

Curator's Statement

Tracey Kutschker (she/her)

Our goals here at the Art Gallery include finding ways to amplify marginalized voices and using the arts to address privilege and discrimination. Sometimes it's difficult to sit uncomfortably in the knowledge that we are benefitting from a system built on white supremacy. Yet we ask that you sit in discomfort to contemplate what that means.

As visitors witness the works in this exhibition, it is important to know that you do not have to form a response. You can just read, observe, listen and learn. Understanding comes in stages. Do the work, and part of that work is exposing yourself to the experiences of people who are not the same as you. This is what we wish to do here, offer the arts as a way to learn.

Prioritizing diversity and inclusivity has been an evolving process for the Arts Council, but I want to be clear that this focus is and will continue to be the core of what we do and how we do it. We've moved away from how can we fix our system to how do we build new systems that work better. The artists and writers here are offering you glimpses into their day-to-day experiences, and I am so grateful for their generosity.

