



**ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL**  
**CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO**

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an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

**Arts Response Initiative  
and Northern Arts Projects program  
Information Session**

September 17, 2020

The Ontario Arts Council (OAC) acknowledges that Indigenous peoples are the original occupants of this land. The OAC supports the significant ongoing contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis artists in all regions of Ontario through a number of programs and initiatives across the organization. The OAC also supports the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls for Action** and the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** and is committed to fostering the strength and diversity of Indigenous art forms, practices and cultural expression.



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# Agenda

- Introductions
- About the Ontario Arts Council
- Strategic priorities
- Arts Response Initiative
- Northern Arts Projects program
- Application and peer assessment processes
- Grant writing tips
- Q&A



# OAC Mandate

OAC's mandate is to foster the creation and production of art for the benefit of all Ontarians.

There are four granting streams:

- Creating and Presenting
- Building Audiences and Markets
- Engaging Communities and Schools
- Developing Careers and Arts Services

Available through [OAC website](#)



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# OAC Priority Groups

- Indigenous Artists
- Artists of Colour
- Francophone Artists
- Deaf Artists and Artists with Disabilities
- New Generation Artists (18-30 year olds)
- Artists Living in Regions Outside Toronto



# Arts Response Initiative

## Purpose

To help applicants continue their arts practice in the context of COVID-19.

Projects must be in response to the challenges resulting from the pandemic. Projects can include activities that assist artists in the short, medium and long term.



# Arts Response Initiative

- 1. Project Grants for Individuals**
- 2. Project Grants for Ad Hoc Groups, Collectives and Organizations**
- 3. Project Grants for Organizational Partnerships**



# Program for Individuals

## Details:

- Deadline: October 20, 2020 at 1pm ET
- Fixed Grant Amount: \$4,000

## Who can apply?

- professional artists and curators/programmers who are Ontario residents who are eligible in at least one other OAC project program
- Elders and language/knowledge keepers who are engaged in an artistic practice and are Ontario residents





# Program for Ad Hoc Groups, Collectives and Organizations

## Details:

- Deadline: November 3, 2020 at 1pm ET
- Grants up to \$15,000

## Who can apply?

- ad hoc groups/collectives of professional artists or arts professionals with a permanent physical address in Ontario and who are eligible in at least one other OAC project program
- Ontario-based not-for-profit arts organizations who are eligible in at least one other OAC project or operating program
- Ontario-based, Canadian-owned for-profit book or periodical publishers eligible for funding in OAC's publishing programs

# Program for Organizational Partnerships

## Details:

- Deadline: November 3, 2020 at 1pm ET
- Grants up to \$30,000

## Who can apply?

- Ontario-based not-for-profit arts organizations who are eligible in at least one other OAC project or operating program
- Ontario-based, Canadian-owned for-profit book or periodical publishers eligible for funding in OAC's publishing programs

## Partner(s) (at least one is mandatory):

- Can be any other group or organization from any sector (private or public)



# Arts Response Initiative

## Priorities for all three programs:

- applicants from the six OAC priority groups to ensure equitable access for all Ontarians
- projects that will help applicants address significant barriers to continuing their practice due to COVID-19
- projects that have the potential to benefit the applicant's career in the long term



# Arts Response Initiative

## **Additional priorities for applications from organizations:**

- Projects from organizations that serve a key role in their community (artistic field/discipline, region or cultural practice) and the proposed projects will help them to more effectively pursue their mandate and objectives in the context of COVID-19
- projects that benefit other artists and/or arts organizations in addition to the applicant, and particularly those from OAC priority groups

# What Does the Arts Response Initiative Fund?

Projects must be in response to the challenges resulting from COVID-19. Activities can include:

- research and planning
- documenting artistic work (for example, photographing visual arts pieces)
- upgrading technology
- website development
- developing knowledge and/or skills in administration, technology and digital platforms and/or artistic practice
- marketing artistic work to presenters and to audiences
- creating and adapting workspaces

# Your Application Includes

- **For Individuals**

- 2 application questions
- CV/Résumé
- Assessed on Merit

- **For Organizations:**

- Application questions, Budget
- CV or bios of key participants, letters of commitment (if applicable)
- Assessed on Merit, Impact and Viability

# Assessment

OAC programs are assessed by a jury of your peers. Jurors will read all the applications and make their decisions based on your answers and the purpose and priorities of the program.



You will be notified of the results within 4 months



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# Grant Writing Tips

- Call the Program Officer well before the deadline.
- Consider who is on the jury - other artists!
- Write with the passion you have for the project and edit with objectivity.
- Ask someone to read your grant before submitting.
- Share the specifics of your context.





# Grant Writing Tips (Cont'd)

- Be detailed but concise. Don't repeat. Pay attention to word limits!
- When working on a budget, start with expenses.
- Give yourself lots of time to think about your project and to fill out the application.
- **Spell chcek!.**
- Pay attention to the deadline – 1PM!



# Northern Arts Projects Program

## Purpose:

The program supports the creation, production and presentation of art work; professional development; and community arts engagement initiatives that benefit communities in northern Ontario.

## Deadlines:

November 19th, 2020, 1 p.m. ET  
May 14th, 2020 (passed)

**Grant amounts:** up to \$15,000



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# Northern Arts Projects Program

## Who can apply:

Northern Ontario-based\*:

- Individual professional artists
- Ad hoc groups/collectives
- Non-profit organizations
- First Nations and schools run by First Nations and FN Education Authorities
- Co-applicants (artists, ad hocs/collectives, organizations)
- Canadian-controlled professional arts and literary book and magazine publishers

*\*\*You must have a permanent physical address in northern Ontario, for at least one year prior to submitting an application, and continue to live for at least eight months each year in northern Ontario*



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# Northern Arts Projects Program

## Categories:

- New Works
- Presentation
- Working with Community
- Skills & Career Development



# Northern Arts Projects Program

## **This program does not fund:**

- fundraising activities, competitions and contests
- major capital expenditures, including buying, leasing or renovating buildings and purchase of major equipment
- portfolios or promotional packages
- self-publishing (with the exception of artists' books)
- music videos (with the exception of professional live documentation of a performance)
- touring projects



# Northern Arts Projects Program

## Parts of a Northern Arts Application

- Artistic Merit
- Impact
- Viability
- Budget
- Support Material



# Contact Us

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