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## **CALL FOR ARTISTS**

### *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance*

May 5th, 2020 - July 5th, 2020

Minneapolis, Minnesota

*All My Relations Arts* and the *Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center* invite you to participate in the 2020 juried group exhibition, *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance*. All indigenous artists residing in Turtle Island are welcome to apply, with preference given to work created by indigenous womxn, two-spirit, trans, and gender non-conforming artists. All works must be original and can be 2D, 3D, video, performance, or installation.

*"A nation is not conquered until the hearts of its women are on the ground."*





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### ABOUT THE EXHIBITION:

*Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance* will showcase contemporary expressions of indigenous resistance in response to the colonial foundations of the MMIW epidemic. This exhibit is intended to give voice to those most affected by this structural violence, which is why the majority of the work will be created by indigenous womxn, trans, two-spirit, and gender non-conforming artists. These artists have the unique and powerful ability to share personal narrative as a means to create counter dialogues in response to the colonial roots of this crisis. The work in this exhibit will have the capacity to build upon the ways in which we talk about the MMIW epidemic, while empowering our communities and honoring the long standing tradition of indigenous resistance.

This juried National Call for Art will showcase 20 indigenous artists from across the United States. Of these 20 artists, 8 will be featured. The 12 selected artists will be chosen by guest curator–**Reyna Hernandez** and curator coach–**Angela Two Stars**, based upon the following criteria:

1. Strength of the work focusing on artistic merit.
2. Strength of the work addressing the exhibition topic.
3. Diverse representation of mediums.
4. Diverse representation of emerging to established artists.

It is highly encouraged that work created for this exhibit be an **empowered** response to the colonial/structural roots of the MMIW epidemic.

*\*\*\*Examples of colonial/structural violence can include (but are not limited to) any of the following:*

- **Patriarchy** (i.e. gender binary, rigid & imposed gender roles)
- **Misrepresentations of Indigenous People & Cultures** (i.e. stereotype, mascots)
- **Political Agendas** (i.e. legislative loopholes, treaties, tribal vs. federal jurisdiction)
- **Capitalism** (i.e. oil industry, man camps)
- **Inaccurate Data/Misunderstanding of MMIW** (who this is affecting)

Work that touches on any of these examples should be framed by the immense power that is derived from challenging these structural strategies through creative expression and indigenous resistance.

**Please be aware this exhibition has the potential to trigger trauma in our artists & audience.**



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### Questions to Consider:

- 1) What does it mean to be an indigenous womxn?
- 2) What do you believe is the best way to honor MMIW, and how can artists respond to this epidemic in a respectful and effective way?
- 3) How can art effectively confront the colonial power structures that have contributed to the violence committed against our indigenous womxn, two-spirit, trans, and gender non-conforming communities?
- 4) In what ways can creative expression help shift misperceptions surrounding victims of abuse related to MMIW? How can indigenous womxn challenge these inaccuracies to reclaim bodily integrity?
- 5) How is resistance created through art and how can we exercise power through our expression?

### For additional readings to inform your work, the following links are suggested:

*NOT MURDERED, NOT MISSING: REBELLING AGAINST COLONIAL GENDER VIOLENCE*-  
Leanne Betasamasoke Simpson

<https://www.leannesimpson.ca/writings/not-murdered-not-missing-rebelling-against-colonial-gender-violence>

*WHY GENDER IS SUCH A CRITICAL PART OF THE NATIONAL MMIW INQUIRY*- Tara Williamson

<https://www.cbc.ca/2017/why-gender-is-such-a-critical-part-of-the-national-miw-inquiry-1.4013949>

*RETHINKING GENDER AND SEXUALITY: A CASE STUDY OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN "TWO SPIRIT" PEOPLE*- Zuleka Zuvallós

<https://othersociologist.com/2013/09/09/two-spirit-people/>

*ELIMINATION AND RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE, EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE OF INDIGENOUS GIRLS, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG WOMEN*- Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous People's Issues

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/69/meetings/indigenous/pdf/IASG%20Thematic%20Paper%20Violence%20against%20Girls%20and%20Women%20-%20rev1.pdf>

*SEX, FOSSIL FUELS, AND MATRIARCHAL ECONOMICS*- Winona Laduke

<http://thecirclenews.org/environment/sex-fossil-fuels-and-matriarchal-economics/>

*MMIW*- Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women

<https://www.csvanw.org/mmiw/>



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*INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE IS POST-APOCALYPTIC*- Nick Estes

[https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online\\_articles/booked-indigenous-resistance-is-post-apocalyptic-with-nick-estes](https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online_articles/booked-indigenous-resistance-is-post-apocalyptic-with-nick-estes)

### **ABOUT THE CURATOR: Reyna Hernandez**

Reyna Hernandez is a Yankton Sioux Dakota artist working across disciplines to explore contemporary indigenous issues concerning the relationship between identity and the effects of epistemic/colonial violence, specifically within academia. Throughout her research, Reyna studies critical theorists who examine the consequences of intellectual colonialism, in order to dismantle prescribed modes of understanding indigenous people and cultures. Hernandez received her B.A in English and B.F.A in Studio Arts at the University of South Dakota in 2016, and is currently working on a community based mural project in Vermillion, SD where she also lives and works.

“My hope for this exhibit is to highlight empowered work created by indigenous womxn, two-spirit, trans, and gender non-conforming artists. Hearing from the people who are directly targeted with this type of structural violence is an incredibly important and necessary step in understanding how we can challenge and resist this [seemingly] never ending attempt to erase us. There is so much to learn from people who are often silenced and I wanted to create space for these perspectives to be heard and seen.

While I was researching for this exhibition, trying to figure out how to even begin approaching MMIW as an exhibition topic, I came across several people who are guiding this conversation in an extremely powerful direction through various artforms. The power in the work that these artists are responding with is (in part) due to its lack of concern of comfortability for those who aren't personally impacted by this devastation. Identifying and dismantling the systems of power that keep some people comfortable, while others are oppressed, isn't something that people who are in the positions of comfort, want to address; but that doesn't mean that we have to remain silent about our very real and very serious concerns. We're at a tipping point in the U.S. concerning the treatment of marginalized people, especially in regard to MMIW. It's enough, and we're ready to challenge the social and political barriers that keep this epidemic alive, even if it makes people uncomfortable.”

### **ABOUT THE CURATOR COACH: Angela Two Stars**

Angela Two Stars (Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate) is the All My Relations Arts Director. She is the curator and creator of *Bring Her Home: Stolen Daughters of Turtle Island* which exhibited and traveled in two installments in 2018 and 2019. Angela is a public artist with work gracing the shores of Bde Maka Ska and her recent selection for the Walker Art Center's Indigenous Arts Commission which will be installed in the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden in the Fall of 2020. She received her BFA from Kendall College of Art and Design in 2017 and currently lives in St. Paul with her husband and three children. Angela's deep investment into the healing power of art and personal family tragedy drives the sensitivity



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and empathy required to bring this exhibition to the families and all those affected by this ongoing epidemic.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

*Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC)*. The mission of the MIWRC is to empower American Indian women and families to exercise their cultural values and integrity, and to achieve sustainable life ways, while advocating for justice and equity.

*Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition, (MIWSAC)* is a statewide tribal coalition with individual and program membership from across the state. Through unity we will strengthen our voices and build resources to create awareness and eliminate sexual violence against Indian women and children.

## **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

Complete the following form and send along with 1-5 high resolution digital images of your original artworks via Google Drive or Dropbox link to Angela Two Stars of *All My Relations Arts* at [AMRAExhibitions@nacdi.org](mailto:AMRAExhibitions@nacdi.org) by April 6th, 2020. Artists will be notified of selection on April 10th, 2020.

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Website:

Twitter handle (if any):

Instagram (if any):

Tribal Affiliation:

Age:

Anything else you would like us to know about you?



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### DEADLINES & DATES

- Submission Deadline..... April 6th, 2020
- Notification of Status..... April 10th, 2020
- Artwork Must Arrive in Gallery by.. April 24th, 2020
- Opening Reception..... May 7th, 2020
- On View..... May 5th - July 5th

*\*\*\*Additional artist events (artist talk, community workshops, etc.) TBA\*\*\**

### DETAILS

- Selected artists will receive a \$200 honorarium once the gallery receives shipped work.
- Shipping and transportation costs will be covered by *All My Relations Arts* for emerging artists with 5 or less exhibitions experience. Please indicate if you fit this criteria in your application.
- All artwork will be insured from the time it arrives at the gallery, until it is shipped to the artist.
- All artwork may be for sale, while on display at *All My Relations Arts*. A 30% commission charge will be applicable for any works sold during exhibition.
- Artists who provide gallery talks and/or workshops will receive additional honorariums.
- There is potential for this exhibition to become a traveling exhibit and details will be announced at a later date.

### ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS

- Artwork must be **original**, and respond to one or more of the prompts.
- Artwork can be any medium, but must be visual / fine art.

### DIGITAL IMAGE SUBMISSION (Please submit 1-5 digital images of your work)

- 1 digital image per artwork submitted
- High resolution JPEG image
- Minimum 1000 x 1000 pixels
- Minimum 300 dpi, 1 MB



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- Please name each file in this format:

**Last name, First name- Submission #. Title of corresponding submission #.**

*Example: Hernandez, Reyna- Submission 1. Title of submission 1.*

(Please organize the digital submission titles and submission #'s the same way they are ordered below in the "Basic Submission Information" section.)

**BASIC SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

1) Title of Submission # 1:

Year of creation:

Medium:

Dimensions (in inches): H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Value (for insurance purposes): \$

2) Title of Submission # 2:

Year of creation:

Medium:

Dimensions (in inches): H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Value (for insurance purposes): \$

3) Title of Submission # 3:

Year of creation:

Medium:

Dimensions (in inches): H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Value (for insurance purposes): \$

4) Title of Submission # 4:

Year of creation:

Medium:

Dimensions (in inches): H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Value (for insurance purposes): \$

5) Title of Submission #5:

Year of creation:



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Medium:

Dimensions (in inches): H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Value (for insurance purposes): \$

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

*All My Relations Arts* will use the following information for promotional and educational purposes, if your artwork is selected for *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance*

Artist Biography (200 words max):

Artist Statement (250 words max):

Emerging artist with less than 5 exhibitions experience?

- Yes
- No

Are you interested in giving a talk and/or artist workshop during the exhibition?

- Yes
- No



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### **RELEASE STATEMENT**

I understand that all materials must be submitted under the stated guidelines in order to be considered for *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance*. Submission does not guarantee selection. If selected, I grant *All My Relations Arts* to display my artwork in the *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance* exhibition from May 5th - July 5th, 2020. I also grant permission to *All My Relations Arts* so they may use artwork and imagery of artwork for any promotional and educational purposes.

By signing below, I indicate my compliance:

Electronic Signature:

Date:

### **QUESTIONS**

Information on *Bring Her Home: Sacred Womxn of Resistance* exhibition:

Reyna Hernandez  
Guest Curator  
wolverayna@gmail.com

Information on *All My Relations Arts*:

Angela Two Stars  
All My Relations Arts Director  
atwostars@nacdi.org

Media Inquiries:

Alex Buffalohead  
NACDI Arts and Cultural Engagement Manager  
abuffalohead@nacdi.org