

## Cultural Diversity in the Arts Project Grant Guidelines

**Deadline: October 15 at 11:59 pm (online) or 4:30 pm (paper) MST**

The City of Edmonton through the Edmonton Arts Council established the Cultural Diversity in the Arts program to recognize that artists from all parts of the world enrich Edmonton's cultural scene. The Edmonton Arts Council is committed to reflecting the full diversity of Edmonton's demographics.

Artists from these communities can apply to any Edmonton Arts Council program, but many also face systemic, historical, cultural and/or language barriers to accessing support. The intent of this program is to provide an entry point, to help these artists begin to overcome those barriers, to pursue their professional artistic work and develop connections to the greater Edmonton arts community.

### Purpose

The Cultural Diversity in the Arts Project Grant will invest in Edmonton's art community by supporting projects by artists from diverse communities. Grants are intended to support the activities of Edmonton artists for a specific time towards a specific project. Projects can be individual or collective and could include creation or production of work in any art form. Professional development and/or mentorship projects are also encouraged (including projects that provide opportunities to develop knowledge and skills, work with an established Edmonton artist, or otherwise build connections to the Edmonton arts community).

Funds are intended to support

- Projects by individual artists or small collectives of artists who are from diverse cultural backgrounds that may face barriers that restrict their participation in the arts
- Costs directly related to the project including materials, research, workspace and/or venue rental, travel, living expenses, and artist fees
- Costs related to professional development or mentorship
- Individuals who have a history of arts practice

Funds are not intended to support

- Individuals who do not have a history of arts practice
- Capital or major equipment purchases
- Formal education that would result in a diploma or degree
- Costs already supported by the EAC through other programs
- Activity undertaken prior to the application deadline
- Projects that benefit an organization or institution rather than the artist

### Eligibility

Individual artists and artist collectives that identify themselves as members of culturally diverse communities may apply. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, a resident of Edmonton for at least one year prior to the application deadline (proof may be required), and have permanent resident status, be a Canadian citizen, or have a valid work permit.

The EAC defines "artist" as someone who has completed training, an apprenticeship, or a recognized body of work in an arts discipline and meets one or more of the following requirements:

- Dedicated to the professional practice of the art.
- Receives payment for artistic work.
- Has received public exposure where the selection process was carried out by an objective body such as a jury.
- Enjoys peer recognition through review, participation in community activities, and membership in professional associations.

Artists that have previously received support from other EAC programs (such as a grant or award) may apply if they consider themselves to be eligible for the intent of this program. Artists may receive this particular grant a maximum of two times.

## Level of support

Grants may be awarded to a maximum of \$25,000 per applicant per year. Funding is limited and grants are not guaranteed to any applicant. Ask for the amount you estimate you need to successfully complete the project.

## Assessment

A Peer Jury chosen by the Edmonton Arts Council will evaluate all applications. That jury will include artists and arts professionals chosen for their skills, knowledge and abilities as outlined in Edmonton Arts Council policies. All EAC juries are recruited to reflect the full demographic diversity of Edmonton over time.

That jury will make funding recommendations to the Edmonton Arts Council Board, which may then be forwarded to the City of Edmonton for approval.

## Evaluation

The jury will be guided by all the text in this document that describes the purposes of the program.

Primary assessment criteria are:

- The artistic merit of the artist(s) as demonstrated by submitted work
- The merits of the project in terms of:
  - Artistic creation or production and/or
  - The development or advancement of the artist(s)
- The ability of the applicant to undertake the project
- Administrative factors such as reasonable planning of the project including a realistic budget and timeline.

Given equivalent merit, the jury will give priority to the cultural situation of the applicant i.e. barriers and opportunities relative to the goal of supporting, developing and connecting artists from culturally diverse communities in Edmonton.

## Application Process and Format

Applicants must submit the completed application form either online at [eacawards.fluidreview.com](http://eacawards.fluidreview.com) by 11:59 pm, or a paper copy to the EAC office (Prince of Wales Armouries, 10440 108 Ave) before 4:30 pm MST by the deadline of October 15. The application form will ask for detailed information on the following subject areas:

1. General applicant information
2. Grant Request
3. Declaration and signature of applicant
4. Information about the applicant
5. Project Description
6. Budget
7. Timeline
8. Artistic support materials
9. Alternative application process

The online and paper application forms will provide full descriptions of the above topics to guide and assist applicants.

## Reporting

Successful grant recipients must submit a final report within 90 days of the completion of the projects. This report must include a short written summary (2 pages max) of the project outcomes, that includes the impact that the grant had on the artist(s) and project viability; actual budget, including revenue and expenses; and any support materials. The EAC may request interim reporting and/or distribute grants in installments.

## Support

Contact Edmonton Arts Council at [grants@edmontonarts.ca](mailto:grants@edmontonarts.ca) or 780-424-2787 if you need help determining whether your project is eligible for this program. If you need help writing your application in English, please contact us at least two weeks before the deadline and we will try to connect you with language support resources.