

Aboriginal Youth Engaged in the Arts

GUIDELINES



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Aboriginal youth are a rapidly growing population, and they are demonstrating an increased level of commitment to and involvement with their languages, arts and cultures. They are our arts and culture leaders of the future. The program is made possible through a partnership with the BC Arts Council.

The Aboriginal Youth Engaged in the Arts program will invite applications specifically meant to:

- encourage youth participation in creative and artistic activity
- support youth cultural identity and sense of place through artistic expression
- improve the quality of life for youth through involvement in the arts
- contribute to youth participation in local arts and cultural economies
- implement new, targeted youth engagement arts activities for youth aged 15 to 30

Aboriginal Youth Engaged in the Arts projects will:

- engage youth in the arts through interactions with artists visiting through short-term residencies (1–4 weeks) in remote and reserve communities
- engage youth in the arts through workshop series with local artists working in any artistic discipline (artist's fees, materials, facilities)
- incorporate capacity building through visiting artists working with local artists to engage with youth through the arts

For the purposes of this program, the term “Aboriginal artists” refers to a person with Indigenous descent or heritage, and includes First Nations, Métis or Inuit practitioners of both traditionally based and/or contemporary/experimental art forms. Registered Indian Status is not required.

Remote and reserve communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applications to this program will be accepted from:

- a registered not-for-profit Aboriginal arts or culture organization in good standing, **or** an active unincorporated arts collective, **or** First Nation, based in British Columbia

To be eligible, the applicant, organization or group must:

- have a demonstrated commitment to the practice of arts and development of artists. This must be evident in their written mandate and previous activities.
- demonstrate the support, participation and direction of recognized Aboriginal artists, cultural or community leaders
- **unincorporated collectives must be directed by at least three Aboriginal artists who have been residents of British Columbia for at least the past year**
- **organizations, collectives and societies MUST be First Nations or Aboriginal directed (at least 51% of directors).**

Note: Existing clients of the BC Arts Council or the BC Touring Council should speak to their contact person before submitting a proposal for a Youth Engagement Project.

To be eligible, a project must:

- engage youth between the ages of 15 and 30 in artistic practices in any of the disciplines: visual, music, literary/storytelling, dance, performance, media, etc. Projects can focus on traditional and/or experimental methods.
- result in the creation of art, either collaboratively or individually
- be outside of regular school classroom activities
- involve mentorship with either a local artist or a visiting artist through an artist's residency

Note: There is no single model for an artist's residency, but the relationship between the resident and the host community is often an important aspect of any residency program. For the purpose of this program the benefits to the Aboriginal youth involved in the project must be at the core of the project. One example would be an artist with connections to the community being invited to visit for a month, during which they offer arts workshops, give presentations, or collaborate on making work with local youth artists.

Eligible expenses include artists' short-term living expenses during the project, costs associated with materials and supplies, and project related travel.

The following expenses are not eligible for funding through this program: projects related to post-secondary education, capital and business development costs, equipment purchase (such as a camera, video camera, laptop, etc.), capital renovation costs and expenses incurred in annual community celebrations.

Download a copy of the **Artist Grant Proposal Writing Handbook** to guide you through the process of completing your application form. You can request a hardcopy of this handbook as well.

www.fpcc.ca/arts/toolkit/Grant-Writing-Handbook.aspx

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Grants for Aboriginal Youth Engaged in the Arts projects will not exceed \$13,000 with the following maximum amounts:

- Up to **\$10,000** to engage youth in the arts through interactions with artists visiting through short-term residencies (1–4 weeks) in remote and reserve communities (artists' fees and expenses, space, materials, with a maximum of 10% allocated for coordination/administration)
- Up to **\$10,000** to engage young people in the arts through a workshop series with local artists working in any discipline (artists' fees, materials, facilities);
- Up to an **additional \$3,000** for a project that also builds on local artists' capacity to work with youth. During youth workshops, visiting artists work with local artists to build their capacity to engage with youth through the arts.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be properly evaluated, all proposals must include:

- A completed and signed application form (additional information may be attached).
- A project description detailing the objectives, activities and participants. This should include a detailed project timeline.
- If you are working with traditional knowledge, please explain how you have addressed protocols where required.
- A description of the applicant's or organization's background, artistic mandate and future plans.
- A list of the principal artists participating in the project and their artist **CV/resumes** or **biographies** and/or a description of how additional artists or participants will be recruited. In the case of collaborations and group performances, please identify the roles of participating artists in the work.
- **Samples of previous, related work** from artist/mentors and students. (Be selective and include a maximum of 20 images – in the form of a CD or USB of digital still images in jpg format or photographs – 10 minutes of select video or audio recordings on CD, DVD or USB or 10 pages of writing). ***Do not send original artwork or your only existing originals.***
- A numbered list clearly identifying and describing the samples (date, title, materials, size, collaborators). This list should correspond with the numbers or names of your image files. Example: 1. Eagle, mask, alder wood, 1x2 feet, 2010.
- A project budget, which details planned expenditures, resources and revenues and additional revenues or other support (including in-kind contributions).
- The most recent annual financial statements, if a registered organization.
- **Two current letters of support for the applicant organization, mentor and the proposed project.** We recommend obtaining letters from mentors or other artists involved in the project confirming their participation. There is a confirmation of participation letter template available on our website (www.fpcc.ca/arts/programs).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicants are advised to read through the program guidelines and application form, and discuss their project with the Arts Program staff before submitting their proposals.

- Applications with support materials must be postmarked or sent by the deadline.
- Under normal circumstances, forms submitted by FAX or email will not be accepted.

- Send printed material on unstapled, single-sided, 8 ½ x11 white paper, with a minimum font size of 12 (when possible).
- Under normal circumstances, proposals will only be discussed with the applicant or named contact person.
- Support material will be returned if a **self-addressed, stamped envelope** is provided. However, FPCC is not responsible for loss of or damage to submitted materials. ***Do not send originals or only existing copies of support materials.***
- **Successful applicants must acknowledge the support of the First Peoples' Cultural Council's Aboriginal Arts Development Awards Program in all materials produced in relation to the funded project.**

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE

There will be one deadline for applications in 2017
Original proposal materials must be postmarked or couriered by
Tuesday, October 31, 2017
Late proposals will be considered ineligible

ADJUDICATION PROCESS

- Submitting a proposal does not guarantee funding.
- Applications will be reviewed by FPCC staff for completeness and clarity.
- An interdisciplinary jury composed of established Aboriginal artists and arts administrators will be convened to review all applications and make recommendations regarding grants.
- Priority will be given to projects emphasizing creative initiative and participation of emerging Aboriginal artists.
- Funds available to this program are limited. Therefore, projects that request achievable levels of financial assistance and demonstrate financial need will receive priority.
- Applicants will be advised of jury **decisions approximately 16 weeks after the application deadline (January or February 2018).**
- FPCC reserves the right to require confirmation of other sources of funding prior to releasing funds, to request access to financial records of the project and to require receipts for expenses incurred by the project.
- If your application is successful, you will be required to complete paperwork before receiving a grant. Also, you will be required to complete a Final Report Form and send images or videos of your activities one month after the conclusion of your project. You will not be eligible to apply to any of our programs until your final report is submitted.

To discuss your project ideas or seek additional information, please contact:

The Arts Program Staff

First Peoples' Cultural Council

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