



MK Calling 2024 – Quick Read

This is an application pack for MK Gallery's open call exhibition MK Calling.

What is MK Calling?

MK Calling is an **open call** exhibition. This means that artists can apply to have their work on display at MK Gallery, as part of a **group exhibition**.

For MK Calling 2024, **five local groups** have each **chosen a different theme** for the five Gallery spaces at MK Gallery. They will then each **select the artworks** for one of the Gallery spaces and **help to curate** the exhibition in it with support from the team at MK Gallery.

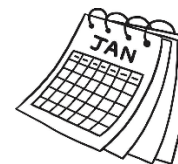
Deadlines

Artists working in **any medium** are welcome to apply for MK Calling. You could also apply as an **artist collective** or as a **group of artists working collaboratively**.

The deadline to submit your application for MK Calling is **midnight 30th November 2023.**



If your application is successful, you will be contacted in **January 2024.**



MK Calling will be open to the public at MK Gallery from **21st June 2024 – mid-September 2024.**

How do you submit your application?

Submissions to MK Calling should be made via this

link <https://zealous.co/mkgallery1/opportunity/MK-Calling-2024/>

On a website called **Zealous.**

You can submit up to 3 artworks to the open call.

You will need to **choose which theme relates the most to your artwork.** You can choose up to 3 if you think it relates to more than one theme.

The community groups will be choosing artworks based on the only the information you submit in your application.

You can **submit up to 3 images** of each artwork.

All images should be:

- **submitted as JPEGs with a maximum file size of 1MB at a resolution of 300dpi.** No other file formats will be accepted.
- Each image file must be **named with your surname, first name and a number e.g. SmithJohn1.jpg.**

You can also **upload audio and video artwork files to YouTube or Vimeo** and paste links to these into your application.



Please supply a sample of your artwork for us to watch with the community groups when we meet to select the artworks. **This can be a maximum of 2 minutes long.**



You can supply links to full length audio/video artwork files too, to support your application too.

You will also need to submit some information about yourself. This could be in a **written CV, maximum 2 sides of A4 in length.** Or, it could be in a **video or audio recording, maximum 2 minutes in length** if you'd prefer.



You will need to complete a Recruitment Monitoring Form too, which you can download at the bottom of the MK Calling 2024 Zealous page.

This form is managed separately from your application and should be uploaded as part of your application form on Zealous. The information you share on this form helps us to see how open and inclusive we are in our recruitment process.



Who are the local groups?

MK SNAP - MK SNAP provides a leading programme of education, life skills, work preparation and opportunities for work to learning disabled adults aged 18+, giving them the skills to realise their potential.



Q:Alliance – Q:Alliance is a registered charity that provides support, information and representation for the LGBTQ+ people who live, work and play in Milton Keynes and Bedford.



VIP group – A group of friends living with sight loss.



Unknown Collective - A group of 26-year-old creatives, who have previously worked together with MK Gallery.



Middle Eastern Cultural Group - The Middle East Cultural Group has been an active community in Milton Keynes since 2009. They provide social activities and language tuition to people from the Middle East arriving here as immigrants or refugees.



What are the themes?

Theme 1: Identity

This group are thinking about exploring ideas of:

- Who I am
- What makes you, you
- Your personal interests
- Your culture
- Equality
- Embracing differences
- Disability

The group is interested in **the sensory qualities of your artwork**, including sound, taste, smell, sight, and touch.

Theme 2: Seeing Differently

This group are thinking about exploring ideas of:

- Using all your senses
- Challenging perceptions
- Barriers
- Accessibility
- Artistic vision
- Experiencing artwork up close

The group asks artists to submit **work which can be experienced through touch, sound and/or smell**. This means you are **consenting for your artwork to be touched by visitors**. We require that artworks be robust.

Theme 3: Possible Unknowns

This group are thinking of exploring ideas of:

- What makes art human?
- Adaptation
- The uncanny
- Speculative fiction
- What doesn't exist?
- Whose reality?
- World building

Theme 4: First Steps

This group are thinking of exploring ideas of:

- Small things that have made a big impact on you e.g. coming out to your family, your first kiss
- Life experiences
- Finding ways to tell your story

Theme 5: Third Culture Kids

They are thinking of exploring ideas of:

- Tradition
- Heritage
- National Identity
- Storytelling

The group asks artists to submit work sharing stories of heritage, influence from first generations, migration and cultural influences.

Terms and Conditions

No fee is required to enter.



If you do not always have access to the internet, or would prefer to submit your application by post, there is a printable application pack at the bottom of the Zealous opportunity. Please telephone MK Gallery for assistance on 01908 676 900.



Please bear in mind that the curating groups will be making their selection of artworks from the material submitted only.

Please do not send additional catalogues, photographs or other material in support of your application to the Gallery as it cannot be reviewed by the curation groups. It is also not possible to return any such materials to you.



Please note that for administrative reasons, **only applications providing all requested information in the format we have asked for it in can be considered.**

We are unable to supply feedback on unsuccessful applications. Selection decisions are final.



Video and audio artworks may be displayed on a loop with other artworks.



Artists submitting artwork to the 'Seeing Differently' theme consent for their artwork(s) to be touched by some visitors. We ask that artworks are robust enough for this to happen.



Selected artists will be responsible for cost of transport of artworks to and from MK Gallery before and after the exhibition. No artworks can be dropped off at MK Gallery until artists are invited to deliver them for exhibition. Artworks must be collected on specified dates once the exhibition has closed.

Artworks should be prepared and ready for display (e.g. framed, or PAT tested) before being sent to MK Gallery for exhibition.

Artworks will be insured by MK Gallery whilst on our premises.

Copyright remains with the artist, however by submitting to the exhibition the artist agrees to these Terms and Conditions. If selected, images of their work included in the



submission may be used by MK Gallery for marketing, press and promotional materials online and in print **at any time**.

If you have any questions about your application, or any of the information above, please contact:

Info@mkgallery.org / 01908 676 900.