

James W. and Lois I.

Richmond Center for Visual Arts

AT HOME IN THE STUDIO

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Western Michigan University's Richmond Center for Visual Arts invites submissions of image + text for a project called *At Home in the Studio*. Our goal is to create a widely ranging online catalog featuring the studio spaces of WMU Frostic School of Art students, faculty and staff, as well as students, faculty, and staff working in a range of disciplines across the College of Fine Arts and within the greater WMU and Kalamazoo arts community.



Photos: Studio of Linda Rzoska, Ninth Wave Studio. Photos by Linda Rzoska.

Historically the artist's studio has been characterized by phrases that equate it with something else: studio as workshop, studio as sanctuary, studio as site, or studio as laboratory. While the root of the word “studio” references the act of studying, studio life in the late 20th and early 21st century has become associated not only with private spaces of contemplation but also with production and performance. Television, the Internet, and social media have each increasingly transformed how artists reveal works in progress to the public as well as the workings of their private studio space. From TV shows such as Art 21 to such platforms as Hyperallergic’s A View from the Easel or the ever-pervasive presence of Instagram, our perception of the artist’s studio continues to expand and change.

Taking its cue from these numerous, already extant public platforms that explore concepts related to the artist’s studio, the Richmond Center invites submissions by artists, designers, writers, musicians, composers, dancers, and product designers working within Western Michigan University’s College of Fine Arts or within our larger WMU and Kalamazoo community. We hope that by collating an expansive cross-section of what studio spaces look like for WMU and Kalamazoo-based artists, we can represent one critical aspect of the creative process in our immediate community.



*HOW DOES THE STUDIO FUNCTION
AS A CRITICAL ASPECT OF
YOUR CREATIVE PROCESS?*

HOW TO SUBMIT

- 1. One photo (JPG format, 25 MB max) of your workspace.** No need for the image to focus on a particular work. What we're really looking for here is the feeling of your work space, its mood, aura as well as the physical layout and what you see there on a typical day. Wide-angle photos might be ideal but are not required. Drawings and paintings or other kinds of digital renderings of your work space are also welcome.
- 2. A short narrative describing what we're looking at in the image of your studio and how your work space relates to your process and practice. Please limit your narrative to 250 words. Longer versions will not be accepted.** While we don't have specific content in mind for this narrative, prompts and questions might include: Is your studio in the home where you live? How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed your studio practice? Describe your practice and your process of making, including approaches to getting started, project completion, and editing. Metaphorically and literally, does it seem your studio space is "located" within the world, or apart from it? To what degree are you concerned with the promotion and marketing of your work? Are you mostly alone in the studio or is it a place for collaboration, dialogue, and idea exchange?
- 3. Please include your full name and your website or primary social media site if you have one.** In asking for this information, we wish to remind our participants that this project is not meant to be a form of self-promotion or self-aggrandizement. To the contrary, we intend for this project to act as a window into the lives of WMU and Kalamazoo-based artists. We want to create a platform that shares the creative process, provides a modicum of consolation and inspiration during a time loneliness, enormous change, distance, and isolation from each other.
- 4. Send all submissions to richmondcentersubmissions@gmail.com with "At Home in the Studio" in the subject line.** Submissions sent to any other email address will not be considered.

This project will premiere online in late November and continue with updates throughout 2021 and potentially even into the next academic year.

The Richmond Center for Visual Arts reserves the right to refuse any inappropriate submissions.