



Community Arts Fund Program: Support for Downtown Eastside Community Art Projects Project Guidelines

Mandate of the CACV

Founded in 1946, the mandate of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver (CACV) is to create community through the arts.

CACV's Mission and Core Values

CACV is the voice for the community arts in Vancouver. We explore critical social issues through creative processes. CACV fosters and supports programs, practices and initiatives that develop common understanding through shared experiences.

Our core values are:

Accountability: We are transparent and responsive.

Contribution: We create opportunities for everyone to contribute and learn.

Community: We encourage active participation and collaboration.

Diversity: We are open, dynamic and inclusive in our practices and initiatives.

Creativity: We value the role of the artist in bringing out the creativity in everyone.

Meaning: We seek to bring to light the beauty, issues of social justice and opportunities for healing within our communities.

Program Description

The Community Arts Council of Vancouver is committed to working with organizations that have proven themselves capable of taking the risks necessary to build community arts opportunities that create stronger, more viable futures for people and community.

We are inviting proposals for projects that will help to build bridges of understanding and support between people and groups within the Downtown Eastside community and may also connect with people and groups throughout Vancouver. The community art project can be in any one or more medium: including but not limited to performance/acting, writing, film, music and voice, crafts, sculpture, drawing and visual arts, set design and construction, sound and lighting, digital/media communications.

We expect that most projects will be supported by applicant organizations that have the capacity to leverage additional dollars from other sources – creating a much larger impact on people’s lives and their community.

The aim of this program is to facilitate community-led renewal through community arts.

Within this overall aim, we have identified 3 program priorities that are described below.

Program Priorities

The Community Arts Fund Downtown Eastside Community Arts Program supports activities that are focused on at least one of the following:

1. Promote health and well-being through involvement in the arts including opportunities for involvement in the arts as a potential vehicle for employment and income generation for local artists.
2. Promote social transformation through the arts by speaking to social issues and social change in ways that inform and create understanding within and across groups for instance exploring themes of access to nutritious food, adequate housing and income.
3. Build bridges by involving the diverse communities of the Downtown Eastside and people from diverse socio-economic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds in creating shared interests and a shared voice, for example exploring issues of understanding and acceptance of people with mental health challenges; portraying the history and contributions of the numerous cultures composing the Downtown Eastside or incorporating various art forms, cultures and arts practices from multiple cultural groups in the area.

Objectives

Projects should address at least three of the following objectives:

1. Improved health and well-being of Downtown Eastside residents
2. Strengthened community life and greater civic engagement among residents
3. Improved individual and community confidence and pride
4. Opportunities to learn and discover new skills and abilities
5. Increased employment and economic opportunities
6. Safer opportunities for residents and visitors to gather and socialize
7. Increased youth and family involvement in community events and activities
8. Recognition of the role of culture and heritage in building community
9. Changed perceptions of the Downtown Eastside to include creativity, vitality and resilience

Eligibility

Who Can Apply?

Proposals are invited from:

1. Downtown Eastside groups and organizations (boundaries: Waterfront to Terminal, Clarke to Cambie).
2. Organizations working collaboratively. There must be at least two organizations working together on each project.
3. While the project must be a community-engaged arts project, the organizations do not need to be primarily arts organizations.
4. The lead organization must be incorporated as a society in good standing with the Province of British Columbia and have operated as an incorporated society for at least one fiscal year prior to the application date.

Exclusions

Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding.

Application Requirements

Applicants are encouraged to attend an information session prior to applying. Sessions are scheduled for September 24 and October 29.

1. Applicants must include evidence of a confirmed collaboration with a community organization.
2. Applicants must include evidence of a confirmed collaboration with one or more professional artists in designing and creating the project. The project must compensate artists by paying fees to professional artists at industry standards and to community artists at agreed upon rates; and adhere to international intellectual property rights standards.
3. Applicants must provide a signed, completed application form and all requested information (see checklist below):
 - Signed completed application form
 - One copy of the organization's most recent financial statements.

Financial Statements

Financial Statements must include a Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Notes. Internally prepared financial statements must be signed by two board members of the organization.

Adjudication Process

Proposals will be reviewed based on merit and adherence to the program priorities, objectives and guidelines. Applications are reviewed and assessed by the Downtown Eastside Community Arts Program Advisory Committee. Committee members have been selected because of their strong connections to the Downtown Eastside community and to the community arts. No member of the Advisory Committee will participate in the decision-making process for any proposals from organizations of which they have an affiliation (e.g., staff, board member or volunteer).

Committee members:

Leslie Kemp, Chair, Past President of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver

Terry Hunter, Executive Director of Vancouver Moving Theatre

Kathy Gibler, Executive Director, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden

Jessica Numminen, Board Member, Community Arts Council of Vancouver; Program Coordinator, Enterprising Women Making Art

Rika Uto, Arts Programmer at Carnegie Community Centre

Michael Clague, President, Community Arts Council of Vancouver (ex officio)

The following process is used to evaluate each application:

1. The CACV receives applications and acknowledges receipt by email within 2 weeks.
2. The CACV staff review applications for completeness.
3. The Program Committee then evaluates the applications using the assessment criteria outlined below and determines the level of funding and conditions on payment of funds.
4. The Program Committee recommends the allocation of funds to the Board of Directors of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver.
5. The CACV informs each applicant of its decision in writing.

Assessment Criteria

The Committee will consider each application according to three areas: 1) the project's potential to create community-led renewal through the arts; 2) organizational collaboration and community engagement; and 3) project feasibility.

The Committee will discuss the following:

- 1) The project's potential to create community-led renewal through the arts (50%)
 - A clear description of how the artistic component of the project will facilitate community-led renewal.
 - Demonstrated experience of the organization and/or professional artists in the community arts.
 - Ability to realize the project artistically, based on previous successes.
 - Clear statements about compensation to project participants including professional fees.
- 2) Organizational collaboration and community engagement (25%)
 - Demonstrated collaboration with one or more community organizations.
 - Demonstrated ability to engage with the diverse communities, neighbourhoods and groups of the Downtown Eastside.
 - Commitment to engaging people from diverse socio-economic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds in creating shared interests and a shared voice.
- 3) Project feasibility (25%).
 - Ability in project management including design, planning, audience and community development, communications and financial management.
 - Demonstrated capacity to realize the project including presentation of realistic budget assumptions and projections.
 - Strategies for the evaluation of the expected outcomes.

Changes to Awards

The Community Arts Council of Vancouver reserves the right to redistribute, delay or suspend payments if the organization:

- Does not carry out its planned program of activities
- Does not meet its obligations as a fund recipient including submission of final reports to the Council

Recognition of Assistance

In recognition of funding, the support of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver should be acknowledged in all promotional materials, both hard copy and online. The CACV logo or text based equivalent must be used on posters, brochures, print ads and programs and used where possible on media releases and signs related to the funded project. As well, funded organizations with a website are encouraged to add a link to the Community Arts Council of Vancouver website.

Maximum Assistance Levels

Maximum funding per project will not exceed \$5000. There is a requirement of matching funds from the organization(s) involved to at least the level being requested. This can be “in-kind donations” including volunteer time.

Application Deadline

November 6, 2012. Please send your proposal by email no later than November 6 to: Mary Bennett, CACV Administrator, mary@cacv.ca.

You will be notified of decisions no later than January 15, 2013.