



# CALL FOR ARTISTS

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Submissions open through March 29th

Exhibition on display May 3rd—May 31st

810 Orcutt Rd., San Luis Obispo, CA

*Presented by*

**Transitions-Mental Health  
Association, The Bunker,  
and SLO County Arts**



In partnership with SLO County Arts, Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA) invites people of all ages to submit art inspired by personal journeys towards mental wellness for the annual *Opening Minds* art show. The exhibit will take place during the month of May in support of Mental Health Awareness Month.

*Opening Minds*, first developed in 1995, is a community art show in celebration of living mentally well. TMHA's goal with this event is to further expand community awareness about mental health and reduce the stigma of mental illness through the power of creative work. *Opening Minds* champions the idea that we should be defined by our strengths, gifts and contributions to the world rather than by any diagnosis or label.

Artists working in two- and three-dimensional fine art media are invited to submit their works of art. Whether you are recovering from a mental illness and/or substance use disorder, have a loved one who is, or would like to offer your own reflections on the theme, you are welcome to submit for this mental health focused exhibition.

We will select one work of art to be the featured piece for the event. The selected piece will be featured on all promotional and marketing materials. The featured artist will receive a stipend and recognition at the opening reception.

*Opening Minds* will be hosted by The Bunker for a second year. Nestled in San Luis Obispo's "LoBro" neighborhood, The Bunker is a fresh addition to the city's cultural landscape. With its 800-square foot gallery space, this innovative venue beckons both art enthusiasts and the local community. Conveniently located where the train tracks intersect Orcutt Road, accessibility by bike or foot enhances its inclusivity. Beyond its contemporary gallery showcasing diverse artworks, The Bunker stands as a versatile mixed-use space. Embracing a spirit of openness, the venue eagerly welcomes events and workshops of all kinds, providing a dynamic platform for creativity and community engagement in the heart of San Luis Obispo.

## GUIDELINES

- Artists may submit up to three (3) works.
- Original works in any two-dimensional or three-dimensional fine art medium.
- Three-dimensional art MUST be able to hang on the wall.
- Works must not exceed 30lbs.
- Works must not exceed dimensions of 6' by 6'
- Works must be ready-to-hang (professionally framed/wired or gallery wrapped with painted sides.
- All works must be made available for sale and not exhibited on the Central Coast within the last two years.

## ENTRY PROCEDURE

- There are no entry fees to apply.
- Submit an application at the link or QR code below.
- Please title each file name with the artist's last name and title of work, separated with an underscore.
  - Example: Smith\_untitled3.jpg
- Applicants interested in being considered as the featured artist must opt in on the electronic application.
  - Featured artist applicants are required to submit an artist statement, work description, and media release for marketing purposes.
- All applicants are encouraged to submit an artist statement, but not required. All applicants are invited to attend an artist statement and application assistance workshop hosted at Transitions-Mental Health Association on Monday, March 4th from 11:00am-1:00pm.

## JURY CRITERIA

- Excellence and skill in the execution of works
- Compelling and thoughtful artist statement that broadens audience perspective of the exhibition theme, *Opening Minds*.
- High-level of commitment to the process and creation of artwork.
- Clear, professional-quality digital images of the artwork.
- For any assistance with an artist statement and/or photography if artwork, please reach out to Clara Cobb at ccobb@t-mha.org

## SALES

The Bunker collects a 25% commission on all sales, and participating artists receive a 75% commission.

## TRANSPORTATION

If chosen for the show, artists are responsible for safe delivery to and timely pickup of work from The Bunker, located at 810 Orcutt Rd., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Drop off and pick up appointments will be announced upon selection.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All applications are due by March 29th, 2024.
- Art featured at the gallery will be selected through a jury process.
- Jury process will be conducted by representatives of Transitions-Mental Health Association, The Bunker, and SLO County Arts.

## CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding this show, please contact Clara Cobb at ccobb@t-mha.org or 805-540-6564.

## APPLY HERE:

<https://form.jotform.com/233236944628059>

