

PRESS RELEASE
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Arts Council of the Valley Announces
VA-AIM: 2018 Participation Exhibition
at Smith House Galleries

HARRISONBURG, VA – Arts Council of the Valley (ACV) announces its January 2019 exhibition, with works by nine artists who participated in the first Virginia Artists in the Marketplace program last year.

VA-AIM: 2018 Participation opens Friday, Jan 4, 5-8 pm, during First Fridays Downtown, and runs through Jan 26.

Featured artists include: Mallory Burrell, Courtney Erickson, Korva, Logan MacKethan, Karen Robertson, Anikó Sáfrán, Evan Wachter, Darcy William and JanetLee Wright.

The first Virginia Artists in the Marketplace (VA-AIM) brought a cohort of eleven artists together during June 2018 and was a partnership between Arts Council of the Valley, Larkin Arts, Spitzer Arts Center, and studioELL. The residency combined a series of lectures, workshops, and seminars on a variety of professional practice topics.

The 2019 program will be presented in collaboration with [Arts Council of the Valley](#), [Blue Ridge Community College \(BRCC\)](#) and [studioELL](#). This second year will bring a new cohort together during the third week in May 2019 to dive deep into their studio practices and what it means to be a professional artist in today's contemporary moment. More info on the residency and application details can be found here: <http://studioell.org/residencies/va-aim-2019/>

VA-AIM 2018: Participation is curated by John Ros, who led the 2018 AIM program. Ros is founder and director of studioELL and is also an Assistant Professor of Art at James Madison University and Director and Chief Curator of Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art within JMU's School of Art, Design and Art History.

The Smith House Galleries are open Monday-Friday (9 am-5 pm) and Saturday (10 am-2 pm).

For more information, visit valleyarts.org, or email firstfridaysdowntown@gmail.com

About Arts Council of the Valley

Arts Council of the Valley (ACV) was founded in 2000 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to promoting and providing memorable Arts experiences in the city of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. Since its establishment, ACV has grown into a multi-faceted community organization that fosters innovative partnerships among area businesses, civic organizations, schools, and artists. Today, ACV manages the Court Square Theater and Smith House Galleries, supports childhood learning by way of the Any Given Child Shenandoah Valley initiative, funds local art projects through its Advancing the Arts grant program, and coordinates monthly First Fridays Downtown community gatherings. To learn more, visit www.valleyarts.org/.

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