



Queer is . . . ?

Call for submissions!

You may remember this call from more than a year ago. The show was delayed for obvious reasons. But we are now excited to be able to be organizing the show for 2021, during Pride Month in Merced- June 2021. The show will kick off on the day the City will be raising a Pride flag in Bob Hart Square for the month, thanks to diligent advocacy by the Merced LGBTQ+ Alliance.

“Queer is . . . ?” will be a group exhibition at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center, showcasing queer artists, especially students, from Merced County and nearby. All artists identifying as LGBTQ+ are invited to submit proposals for and examples of **performance art, video art, and all the visual arts** including **drawing, comics, illustration, painting, and sculpture**. Also, **poetry**, which can be exhibited in large, poster format, and can also be performed.

Performances can be scheduled for the day of the reception, or any of the weekends the exhibit runs. Programming, also in the format of panel discussions and lectures are also planned for each weekend in the afternoons.

Exhibit runs: June 1st to July 9th, 2021 (with COVID protocols continuing to evolve) Reception:

June 1st, 2021, time TBD (dependent upon flag raising ceremony)

Submissions and proposals should answer the question of what “queer” means to them.

A focus will be on materials that are at least somewhat educational to the everyday person. Submissions that explain, illustrate or elucidate facets of the queer experience for all audiences will have priority. This is not to say that the work should not be challenging. Difficult and controversial subject matter are encouraged, especially if they give the viewer a greater or wider understanding of the topic.

All participants are welcomed to have documents that explain their works, which will also be displayed in whatever format makes sense.

All visual art must be ready to hang.

All photographs must be framed and ready to hang.

Historical works are also encouraged, such as photographs from key moments in queer history, explanatory timelines, and very brief essays will also be considered. This exhibit strives to have participation from artists of all ages, and all identities. Conversations about intersectionality are encouraged, as well.

The deadline for submissions and proposals is **May 19th, 2021**. There is no fee to submit your art or proposal. Please email ***eli.sachse@gmx.com*** with a brief, 3 sentence introduction to who you are, what school you are at if applicable, and/or what your current practice looks like. Please include how you identify with the LGBTQ+ community, and have lived experience as such. This information will remain strictly confidential if you wish it to.

Attach no more than two examples of visual art in small .jpg or .pdf format. Links to work online preferred, especially videos. Please do not send attached videos: send a description of your video if it is not hosted online, and how to view it can then be arranged. Poems can be sent copy-pasted directly into the email. If you are a poet and would like to perform, please email ASAP regarding that, regardless of whether or not you have a finished poem that fits with the theme. Just be sure you will have one finished that fits the theme by June!

Contact: Eli Sachse
eli.sachse@gmx.com
(707) 347-6802