Guidelines for Mentorship
Independent Exhibitions (Lindhurst)
Macomber Travel Grant
Handtmann Photography Prize

Summary:
Each student who applies for and is awarded an exhibition in Lindhurst Gallery will need a faculty mentor. Faculty mentors are also needed for students applying for the Macomber Travel Grant, the Farber Fund, and the Handtmann Photography Prize. Students and Faculty Mentors will sign the “Agreement to Mentor” form as part of each of these applications.

The student and faculty mentor agree to work together on all aspects of project/exhibition, including the development of the exhibition goals, concept, content, installation, exhibition critique, and de-installation. For MA students applying for the Macomber Travel Grant, the student and faculty member will work together on the development of the public presentation (rather than exhibition). For the Macomber Travel Grant, all students and faculty members will also work closely on the development of travel plans.

The Roski School is grateful for faculty who undertake this work, and recognizes that ultimately the student is responsible for the outcome of his or her exhibition or project.

Student Responsibilities and Process:
a. Student invites a faculty member to be the mentor for the exhibition and consults with the mentor about requirements of application. If student’s proposal is accepted, student continues to work with mentor to develop the exhibition, including preparation of images, statement, signage, reception, and use of Lindhurst gallery (or, for Macomber Grant, use of Roski Gallery for MFA, or other presentation format and space for MA students). Note: if student’s proposal changes from the original application, student is required to submit an amendment to the original proposal, which must be approved in writing by the Facilities Manager, Ian McCully, and the Vice Dean of Faculty.
b. For the Macomber Travel Grant: four weeks prior to start of travel, students will meet with mentor to discuss detailed travel plans, including transportation, accommodations, and itinerary, and submit this information to Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Penelope Jones, who will forward it to the USC Office of Student Affairs.
c. At least four weeks prior to the exhibition, student must complete and submit “Agreement to Exhibit” form to the Facilities Manager, Ian McCully, with all necessary signatures. This document will be sent to all students whose work has been selected for exhibition; it includes all of the guidelines for using Lindhurst Gallery.
d. At least four weeks prior to the exhibition, student meets with their mentor and with the Roski Facilities Manager, Ian McCully, to plan the installation of the show, including special needs such as extra walls, lighting, hanging methods, gallery resources such as paint, nails, tools, and hanging devices.
e. Students are encouraged to photograph their gallery installations. Mentors may have suggestions for effective installation shots for documentation.
f. Students must deinstall their exhibition and restore the gallery to its original state, including making repairs to walls affected by the display of art work. All waste materials must be properly disposed of, in a manner agreed to by the Facilities Manager, Ian McCully.
Mentor Responsibilities:
Note: it is recommended that faculty also review the “Faculty Mentoring and Service/Compensation Guidelines,” which are available from Annie Watanabe, HSH-101.

a. Faculty member will be available to mentor the student and help in developing an exhibition concept, curating decisions, overseeing the installation and deinstallation, writing a statement about the work, and general guidance.

b. Faculty member will work with the student to ensure that the exhibition conforms to the original proposal; if modifications are necessary, student must submit an amendment to the original proposal, which must be approved in writing by the Facilities Manager, Ian McCully, and the Vice Dean of Faculty.

c. Mentor should encourage student to document his/her exhibition and send documentation to the Roski communications manager, communications@roski.usc.edu.

d. Mentor should attend the student’s opening reception, if possible.

e. Mentor should provide critical feedback / critique to the student following the exhibition.

Time commitment:
The amount time needed to mentor students for exhibitions varies, but typically ranges from 4 hours to 15 hours. If students or mentors require more than 15 hours of time, mentor should notify the Vice Dean of Faculty in advance.