

Mental Health
Well-being Physical Disabilities
Photography Crafts Collages
Pastels
Drawing Painting
Supportive Ability
Sexuality
Gender
De-stigmatised Race

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Disabled Artists' Network

Application Guidelines for Exhibitors

Welcome

Disabled Artists' Network (DAN) is a Wolf Photography project that works to inspire people with disabilities to use some form of creativity as a coping mechanism for their disability; we exhibit art from other artists with disabilities to inspire other people to give it a go. As of May 2022, we changed all our exhibitions to a digital format.

Our main exhibition venue is Tesco Bulwell Extra, Jennison Street, Nottingham NG6 8EQ, United Kingdom. We are an independent, apolitical project. Exhibitions last 2 months.

Wolf Photography's Facebook page has over 60,000 followers and shares DAN art posts to help raise the profile of artists that exhibit with us.

We exhibit established artists as well as art enthusiasts and beginners in an effort to inspire people to try different mediums and techniques. It doesn't cost anything to exhibit with us. Please remember that this is a network, so sharing information about each other is important.

Improved access to the venue

By going totally digital in our exhibition space we have further opened up the opportunity to disabled people to exhibit with us. They won't have to bring their artwork in and it will be a less stressful experience for people with mental health difficulties, as everything can be done online, catered to individual but flexible deadlines. They also won't have to frame their work. Out of the applications, one artist will have their art and story displayed on screens 1-6 (3 screens display in portrait orientation and 3 in portrait) for 2 months. That will give them enough time to coordinate their own publicity events with their exhibition. If selected, artists can include videos of themselves being creative, photos of their journey as an artist etc.

We have an international membership without the cost of transporting artwork to us. Anyone can exhibit with us from any country, providing they have an internet connection and a mobile device with which to photograph their art. Likewise, photographers wanting to exhibit with us do not have to worry about sending us framed images for individual photography exhibitions ... and the screens have improved the way we display our poetry too.

The venue has 13 x 43" Samsung display screens and the space is approximately 380 square metres.

Advantages for established artists exhibiting with us

I believe that we should all do something for the greater good. By exhibiting with us, you are sharing your art, your soul and helping to inspire others to take up some form of creativity.

In exchange you get to exhibit at a very busy Tesco store that has a footfall of 25,000 people per week. It doesn't cost you anything and you may generate sales – for which you pay no commission. So don't forget to include your contact details on your statement. Your work will also be shown on our social media channels and our website.

Advantages for art enthusiasts

Some organisations insist on an established track record of exhibiting one's art to secure grants. This creates a 'chicken and egg' scenario for many people; how do you create an exhibition if you don't have enough money to pay to frame your pieces and/or pay the hire fee of the exhibition space? Exhibiting with DAN is a great way for an artist to launch their art career because there are no fees involved and there are no age restrictions. The youngest exhibitor we have had was 5 years old and the oldest was 86.

Anyone choosing to exhibit with us has already started to build their reputation as an artist and we've already helped a few people to establish themselves as exhibiting artists.

Eligibility

To exhibit with us you must be using some form of creativity to cope with disability...or if you have recovered, you are still using some form of creativity to continue a sense of well-being – your statement must reflect this. You can only submit pieces that you have created.

An important part of your exhibition will be a personal statement that is publicly viewable and must reflect the criteria above.

Intellectual Property Rights

Please ensure that you only submit works for which you own the Intellectual Property Rights. All images remain the Intellectual Property of the artist/applicant. By submitting the images you are authorising Disabled Artists' Network & Wolf Photography to exhibit your art at our venue, on the project website and social media channels and to use your images to publicise the work of the project (all such uses will be credited to the applicant).

We will create a story of your journey with/through disability on a PDF and we are happy to display milestones surrounding your experience. If you have multimedia videos of you creating art or receiving rewards etc – we can display those too. Videos must be 1080P in resolution and no more than 1 minute long, with no sound.

If your application is accepted, you will be invited into the Facebook exhibitors group as we take care of exhibition business there. Don't worry if you're not on Facebook, we can communicate via email.

AI Generated Art

Please be aware that any materials created purely by AI are not eligible for exhibition with us. Digital art and your own images created and altered in software by you, the creator, are permitted. You may need to submit proof as part of your application. Please state how your art was created if you're submitting photography or digital art.

Please ensure that you read the 'Application Guidelines' section below carefully.

The Application Process

1. Select between 9 and 18 Hi-rez (minimum 2000 pixels on the longest side) images of your work. Please ensure that it's a cohesive set (we will help you if you're unsure how to do this).
2. Rename every file to reflect your copyright (eg copyright_your name_silver_wolf.jpg or copyright_your name01.jpg where your art doesn't have a name) – DO NOT ADD ANY OTHER CHARACTERS or info to the filename please as they're not compatible with our writing system.
3. Please include your statement. It must say something about your disability/recovery and how creativity makes YOU FEEL (see example statement further down).

The hi-rez files are for the Samsung displays only on a closed network – not the internet. Internet versions of your files will be 800 pixels and watermarked.

Exhibition Costs & Sales Commission

There are none! If you sell your art, there are no commission charges. We would appreciate a contribution towards our running costs – but only if you're able to do so comfortably ... we don't want to cause our members any hardship. Please don't include prices in your application or statement; a potential buyer will contact you direct for this.



Above: Our Exhibition Venue

Guidance for people escaping domestic violence or political persecution etc

Personal Security and stigma are serious issues and many people don't exhibit their art, photography or poetry if they're either disabled, staying away from abusers (eg males and females suffering domestic violence) or asylum seekers etc.

If you would like to exhibit with my projects and are concerned about your safety, here is some advice:

Create a pseudonym (a false name). Authors have been doing this for generations. As long as you pay your taxes etc on works generated and don't use the name to break any laws, you should be fine...but please do seek some advice on the issue to safeguard yourself.

Buy a cheap mobile phone with a pay as you go sim and lock it to that name. Create an email address on outlook.com and again lock it to that name.

You now have an identity that you can use to exhibit your art online and on social media. Make sure that you never post any images of yourself or the area surrounding your home if you are concerned for your safety.

None of the projects run by [Wolf Photography](#) will ask you to prove who you are.

If you are still concerned and wish to discuss this further, please drop us a message via the [Facebook Page](#).

How to submit your exhibition

Please email your application to: applyDAN@outlook.com. Your images and statements must be sent to this email address as files. Please do not send links to various file share platforms or embed documents into the email they will be rejected. Please remember that this is a free service for you and we need to keep the workload and time commitment as

low as possible for our volunteers.

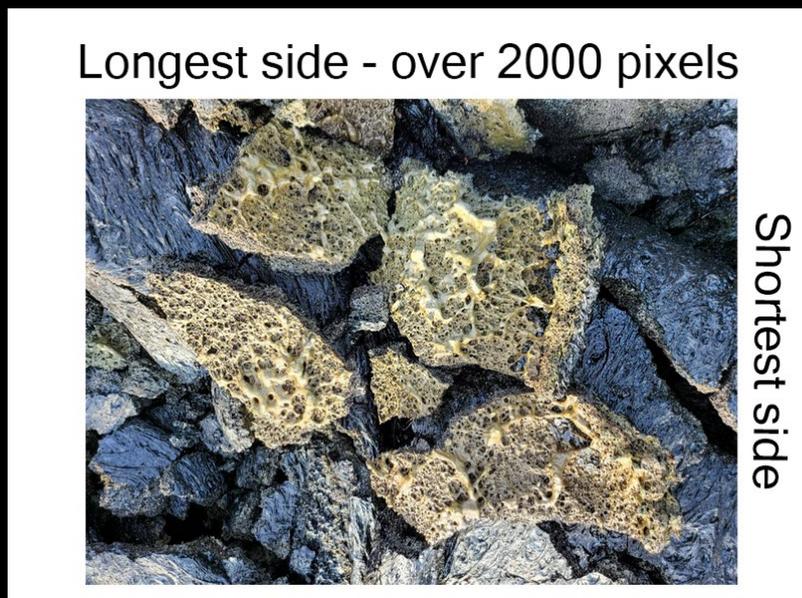
If your files are large, simply send 1 or 2 per email using the paperclip icon. The maximum capacity per individual email is 9MB for our application box and multiple emails are fine, just put your name in the subject line, so we can group the emails together. If you don't have MS Word, simply type your statement into the email.

I hope to see your application.

Villayat 'Wolf' Sunkmanitu
Proprietor
Wolf Photography

Guidelines for exhibition images

Exhibition images must be a minimum of 2000 pixels on the longest side.



Images of paintings, illustrations, drawings etc must be as square as possible, meaning that the aspect is flat. We can crop out any minor imperfections.



Please do not use flash photography unless you are an experienced photographer and know how to ensure that parts of the painting won't be over or under exposed. There must be an even light across the image. Please do not photograph any items through glass. You may wish to lay items down outside to get a nice even light – depending on the time of day and the weather.

Please be advised that we won't be editing your images for you apart from very minor cropping. It's your responsibility to submit useable images.



3-Dimensional Works

If you are submitting images of 3-Dimensional works (eg sculpture, pottery etc), you can submit images of the same item(s) from different perspectives – including a record of how the work looked at different stages. You can also show the finished piece of art in different light from different perspectives. Everyone is allowed between 9 - 18 images per application submission plus your statement.

Ambient lighting can have a nice effect on the finished works, as can the right background.

Here is an example to give you an idea of shooting from different angles but please ensure that there aren't other objects in the photograph or take your photos in such a way that the other objects enhance the subject. Your art needs to be the subject of our focus. Other items are a distraction.



Your Statement

You must also supply a statement that fits onto 1 sheet of A4 paper with Calibri size 14 font. The statement needs to be open and honest about your disability and how your creativity helps you. The purpose of the statement is to, hopefully, inspire others to take up some form of creativity to cope with disability or difficult times...or to create something to promote a sense of wellness within.

Your statement must also have your name and contact details at the bottom of the document. Please don't include prices in your statement. We do not get involved in the selling of your art at all. It will be up to the viewer to contact you direct. If you have any concerns about your personal security please use a pseudonym in order to protect your identity.

This is an example statement from a previous exhibition. Please use it as a layout template and use your own story:

Mental Health, Stigma and PTSD

My disability is Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and it was due to serving in the armed forces in Northern Ireland back in the 1980s.

Living with PTSD is still an isolating experience...so I escape with my camera. Photography and writing are my meds and enabling other disabled artists to express themselves or promoting creativity for wellbeing – my purpose – for the rest of this journey.

I didn't receive any support when I left the RAF in 1985. Other people knew I was presenting with the symptoms of PTSD but no one told me. I didn't find out about the condition until 12 years later. 12 years of not knowing what was wrong and living in absolute hell. The NHS model of treatment wasn't that effective because they treat either the body or the mind, both if you're lucky. Native American Teachers taught me that the spirit has to be treated too. Spirituality shouldn't be confused with religion.

I was taught how to 'hold the energy' for people that wanted to attempt the journey towards healing. I still use the methods to cope with my daily battle with PTSD. The Eagle is the most revered of all creatures by most tribes. It flies the closest to the Creator and is reputed to be the only creature to have seen the face of the Creator. The Wolf is the animal that I was named after. It is said to be a pathfinder, protector and teacher.

If you would like to buy a piece of my art, please contact me.

Your name

Your Email

Your website

Assistance

If you'd like advice then please email your application in and ask for guidance and someone will contact you as soon as possible.

Please remember that the project is managed by volunteers, some of which have disabilities, so please be patient if we don't reply straight away...but do chase us for a reply if you haven't received a response within a week.

Facebook is our social media channel and your work will be shared there. The page has over 60k followers and will help raise awareness of you and your art.

Exhibitors' Checklist

1. Are my images 2000 pixels minimum and NOT watermarked? Artists' signatures are fine.

2. Have I renamed my images (copyright_myname_number/piece title.jpg)?
3. Have I produced a statement that explains how art helps me to cope and/or explains how art makes me feel?
4. Am I emailing my images over 1 or multiple emails? (applyDAN@outlook.com)
5. Have I started sharing existing news of the project on my social media platforms?

There are no deadlines for exhibitors. We process applications as they come in and allocate a space accordingly.

You're making a
difference by
networking with us!

Please share this
document with other
artists that live with
disabilities.

Exhibitors' Agreement

1. You understand that this is a voluntary project with the sole aim of Promoting Creativity as a Coping Mechanism for Disability. The purpose being to inspire people with disabilities to take up some form of creativity.
2. Disabled Artists' Network are exhibiting your art for free for you.
3. Disabled Artists' Network will take reasonable steps to safeguard your Intellectual Property within our collective skill set and assume no rights to it in any way.
4. Anyone wishing to purchase your art will be asked to contact you. Disabled Artists' Network will not be involved in selling your artwork.
5. Disabled Artists' Network or its supporters are not in any way liable for the misuse of your Intellectual Property. Disabled Artists' Network will display your art with your statement at our exhibition venue(s) and on the internet with reasonable security safeguards in place but we are not responsible for the actions of people choosing to steal your Intellectual Property.
6. Disabled Artists' Network or its supporters are not financially liable to you in any way for any misuse or theft of your Intellectual Property and you agree not to take any legal action against Disabled Artists' Network, Wolf Photography or our volunteers or supporters related to theft or abuse of any Intellectual Property unless they are directly involved in breaching said laws.
7. By applying to exhibit with Disabled Artists' Network, you agree to the above conditions.

