

Artwork for Equity 2023 Competition Instructions

2023 Program Sponsors



Dear young artists and designers,

Creative Reaction Lab's mission is to educate and engage Black and Latino/a/x/e youth to apply a health, racial equity, and design lens to community challenges impacting the life expectancy of both races. We further understand that the power of youth activism is a continually growing force that is essential in dismantling the current systems of oppression. To create systems-wide change, we're taking the approach of a youth-led, community-centered advocacy campaign using art and design as a means of promoting inclusion, equity, liberation, and justice for all races.

To build awareness around educational inequities, **we're looking for young artists and designers.** Through our 2023 themes - "Miseducated" and "Ancestor's Vote"- we're working to raise consciousness around historical and contemporary forms of limited access to educational resources and voting suppression impacting Black and Latino/a/x/e communities in the United States, while also highlighting resistance movements and achievements. We aim to inspire people to not only challenge barriers in education and inaccessible access to voting, but to also advocate for cultural and political shifts that establish equity for those who have been most harmed by one of the key pillars of our society. Your voice is central to this movement, and your artwork will be used to inspire people to participate.



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Antionette Carroll".

Antionette Carroll
President and CEO

acarroll@creativereactionlab.com

Competition Sections

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What is Artwork for Equity?



About Artwork for Equity

Creative Reaction Lab's *Artwork for Equity* Advocacy Campaign Program was launched in 2017 in recognition of the United Nation's *International Day of Elimination of Racial Discrimination*. In support of our work for racial and health equity, *Artwork for Equity* will select young Black and Latino/a/x/e designers and artists (26 and under) to produce original artwork promoting inclusion, equity, liberation, and justice for all races. **The Creative Reaction Lab (CRXLAB) team aims to support and equip youth artists and designers with the necessary training and skill that allow youth to leverage their artistic talents as a form of activism to create transformative change.**



2023 THEMES

Miseducated and Ancestor's Vote

The 2023 program themes are **"Miseducated"** and **"Ancestor's Vote"**. The primary goals of the 2023 campaign are to (1) raise consciousness around historical and current-day forms of limited access to educational resources and opportunities and voting suppression that impact Black and Latino/a/x/e communities in the United States and (2) highlight resistance movements and achievements led by youth in educational and voting spaces.



”

My biggest takeaway from participating in this program was that I was able to create art that had a message and that was used for a purpose and I'm grateful for this opportunity to be able to use my art in this capacity.

-Temidayo Famakinwa, 2020 Artwork for Equity Campaign Artist

”

Who is eligible to participate?

Artist/Designer Criteria

Criteria #1

Youth participants must be 26 years old and younger

Criteria #2

Participants must identify as Black and/or Latino/a/x/e

Criteria #3

Each applicant can submit up to 5 original ideas

What kind of artwork can be submitted?

The following types of mediums are eligible for consideration:

Visual Arts

Paintings, drawings, illustrations, digital art, and photography that align with the competition's themes.

Sculptures and Installations

3D artworks for example pottery, wood work, or castings.

Multimedia Art

Video art, animations, and interactive installations conveying messages of inclusivity and equality.

Eligible Mediums (continued)

Fashion Design

Includes clothing, jewelry, shoes, costume design

Written Art

Poetry, spoken word, music/song and short written pieces that address equity issues and promote empathy.

**What kind of content makes a
successful artwork submission?**

A strong idea will address some or all of the following elements:

Consciousness

Raises consciousness of historical and/or contemporary forms of education inequities and/or disparities impacting Black and Latinx communities in the United States

Celebration

Celebrates youth-led acts of resistance to education inequities in the United States

Mobilization

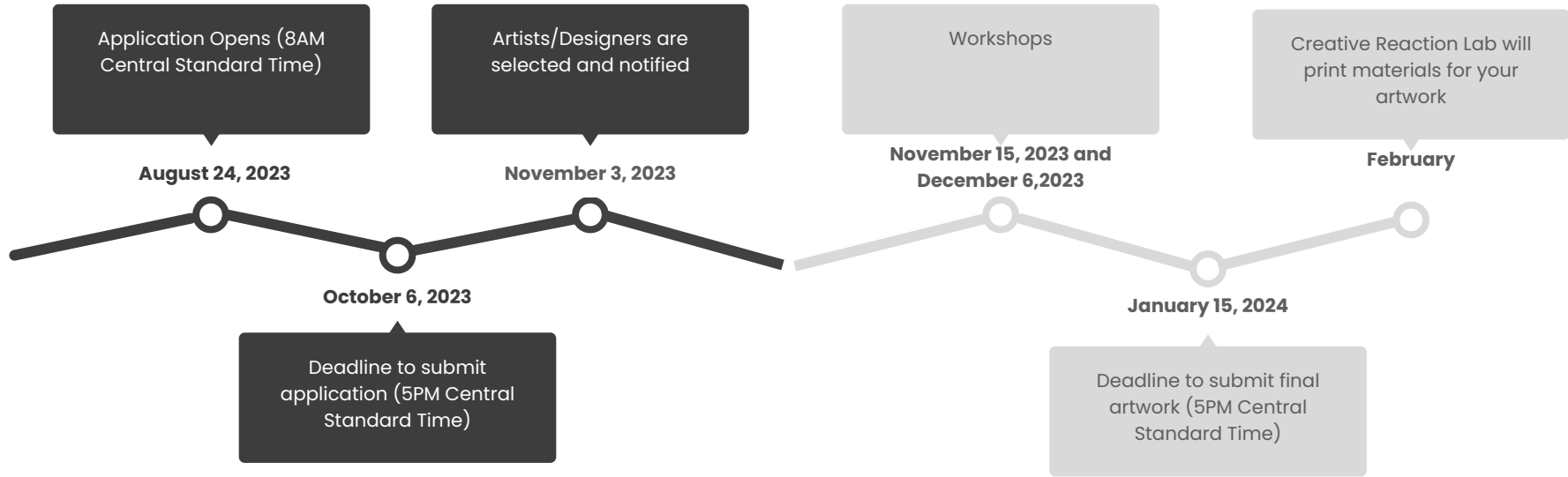
Informs, educates, and mobilizes youth to be racially and ethnically conscious and informed leaders for civic engagement

Artwork Parameters

- **Originality:** Submissions must be original works created by the participants. Plagiarism or copyright infringement will result in disqualification.
- **Theme Alignment:** Artworks should clearly relate to the themes of equity, inclusivity, and social justice, inspiring meaningful dialogue and reflection. Most importantly, submissions should be aligned with the voting rights and or education equity themes indicated above.
- **Size and Format:** For 2D artworks, the preferred dimensions are within 24x36 inches, and digital submissions should be high-resolution (300 dpi).
- **Multimedia Guidelines:** Multimedia and video art should be no longer than 5 minutes in duration and should be uploaded to a platform accessible via a link (YouTube, Vimeo, mp3, mp4 file etc.).
- **Language:** Written art pieces can be in any language, but an English translation must be provided for non-English entries.

What is the timeline?

Application Dates and Deadlines



What happens if my art idea is chosen?

Artwork Distribution

Artists and designers have the opportunity to obtain technical digital design assistance to help develop their ideas, bring them to life, and create final versions of their artwork. Final versions of the selected artwork will be published in the form of **posters** and **postcards** as well as showcased in a **virtual exhibit**. The limited edition posters will be available for public purchase through our website and advocacy postcards will be nationally distributed.

Furthermore selected artists and designers will be immersed in 3-month arts, activism, and community engagement program that will further build artist and designers competency of [Equity-Centered Community Design \(ECCD\)](#)[™] and how art can be leveraged to make transformative change.

Finalist Artists/Designers

Each selected artist/designer will receive:

- A \$500 stipend
- A Creative Reaction Lab swag bag, including a poster of their selected artwork and a campaign postcard set (including their postcard and other selected artwork of the competition)
- Art, design, storytelling, and social justice workshops for continual personal development
- Invitation to join Creative Reaction Lab's youth network for further personal and professional development opportunities
- Inclusion of their artwork in online exhibition (and the possibility of on-the-ground pop-up exhibits)

Selected finalists must complete a terms agreement upon confirmation of participation. Selected youth artists/designers under the age of 18 must have permission granted by a parent/guardian.

How do I submit my art idea(s)?

3 ways to submit your art application

Option 1: Online

Fill out this Survey
Monkey online
application.

Option 2: Email

Complete a PDF copy of the
application and email to
artforequity@crxlab.org with
the subject line written as
“Artwork for Equity 2023 – Art
Proposal,[first & last name]”

Option 3: Mail-in

Mail-in a physical copy of
the application with
necessary supplemental
materials to:

3224 Locust Street
Suite 301
St. Louis, MO 63103

Submissions should include...

1. Attachment of a sketch, design, or art piece for each idea you wish to submit. You may submit up to five separate ideas for the campaign.
([Examples of sketches for reference.](#))
 - a. If you complete the SurveyMonkey form or email your application, you will digitally send these attachments.
 - b. If you mail an application, please attach physical paper copies of your sketch.
2. Each idea must be accompanied by a brief description that explains how it responds to the theme of Miseducated or Ancestor's Vote [Maximum of 200 words as a written response or a maximum length of a 2-minute video].

Submissions should include... (continued)

3. Your contact and demographic information.
4. Responses to short answer questions about equity, creativity, and civic engagement.

The deadline to submit your idea(s) is October 6, 2023 at 5pm CST.

Rights and Responsibilities

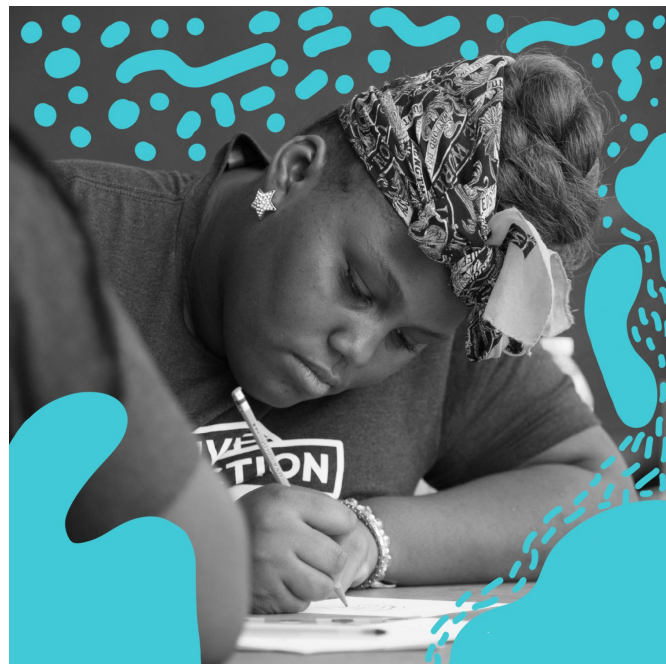
- Contributing artists/designers retain the copyright for their original artworks, but grant their free, perpetual use by Creative Reaction Lab for promotional, educational, commercial, and fundraising activities online, in print, and in other forms.
- In consideration of the collective advocacy nature of this project, it is understood that the artist/designer is granting Creative Reaction Lab a perpetual license to exhibit, promote, and repurpose their selected image(s) on creativereactionlab.com and in other promotional materials.
- Artwork will always be accompanied with due credit to the contributing artist/designer.

About Creative Reaction Lab

OUR MISSION

Creative Reaction Lab's mission is to **educate, train, and challenge** Black and Latinx youth to become leaders in designing healthy and racially equitable communities in the United States. We recognize that youth have been the primary architects for change, and so their voices must remain at the center of dismantling racial and health inequities in historically underinvested communities.

Visit crxlab.org to learn more.



Copy of Artwork for Equity Application Questions [READ ONLY]

**Thank you for applying for Creative Reaction Lab's
Artwork for Equity 2023 Program!
The finalists will be selected and notified
via email on November 6th, 2023**

If you have any questions, contact us at
artforequity@crxlab.org.