



Creators' Reserve

Deadline: April 28, 2020

Artists at work.

As the City of Edmonton works through the COVID-19 crisis, the impact on artistic practitioners is significant.

The Edmonton Arts Council (EAC) is committed to advancing the work of artists. The EAC values the creative work that artists do for our City and considers it as foundational to building a healthy and vibrant arts ecology and key to civic vitality.

The Creators' Reserve program allows Edmonton artists to invest their time in the exploration of an idea or the research and development of content and/or the creation of new artistic work or the substantive revision of a work-in-progress.

Investment amounts are fixed at \$5,000 to value the time needed to pursue a wide range of creation activities.

Artists seeking to engage the services of an artistic peer or peers may request additional funds of up to \$1,000 to compensate others.

Funds will be drawn from existing EAC budgets with an allocation of \$400,000 for this program. The Edmonton Community Foundation is contributing \$100,000 through a redirection of part of the Edmonton Artists' Trust Fund proceeds for 2020.

Purpose

Creators' Reserve funds will support the time artists need to pursue a wide range of creation activities.

Funds are intended to support:

- The time an artist needs to explore an idea or research and develop content and/or create new work in any artistic discipline. Investments in creation projects will be made to benefit artists at all stages of their careers.
- Payment of peer(s) for support work on the same project.

Funds are not intended to support:

- Presentation or production costs.

Eligibility

Individual artists may apply. Applicants must:

- Have an existing and committed artistic practice in any discipline, including but not limited to customary and contemporary Indigenous and cultural work;
- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be a resident of the greater Edmonton region for at least one year prior to the deadline. This region includes the City of Edmonton; the counties of Sturgeon, Parkland, Leduc, Strathcona; and Indigenous communities.

- Artists might be asked to provide proof of residency; and
- Be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident or have a valid work permit.

Level of Support

- \$5,000 for an individual artist.
- Projects that require the engagement of artistic peer(s) may request up to \$1,000 in additional funds to compensate others.

EAC will allocate specific funds to support artists who are Indigenous or from Equity-seeking groups.

The EAC will, on a case-by-case basis, support applicants to overcome barriers in the preparation and submission of applications, including the acceptance in alternative formats if needed.

Assessment

Applications will be assessed by peers, facilitated by the EAC staff.

Peer assessors will include artists and arts professionals selected for their skills, knowledge and abilities. Assessors may review applications by discipline, by stage of artistic career and/or cultural contexts including those of Indigenous and Equity-seeking groups of artists.

Grant recommendations will be received and reviewed by the EAC Board before final approvals.

Connections & Exchanges guides the EAC's commitment to Indigenous artists and artists from Equity-seeking groups. This commitment will inform the peer assessment process and the EAC Board approval processes.

Assessment Criteria

The assessment will be guided by all the text in this document, and in all cases, will consider the following:

- The merit and achievement of the applicant's past work;
- Artistic merit of the idea being explored;
- The clarity of the creation process proposed; and
- The quality and feasibility of any proposed collaborative process with a peer or peers, if applicable.

Activity does not need to be new. This investment can respond to requests for enhancement, extension or amplification of existing artistic initiatives that are in line with the intent outlined.

Application Process and Format

Please prepare the following information as separate PDF documents to be submitted to the online system at: eacawards.fluidreview.com.

The EAC will support applicants as much as possible, particularly if there are barriers to accessing computers or internet connections. Please contact us to discuss your project.

Information requested will include:

- 1) General applicant information.
- 2) An artistic resume, history or CV that describes the past work of the applicant. (2 pages maximum)
- 3) A statement of artistic goals and work the applicant would like to pursue. (2 pages maximum)
- 4) Artistic support materials in a digital format.
 - Up to 10 images and/or 10 minutes of video or audio recording of your past work.
 - Up to 10 pages of text, such as poetry or prose, that demonstrates your past work.
 - Ensure files are labeled and organized for ease of access (e.g. PDF's, digital images or video, MP3 files).
 - Support materials can be provided in links to online platforms (e.g. Vimeo or YouTube), host sites for images, text documents, or MP3 files (e.g. Dropbox).

Reporting

Artists who receive this investment will be required to submit a report on the work they undertook.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding the content of the application or the process, please contact EAC Grants staff at grants@edmontonarts.ca or (780) 424-2787.