CFAA Online Exhibition Open Call Guideline 2026

Making Room for One Another: From Encounter to Collective Creation

Organizer: Chinese Feminist Artists Alliance (CFAA)
Exhibition Format: Online exhibition
Submission Period: October 5th - November 5th , 2026
Submission Fee: $10 per applicant, for up to 3 works
Submission Link: http://chinesefaa.org/online-exhibition-opencall
Contact Email: chinesefeministartists@gmail.com

About the Exhibition

The Chinese Feminist Artists Alliance (CFAA) is launching the online exhibition "Making Room for One Another: From Encounter to Collective Creation." This exhibition invites submissions from around the world of artworks created from feminist perspectives. It focuses on women; identity and labels; the evolving definitions of boundaries and belonging; experiences of isolation, relational imbalance, and community exclusion; as well as collective creation and shared imagination.

Creative space may refer to physical space, time, and materials. It also includes the right to make autonomous choices, room to try and fail, and the possibility of expressing complex experiences without being rushed into judgment. Creative space also emerges within relationships. Attentive listening, equal dialogue, and the sharing of knowledge and resources can all expand one's creative possibilities. "Making room for one another" means that, through concrete actions, we can make space for the expression of others while respecting one another's differences, boundaries, and independence.

We welcome records of real relationships, as well as explorations of connections not yet formed through fiction, material experimentation, or participatory practice. Works may present the strength brought by mutual support, or discuss fatigue, disagreement, and inequality within relationships.

“Making Room for One Another” is an invitation: to let artworks encounter one another, to let experiences receive responses, and to create the conditions for connections to keep growing. Beginning with this exhibition, we hope to connect individual creative practices and explorations, gradually forming an art community built through shared participation. This exhibition aims to be a starting point where works across regions and cultures can meet, and where encounters can develop into ongoing dialogue, support, and collective creation.

As an art alliance still in the process of development, CFAA hopes this exhibition will open up longer-term exchange and collaborative growth. Online encounters can become a starting point for shared reading, creative discussion, and future collaboration. Each participant may also bring new questions, knowledge, and methods. We look forward to thinking together with artists and cultural workers from different regions about how a feminist art community can take shape through concrete action.

Creative Directions

The following directions are provided for reference. Other feminist interpretations are also welcome.

1. Making Space for Oneself

Consider: How can women gain their own time, bodily autonomy, voice, and creative space?

Works may address personal boundaries, identity, solitude, work and care, and the freedom to express and choose.

2. Between One Another

Consider: Why do isolation, community exclusion, and relational imbalance occur? How can listening, support, and understanding be sustained?

Works may explore intergenerational relationships, mutual support, and cross-cultural connections, and may also discuss disagreement, fatigue, and inequality within relationships.

3. The Places We Create Together

Consider: What kind of feminist art community do you hope to build?

Works may focus on collaborative practices, collective memory, digital communities, knowledge sharing, and imagined futures for relationships and public space.

Who May Apply

- Applicants must be at least 18 years old. There are no restrictions on nationality, place of residence, or career stage.
- Individuals and artist collectives may apply. Artist collectives must designate one contact person.
- Artists and creators who identify with feminist values are welcome, regardless of gender identity.
- Students, emerging artists, and professional artists with exhibition experience are all welcome.
- Applicants do not need to have a Chinese background or be CFAA members.

Works should establish a clear connection with the exhibition theme. We value perspectives shaped by different cultures and lived experiences, and do not require previous exhibition experience or professional academic credentials.

Accepted Works

We accept painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, ceramics, sculpture, textiles, installation, digital art, video, sound, performance art, and interdisciplinary works. Three-dimensional works, installations, and performance art may be submitted through photographic or video documentation.

This exhibition will be presented through a digital platform. No physical works need to be mailed.

Submission Materials and File Requirements

1. Applicant Information

- Name or artist name;
- Country/region and city;
- Contact email;
- Artist biography: no more than 200 Chinese characters or 150 English words;
- Website or social media links, if any.

2. Artwork Information

Each applicant may submit up to 3 works. For each work, please provide:

- Title;
- Year of creation;

- Medium and materials;
- Dimensions, or duration for video/audio works;
- Work statement: no more than 300 Chinese characters or 200 English words, introducing the content of the work and its connection to the exhibition theme.

If a series is submitted as one work, please explain the relationship among its parts and provide an image of the overall presentation.

3. Image Files

- Format: JPEG or PNG
- Recommended longest side: at least 2,000 pixels
- Each image should be no larger than 10 MB; sRGB color mode is recommended
- Up to three images may be submitted for each work, including an overall view and necessary details
- Images should clearly and accurately present the work. Please avoid decorative borders or promotional text unrelated to the work.

Recommended file naming: ArtistName_WorkTitle_Number.

4. Video, Audio, and Performance Documentation

- Please provide a directly accessible online preview link; include the password if one is required
- Indicate the total duration of the work and provide a cover image
- For works longer than 10 minutes, please also provide a review excerpt of no more than 5 minutes, along with a link to the full version
- Works containing dialogue or important text are recommended to include Chinese or English subtitles; sound works are recommended to include a transcript

After selection, CFAA will confirm with the artist the file format and presentation method suitable for online exhibition.

Submission Fee

Each application requires a fee of $10, and for group submissions made as one joint application, the fee is also $10.

The submission fee does not guarantee selection. Once an application is completed and enters the review process, the fee is non-refundable. Duplicate payments or mistaken charges caused by technical issues may be verified and handled by contacting the organizer. No additional online exhibition fee will be charged after selection.

Application Steps

1. Read the exhibition theme, eligibility, and submission requirements.
2. Prepare your biography, artwork files, and work statements.
3. Submit the online application and pay the $10 submission fee.
4. Submit the applicant and artwork information by email.
5. Watch for the confirmation email. If you do not receive it, please check your spam folder or contact the organizer.

Please complete all materials and payment before the deadline. Files that cannot be opened, invalid links, or missing required information may affect the review.

- ✧ Email: chinesefeministartists@gmail.com
- ✧ WeChat：18957085968 (Fanqin)
- ✧ Zelle：rswzg@aol.com (Zhen Guo)

Review and Result Notification

Works will be reviewed by a jury organized by CFAA. The main considerations include:

- Relevance to the exhibition theme and depth of interpretation, as well as engagement with feminist issues, relationships, or collective creation
- Distinctiveness of artistic language and completeness of expression
- Effectiveness of presentation in a digital environment

Not all submissions will be selected. The jury may select only some of the works submitted by an applicant for exhibition. CFAA membership does not affect the selection results.

All applicants will be notified of the results by email after the review is completed. Selected artists must confirm participation according to the notification and submit any necessary final files.

Important Dates

Open Call: October 5-November 5, 2026
Submission Deadline: November 5, 2026, 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time
Review Period: November 6-15, 2026
Result Notification: No later than November 15, 2026
Online Exhibition: November 20, 2026-January 20, 2027

How Selected Works Will Be Presented

Selected works will be displayed in the CFAA online exhibition, together with the artist's name, artwork information, and related introduction. Artists may voluntarily provide personal websites or social media links so that audiences can learn more about their practice. CFAA will introduce the exhibition and selected participating works through official communication channels according to the overall curatorial arrangement. The specific presentation format will be confirmed with artists after selection.

Artwork Rights and Exhibition Authorization

Artists retain the copyright to their works. Applicants must confirm that they have the right to submit the works and have obtained any necessary permissions involving collaborators or third-party materials.

Submission materials will be used only for the review of this exhibition. After selection, CFAA will confirm with the artist a non-exclusive authorization for use in this online exhibition, related promotion, and exhibition archive, with the artist and artwork information credited. If adjustments, cropping, or excerpts are needed, CFAA will confirm with the artist in advance. If a work involves private experiences or sensitive information of identifiable individuals, please confirm that appropriate consent has been obtained and avoid disclosing information that may harm the privacy of those involved.

Let Connections Continue: Learn About the CFAA Membership Program

An exhibition allows us to meet through artworks. CFAA hopes these exchanges can continue beyond the exhibition through reading groups, art discussions, and exhibition activities, creating ongoing opportunities for dialogue among members from different regions.

Interested applicants are welcome to learn more about the membership program, share the kinds of support they hope to receive, and indicate the exchanges they would like to participate in. Membership is entirely voluntary. The submission fee is not a membership fee, and selection is not conditional upon joining as a member. Whether to receive membership information can be selected separately in the application form.

From one encounter, we begin to create space for one another.