

# Call for Proposals

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear 2016: We Are Here

**Due 11:59 PM, CST on Sunday, November 15**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear** is an annual, multidisciplinary arts festival that celebrates Chicago's vibrant community of alternative art spaces and DIY creative practices. Each February, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear connects artists with new audiences, helps underfunded and under-appreciated alternative spaces get some exposure, and enlivens a dreary winter weekend at the peak of Chicago's bleakest season.

**2nd Floor Rear 2016: We Are Here** is a meditation and open-ended discourse on the meaning(s) of being somewhere. This year, we're interested in the socio-cultural politics of being and acting in a specific space. How do spatial relations and social relations arise together? How might places be binding and normative or potentially liberating? How are they shaped by the bodies they contain or exclude? How can a place be at once material and ideological, natural and fabricated, public and private, static and in flight? How can various socio-spatial forms and practices define or defy the way we relate to a particular place in time, as well as to each other, our outlooks, and ourselves? [Read the full curatorial statement here.](#)

**We are currently seeking** organizations, artists, curators, and creative folks of all stripes to produce events that will take place on **February 6-7, 2016**.

### Essential details:

- Events may include, but are not limited to: pop-up galleries and exhibition openings, installations, performances, happenings, concerts, film screenings, sing-alongs, dance parties, feasts, storytelling, interactive performance games, sewing circles, public sleepovers, and/or conceptual puppet shows. The imaginative, the unusual, and the radically hospitable are encouraged.
- Events may take place just about anywhere—in official 501c3 alternative gallery spaces, apartments, bars, storefronts, hallways, bathrooms, etc. Only commercial galleries are not eligible.
- Locations for events taking place on **Saturday, February 6** will be restricted to the near northwest neighborhoods of Chicago (Logan Square, Humboldt Park, Wicker Park, Ukrainian Village, Bucktown, etc.), OR locations a **15-minute walk or less** from any **blue line** train station. This eases the strain of travel for the audience and prevents audience dispersal.
- Locations for events taking place on **Sunday, February 7** will be restricted to lower west side neighborhoods of Chicago (Pilsen, Little Village), OR locations a **15-minute walk or less** from any **pink line** train station. Again, this eases the strain of travel for the audience and prevents audience dispersal.

- If your proposal is accepted, you will be required to pay a **one-time \$15 entry fee**. You will also be expected to work collaboratively on fundraising and marketing efforts (This is usually pretty simple, like inviting friends on Facebook or donating ephemera to fundraising campaigns.)

### To submit your proposal:

- In a **single document (Word or PDF only)**, please send:
  - a proposal (250-500 words) describing your event and location
  - brief (about 250 words) answers to the following questions:
    - Given this year's curatorial premise, how do you see your proposed project contributing to the overall conversation about "the meaning(s) of being somewhere"?
    - Describe the experience you hope the audience will have. Ultimately, what do you want people to walk away with?
    - Producing public events in the middle of winter can be challenging. How or to what extent do you anticipate being able to adapt your project in the event of unforeseen circumstances?
  - a brief (250 words max) artist statement, curatorial statement, or bio
  - a Resume/CV

...to **info@2ndfloorrear.org** no later than **11:59 PM, Sunday, November**

**15.** Relevant images & video (may be linked or attached as separate files), and links to artist or project websites are strongly recommended.

- Confused? Take a look at our [FAQ page](#).

Want to know more about last year's festival? Check us out at: [2ndfloorrear.org](http://2ndfloorrear.org)

Questions? Comments? Email [info@2ndfloorrear.org](mailto:info@2ndfloorrear.org).