

CALL FOR ARTIST PROPOSALS: ARTIST-IN-COMMUNITY RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Overview

Saanich Parks, Recreation and Community Services' mission is to create inspiring community spaces and places to connect, learn and belong. We invite submissions from artists for a pilot Artist-in-Community Residency Program to be delivered through Fall 2021. The residency offers an opportunity for an artist, artist team, arts organization or collective to engage with the public in the creation of arts and community-building through Saanich's Community Recreation Centres, Arts Centre, parks, and community partnerships.

The successful artist/s will develop an arts-based engagement project, activities and programs that create meaningful experiences, connections and outcomes for the community. Applying community cultural development strategies, proposals should:

- Directly engage with and involve the community, connecting artists and diverse and inter-generational community members in creation and collaboration
- Encourage community members to become involved in a creative experience, feel welcomed and connected – even if they don't see themselves as creative or artistic! Community members would be actively involved as creators, performers and audiences
- Through design, planning and practice, reflect and incorporate diversity, inclusion and accessibility – the fabric and philosophy of Saanich.
- Contribute to an enhanced sense of identity, belonging and place for participants and community
- Develop an art project and programs that involve and have an impact and legacy – either physical or experiential – on our culturally diverse and multi-generational community
- Contribute to the vibrancy and quality of community life and public places in Saanich.

The artist/s can work in and propose a range of arts and culture projects, including visual and media arts, music, dance, performing arts, theatre, craft, literary arts or spoken word, language and/or cultural revitalization and multi-disciplinary arts. Projects could include but are not limited to public performances, artworks, participatory art installations or art activities, exhibitions, digital media artwork, workshops, and other socially-engaged art.

This year's artist residency pilot program focuses on diversity and inclusion. This focus supports Saanich's commitments towards addressing racism and moving forward towards Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation imperatives. BIPOC artists, arts organizations and collectives are encouraged to apply.

What to Expect as an Artist

If you and your project was awarded the residency, you would plan to devote approximately 75 hours to develop your project, complete it with community members, and provide a brief summary report. To ensure community opportunity and benefit, at least half of these hours should be direct community engagement and activity. The residency and your contributions must take place between September and end of November, 2021. A budget of \$2500 for artist's contribution plus up to \$750 for eligible expenses (material costs and other approved expenses) is available.

The residency and its programs would take place within the District of Saanich, located within the territories of the ləkʷəŋən peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the WSÁNEĆ peoples represented by the WJOLELP (Tsartlip), BOKEĆEN (Pauquachin), STÁUTW (Tsawout), WSIKEM (Tseycum) and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nations.

As you develop and deliver the project and programs, you would work with the support of Community Services and the Community Arts Programmer. You may also work with Saanich Parks or Recreation Centre staff (if your project and programs involve the parks or recreation centres), Saanich volunteers and members of the public and any collaborating community partners.

Artists can also expect:

- Access to [The Cedar Hill Art's Centre](#) Main Gallery as a focus for activation, public engagement, programming and exhibition for a 2-4 week period between mid-September and mid-November, 2021. (Dates dependent on nature of the residency, its focus and programming as well as on the schedule of gallery. *Proposed dates should be included in proposals*).
- access if requested to other indoor and outdoor spaces at Saanich Recreation Centres (including Cedar Hill shared studio spaces), parks or other spaces at available times for programming or creation
- There may be access to limited storage of materials for the residency
- Promotional support for your residency and activities, and public recognition of your residency
- Your residency's timing for engagement and programming could coincide with and integrate national [Culture Days](#) (Sept. 24-Oct. 24 2021, theme: Re:Imagine), National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30), or other significant dates that support the residency scope.

What's Expected from the Artist

As the successful artist, you will:

- Provide approximately 75 hours of work to develop and deliver your community project and programming. To ensure community opportunity and benefit, at least half of these hours should be direct community engagement and activity (either on site or outreach). These hours should be delivered over a period of weeks at some varied times so that community members with varied schedules can participate or visit.
- Develop a creative program plan for staff that outlines elements, including hours of community engagement and public programming as part of the process and program
- Work with staff to create a schedule of proposed activities for input, scheduling, and promotion
- Lead and facilitate public activities that implement the residency project and program plan
- Provide images and artist information for promotion of the residency and its public programming
- Complete an orientation to relevant policies and procedures for facilities, engaging with the public including children and vulnerable persons, Information and Privacy, etc.
- Sign a Photo and Video Release form for promotion/documentation of the residency and programming and participate in media interviews or public presentations when available.
- Keep staff updated on the project and schedule throughout the residency
- Assist with documenting the work following provided requirements for information and privacy
- Deliver the project and programs on time and within the budget allotted
- Provide upon completion a brief summary report that outlines goals, activities and outcomes.

Eligibility

The Residency Pilot Program is open to emerging, mid-career and established artists. This year's program focuses on diversity and inclusion to foster community connectedness through building inter-cultural awareness and understanding. BIPOC artists, arts organizations and collectives are encouraged to apply.

The artist must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada, aged 18 years or older. Applicants must reside within Greater Victoria.

Applicants must be eligible to work with Saanich as an Independent Contractor. To do so, the successful applicant for the Artist Residency would be required to complete an application and requirements for Saanich Recreation Services Contractors. More information on applying as a Saanich Recreation Contractor and its requirements can be provided and will be made available to shortlisted artists.

Selection Criteria and Process

Proposals will be assessed on both the artist's demonstrated ability and experience, as well as on the suitability of the project proposal to the scope of the residency.

Criteria

- Demonstrated artistic experience, including quality and innovation of work
- Demonstrated ability and experience working with community and staff in a collaborative process
- Demonstrated ability and experience working independently, collaboratively and creatively with diverse communities
- Demonstrated suitability of the project and its programs to the scope of the residency
- Strength of the proposal's strategy for engaging and involving diverse and intergenerational community members
- Strength, creativity and diversity of the community opportunities for engagement and activities/programs for artistic creation, collaboration and community-building
- Project's potential impact on the community
- Feasibility of the project as outlined and demonstrated
- Suitability of subject matter, engagement strategies and project outcomes for a diverse population, including children and other vulnerable persons

Process

- Staff will coordinate applications and contact shortlisted artists
- Applications will be reviewed and shortlisted by a small committee of staff and community members invited to contribute their relevant experience.
- Shortlisted artists will be interviewed. This will be an opportunity for both parties to ask questions related to the residency and to ensure that the residency and proposal are understood and would be suitable.
- Applicants would be notified of their status as soon as review is complete.

Application Requirements and Process

To apply, artists must submit an Application that includes the following items:

Checklist	Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Artist's Statement (max. 500 words) Describe who you are and your arts practice. Include your contact information.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Project Proposal (max. 800 words) Describe your proposed project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the community cultural development principles and goals that shape and guide your project • how you will engage with and involve the community in the development, collaboration and creation of your project • what particular communities (if there are any) that your project would focus on or involve • the activities and programs you are proposing – what are they, who are they for, when would they take place and what would they include and require • what you would create – both physical and experientially – with and for the community • How you plan to represent, reflect and help ensure diversity, inclusion and accessibility within your proposed project and programs • Proposed timeline for development and delivery of your project. Include your proposed dates for up to 4 weeks within the Cedar Hill Arts Centre Main gallery between September 15 and November 12, 2021 for community engagement, programming and exhibition surrounding your project.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Curriculum Vitae (maximum 3 pages recommended), in Word or .PDF format</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Up to 10 samples of your current work (digital images, videos, music files, written pieces). Samples should demonstrate your ability, suitability for the residency, and help illustrate your proposal concept. Include links to websites where content is held if applicable.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Documentation of projects and works you have created in a community context that you feel reflect your success, approach and suitability (up to 4 pages, with links)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Provide a Documentation List of your Application and its accompanying files. Ensure your files include your NAME and SUBJECT in each of their file names. <i>Attention to these details will help us track your application and ensure we have received all items you wish us to consider.</i></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Submit your application by August 27, 4:00 p.m. by either :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email to brenda.weatherston@saanich.ca (Note: if your application file is too large to send, send an initial email and we will send you a File Transfer invitation and instructions) • Mail or drop-off (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30pm) to: Saanich Community Services Attention: Brenda Weatherston, Recreation Annex, 780 Vernon Ave. Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Deadline for submission is August 27, 4:00 p.m. Applications must be complete and received by this date to be considered.

Contact

If you have questions or wish to discuss your proposal, please contact:

Brenda Weatherston (she/her)
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Saanich Parks, Recreation and Community Services
District of Saanich
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