

THE 26TH LEONARDO CHALLENGE

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

ELI WHITNEY MUSEUM & WORKSHOP

LETTERS

LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET, CHARACTERS, AND SYMBOLS — ARE THE ATOMS WE USE TO SHARE OUR PERCEPTIONS OF THE WORLD. WE USE LETTERS TO CREATE SOUNDS, MEANING, CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, AND ART.

26 LETTERS MAKE UP THE MODERN ENGLISH ALPHABET, ALTHOUGH THE AMPERSAND IS THE DEBATED 27TH. 26 LETTERS CREATE AN ESTIMATED 171,146 ENGLISH WORDS USED TODAY. IN OUR WORLD OF SHAPES THAT ARE DRAWN, SPOKEN, SIGNED, FORMED, AND ARRANGED, THE MODERN ENGLISH ALPHABET STANDS AMONGST ROUGHLY 7,000 UNIQUE LANGUAGES IN THE WORLD.

LIKE PEOPLE AND SOCIETY, LANGUAGES AND THEIR LETTERS EVOLVE. WE ADAPT FROM OTHERS, ALLOWING US TO LEARN AND CREATE BEYOND THE LIMITS OF WRITING SYSTEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 26 ENGLISH LETTERS, THE 28 ARABIC LETTERS, THE 24 GREEK LETTERS, THE 85 CHARACTERS IN THE CHEROKEE SYLLABARY, THE OVER 6,000 CHARACTERS USED TO WRITE CHINESE, AND MANY OTHERS. AT THEIR MOST ELEMENTAL, LETTERS REPRESENT SOUNDS. PLACED TOGETHER, THEY GIVE WAY TO MEANING.

THE PROMPT

TO BE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER MEANS TO READ BETWEEN THE LINES AND TO BE INTENTIONAL, IMPACTFUL, AND HONEST. TODAY THE USE OF LETTERS AND WORDS IS MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER.

CREATE A PIECE—INVOLVING OR RELATED TO LETTERS—TO DONATE TO THE LEONARDO CHALLENGE AUCTION. WE ENCOURAGE ARTISTS TO COME TO THE MUSEUM AND PICK UP LASER-CUT BIRCH PLYWOOD LETTERS TO USE IN THEIR WORKS. WE MAY HAVE OTHER MATERIALS THAT YOU CAN USE. GIVE US A CALL TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN HELP YOU TO CREATE YOUR VISION.

QUESTIONS?

VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.ELIWHITNEY.ORG/EXHIBITIONS/ALPHABETICAL-ORDER](https://www.eliwhitney.org/exhibitions/alphabetical-order)
EMAIL MANAGER@ELIWHITNEY.ORG OR CALL 203.777.1833
9-5 WEEKDAYS, 10-3 WEEKENDS

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

WE WELCOME VARIATIONS IN SCALE AND PRESENTATION OF THE SUBMITTED WORKS. WE ASK THAT SCULPTURAL WORKS REST ON A 12" X 12" FOOTPRINT. IF SUBMITTING A WALL PIECE WHICH BELONGS IN A FRAME, PLEASE BRING IT ALREADY FRAMED, OR BRING THE FRAME AND WE'LL INSTALL IT FOR YOU. LET US KNOW EARLY IF YOUR PIECE REQUIRES A LARGE DISPLAY SPACE OR SPECIAL HANDLING.

UNLIKE PREVIOUS YEARS, WE WILL NOT BE REQUESTING ARTISTS TO PROVIDE AN ENTRY FEE. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK JOHN BIANCHI AND ALEXANDRA SHOR FOR UNDERWRITING ALL ARTISTS!

TO THANK YOU FOR GENEROUSLY DONATING YOUR WORK TO THE BENEFIT, YOU WILL RECEIVE A TICKET FOR YOURSELF AND A GUEST FOR THE MAY 19TH EVENT, AN ENAMEL PIN, AND A T-SHIRT, WHICH WILL ALL BE HELD FOR YOU AT THE DOOR ON THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT.

YOU SHOULD HAVE ALREADY CONFIRMED YOUR SUBMISSION INTEREST THROUGH THE CALL FOR ENTRIES GOOGLE FORM. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE LINK OR HAVE NOT RECEIVED AN EMAIL CONFIRMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MANAGER@ELIWHITNEY.ORG.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, MAY 12TH BY 5PM TO
915 WHITNEY AVENUE, HAMDEN CT.**

PLEASE INCLUDE THE BELOW FORM WITH YOUR PIECE(S) UPON SUBMISSION.

ARTIST ENTRY FORM

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILES
(OPTIONAL):

PHONE#: _____ @ _____

EMAIL: _____ @ _____

TITLE OF WORK: _____

MEDIUM OF WORK: _____