The 2016 iteration of Contemporary Indigeneity at the Great Plains Art Museum at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will explore Native American spirituality and sovereignty in relation to philosophical interpretations of borderlands in the Great Plains. Legislation defining and regulating geographic and cultural borders throughout American history has estranged indigenous peoples from sacred sites, leaving them with only a spiritual link to the places they once resided. By bringing together works incorporating a diverse range of artistic media, this exhibition will seek to create dialogues regarding interpretations of sovereignty, spiritual connections to the land, and cultural identity within the boundaries of the Great Plains.

All Native American artists are invited to submit artworks that address themes of spirituality and borderlands in relation to the Great Plains, loosely defined as a region that stretches westward from the Missouri River at Omaha and Kansas City to the Rocky Mountains, and northward from the Texas Panhandle into the Canadian Prairie Provinces. Submitted works will be blindly reviewed by a panel of curators, artists, and Native American art scholars, and judged on aesthetic and technical merit as well as the relevant interpretation of the designated theme.

About the Great Plains Art Museum

Part of the Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the mission of the Great Plains Art Museum is to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the art and literature of the Great Plains region and to foster study and enhance appreciation, through changing exhibits and public programs, of the history and creative spirit of the Great Plains of North America. The collection contains historical and contemporary artworks of the American West and Native American art.

Located in downtown Lincoln, Nebraska, the Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is always free.
2016 Entry Guidelines

Eligibility

- Open to all Native American artists working within the theme of the exhibition and the mission of the Great Plains Art Museum. Eligible works will explore spiritual borderlands of North American peoples affiliated with Great Plains tribes.

- There are no limitations regarding artwork media and may include but are not limited to works on paper, multi-media installations, video, painting, and sculpture.

- The maximum size for two-dimensional artworks is 1,600 square inches including the outside dimension of the frame (for example, 40” x 40” artwork, frame included).

- Sculpture must be of moderate size and not exceed 100 pounds.

- All submissions must be original works of art and created after 2014.

Submission Guidelines

- Applications will only be accepted via SlideRoom: (https://unlart.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/28033)

- Each applicant may submit up to five (5) works for consideration.

- Image files must be uploaded as jpg or pdf files with a minimum 300 dpi. (For any artworks accepted, artists will be required to provide a 600 dpi professional image in advance of the exhibition for reproduction in the catalog.)

- A required, non-refundable $25 application fee must be submitted via Slideroom.

- All applications must be submitted by May 13, 2016.

- Incomplete applications will not be considered and application fees will be forfeited.

- Artists are responsible for shipping costs of accepted artwork to the Great Plains Art Museum.

- Additional information regarding submission guidelines can be found at (go.unl.edu/plainsart).

Submit application through SlideRoom
Deadline for entry May 13, 2016