

How to Write an Artist Statement for Galleries at Lynn Arts

What is an artist statement? - The How, What, and Why of your work. It is not a biography or CV.

Why an artist statement? – It provides context and frame of reference for viewers and buyers.

Where will it be displayed in GALA? – A binder perusable by the visiting public will be available in the Main Gallery. There will be instances when you will be asked for a shortened version to be displayed on the wall next to your work.

Your artist statement should contain:

Top: Your name

Middle: 1 to 3 paragraphs of statement

Bottom: Contact information (if you feel comfortable - if not, buyer can leave their contact info with our gallery staff, who will then contact you). Additionally any social media handles and/or your website.

We accept the following formats:

Word document or pdf file. Please attach the file to your email to galleriesatlynnarts@gmail.com

We print your artist statement on basic office printers. Please NO: images, very intricate fonts, fancy backgrounds or finicky formatting. We love your artistic vision, but these fun touches are best left for you to *print yourself and deliver when dropping off artwork*. Print only on 8.5x11" paper, portrait format.

Tips: (It helps to do it in several steps.)

1. **Brainstorming**, write down all words that seem to make sense
2. **Pick** out 5 - 10 words most applicable to your artwork, process and/or practice
3. **Thinking** about the words from step 2 ask yourself:
How do you make your art? Is there a particular medium or process you use? Do you work in a studio, kitchen, outdoors etc.? **What** is your art all about? Is it abstract, figurative, landscape, recycled materials etc.? **Why** do you make it? Do you want to present something of beauty, make a statement, confront an audience or explore an idea or specific subject?
4. **Start writing**. Don't worry about length at all at this point. (End product should be **1 page only**.)
5. **Edit**. Condense. Rinse and repeat, always trying to formulate things more clearly and easier to understand. Nobody gets an award for using fancy and overly complicated words here, you want to get your point across to a reader even when the gallery is noisy and full of distractions.
6. **Get feedback** from friends and family, other artists if possible.
7. **There is no wrong way. You as an artist are unique, and your artist statement should reflect who you are.**

Links for more info on artist statements:

<https://thecreativeindependent.com/guides/how-to-write-an-artist-statement/#statement>

<https://www.gyst-ink.com/artist-statement-guidelines>

<https://artdex.com/art-guide/the-complete-guide-to-writing-an-artist-statement-in-2020/>

<https://www.format.com/magazine/resources/art/how-to-write-artist-statement>