

Student Lending Art Program 2026-2027 Dates

Preview Exhibition: Tuesday, September 1, 2026 – Sunday, September 13, 2026

Online Sign-up Deadline: Friday, September 11, 2026 at 11:59pm

Lottery Notification: Saturday, 12, 2026

Distribution Days: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 – Friday, September 18, 2026, 10:00am – 5:00pm

Second Chance Opportunity: Saturday, September 19, 2026, 10:00am – 3:00pm

Return period: Monday, April 12, 2027 – Friday, April 16, 2027

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Student Lending Art Exhibition & Lottery?

Full-time MIT graduate and undergraduate students may register to borrow a framed artwork from the List Center's Student Lending Art Collection, which consists of over 700 works on paper in various media, to hang in their room or office space during the academic year.

How do I borrow an artwork?

The Lottery opens Monday, August 31, 2026. To enter the lottery, please complete the online lottery sign-up at <https://sites.mit.edu/artlending/> by **Friday, September 11th at 11:59 pm** for your chance to take home an artwork for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Students are not required to visit the gallery to register for the lottery, but we encourage you to come to the List Visual Arts Center (Building E15) to view an exhibition of the works available to borrow. Please visit our website for tours and events to meet staff and hear about the collection <https://listart.mit.edu/calendar>

Winners will be notified on Saturday, September 12th and given instructions to make an appointment via Calendly to pick out an artwork at the List Center during Distribution Days (Tuesday, September 15, 2026 – Friday, September 18, 2026, 10:00am – 5:00pm). **Please note, the Calendly link is non-transferable. For students who were not selected for this year's lottery but use the link to schedule an appointment will not be allowed to participate in the Second Chance Opportunity on Saturday.**

The List Center will also provide transportation services upon request for students with physical limitations.

To view images of the collection, please visit: <https://www.mitartlending.com/featuredartworks> (Please note: only a selection of works from the collection will be available for lending)

Can I enter more than once?

No. Only one entry per person.

When do I pick up my artwork if I've won?

Artwork can be picked up at the List Center gallery by appointment via Calendly. Appointments will be available in half hour increments from Tuesday, September 15 through Friday, September 18th 10:00am – 5:00 pm weather permitting. (Appointments are non-transferable).

To ensure a smooth distribution week it is important that you arrive during your scheduled time window. In the case of inclement weather, students will still select their artwork during their appointment, but arrange a pick-up time at a later date with List Center staff.

If I am not selected from the lottery, am I completely out of luck?

No, you still have a chance to borrow an artwork! This year on Saturday, September 19, 2026, 10:00am – 3:00pm, we are offering our “Second Chance Opportunity” for all Full-time MIT graduate and undergraduate students with a valid MIT ID that did not win this year’s lottery. All unclaimed artworks will be available to students to choose from on a first-come, first-served basis. Come early on Saturday, September 19 for the best selection!

Can my spouse, partner, family member, or friend pick up my artwork for me?

No, only the student who was selected in the Lottery may pick up their artwork. Lottery selection and appointments are non-transferrable.

What if I need to reschedule my appointment to pick-up my artwork?

If you are no longer able to come pick-up your artwork on your scheduled date, please use the Calendly website to cancel your appointment and reschedule a new one. Artworks will only be distributed from Tuesday, September 15 - Friday, September 18, 2026 for students that have won this year’s lottery.

Do I have to leave a deposit or sign anything if I borrow artwork?

Art loans are free and open to all registered full time MIT students. A deposit is not required. You will sign a loan agreement stating that you will return the artwork at the end of the academic year, that you will take certain precautions in handling it, and that you are financially responsible for the artwork in the event of damage, loss, or theft whether it occurred intentionally or due to negligence or carelessness. And remember, you will be required to show your MIT Student ID at the time you pick up your artwork.

What if I need to return my artwork early?

Winter returns will be Monday, December 6, 2026 – Friday, December 10, 2026.

Please contact registrars, Maria Lostumbo (maria26@mit.edu) and Shirley Villalobos (villa333@mit.edu) to schedule a time to return your artwork if you are graduating early or will not be in the Boston area in Spring 2027. If you plan to study abroad, we strongly encourage you to arrange a time to return your artwork early to avoid late return fees.

When is the return period?

All artworks must be returned to the List Center during Monday, April 12, 2027 – Friday, April 16, 2027. Please note this will be the only return period. Any students who do not return by April 17th will incur a daily late fee of \$15.

Why is a print an original artwork?

Prints are editioned works created by an artist from a plate or negative that allows the creation of a number of “like” pieces. Prints are issued in limited editions by a print house whose staff has worked closely with an artist so that the artist’s vision is correctly interpreted through a particular print medium, with which an artist may or may not have a lot of familiarity (even with photography, an artist may not be involved in actually printing a work). Print editions differ from posters in that they are the artwork, not simply a picture or reproduction of another artwork such as a painting. The creation of a print edition is a time-consuming collaboration between an artist and a print house.