed with a hanging wire installed. 3-D artwork is acceptable

if the piece can stand safely on one of our nine pedestals. The base of the pedestal is about 15 x 15 in.

10. *About the Atrium Gallery*

The Atrium is a multi-purpose space at First U, One Benevolent St., Providence, RI 02906. The space is shared by different First U programs and open to the public six days a week. There is no gallery supervisor other than staff who walk through the gallery space to and from their offices. Click [HERE](#) (on any diamond image) to view a slide show of the gallery space.

11. *Liability Waiver Agreement*

Exhibiting artists assume all responsibility for loss or damage to their artwork displayed at First U resulting from vandalism, theft, fire, natural disaster or any other cause. First U makes no representations, nor warranties, regarding the level of security in any of its buildings.

12. *Drop-Off Artwork in Atrium*

October 11, 2026, 12 – 1 PM, and October 13, 2026, 9 - 11 AM

13. *Atrium Entrance and First U Parking*

Entrance is on One Benevolent St., Providence, RI 02906.

Parking: There are three visitor parking spaces in the parking lot accessed from Benefit Street. You might find 2 or 3-hr street parking along Benefit and surrounding streets. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about parking at First U.

14. *Publicity and Communications*

By submitting images of your artwork to Art in the Atrium First U and First U, exhibiting artists grant First U permission to feature the images in our publicity and communications, including our website, newsletters, bulletins, Facebook page, and *First U Times*. Art in the Atrium First U promotes the exhibition/opening reception on our website, Facebook page, newsletters, bulletins, and First U media. In every instance, copyright remains with the artist. Exhibiting artists are encouraged to promote the exhibition/opening reception with their friends, family, and followers using email/social media. A graphic image and information about the exhibition opening reception will be available several weeks before the opening.

15. *Pick Up*

Sunday, December 6, 12 - 1 PM, Monday, December 7, 10 AM – 1 PM. There is no storage space at First U for artwork. If artists/buyers can't pick up on these dates, please make alternate arrangements. Art in the Atrium First U reserves the right to donate or dispose artwork that is not picked up 14 days after the pick-up dates/times.

Website www.aitafirstu.org

Questions? Email admin@aitafirstu.org