



Municipality of the District of Chester

~ Artist in Residence Grant ~

Guidelines

The Municipality of Chester continually strives to support and celebrate its artistic community. We want to grow that community along with opportunities for our residents and visitors to connect with Arts and Culture. The Artist in Residence Grant supports emerging artists who are completing an Artist in Residence program in our Municipality of Chester.

It is always advisable to consult with the Recreation and Parks Services prior to submitting an application.

Program Goals

- Connect residents to Arts and Culture.
- Creatively animate public space(s).
- Provide opportunities for artists to engage with the public to showcase their creative practices.
- Advance equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in the arts.

Eligibility

- Applicants should already have been accepted into an Artist in Residence program within the Municipality of Chester. Letter of confirmation required.
- Open to all artistic practices
- The organization offering the Artist in Residence program must be a non-profit organization or otherwise comply with the requirements of the Municipal Government Act for eligibility for a grant or contribution by a Municipality (Section 65(AU)).
- Projects should foster a diverse and inclusive community and promote equal access and opportunity for all persons.
- Projects should produce an outcome such as, but not limited to, a temporary installation, performance, recording, creative collaboration, exhibition, or community experience that can be shared and celebrated with the public.

The Municipality of Chester is committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, and the dignity of all people. We welcome and encourage applications from individuals and groups who have historically faced barriers, including:

- Indigenous peoples
- African Nova Scotians and Black communities
- Racialized individuals of Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern, or mixed racial descent

- 2SLGBTQ+ communities
- Persons with disabilities
- Persons living with mental illness

Obligations

Successful applicants will commit to the following:

- to engage the public in creative experiences including but not limited to two public residency engagements, such as
 - artist talk
 - workshop class or self-guided, public activity
 - virtual or physical exhibition/display of completed work
- Promote the project with our Municipal staff and resources
- Applicants are encouraged to do their public engagement throughout the Municipality.
- Submit a final report form at the end of their residency

Funding

- The amount of total grant funding available for Artist in Residence Grants each year will be determined during annual budget deliberations.
- The maximum funding limit for an Artist in Residence Grant is \$3,000.
- Funds will be distributed through the organization offering the Artist in Residence Program in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

Eligible Costs

- Materials (supplies, services, equipment)
- Artist fees (research, development)
- Marketing
- Travel within the Municipality of Chester for public engagements
- Only expenses incurred after an application is submitted are eligible to be included in the grant request.

Application Procedure

- Applications must be submitted by May 10, 2026
- Applicants must complete and submit an Artist in Residence Grant Application Form. You may attach a separate document if there is insufficient space on the form for your response to each question. Applicants are required to include a plan and any necessary supporting material for completing the public engagements.
- Completed application forms should be submitted to the Municipality as indicated on the form.
- The Recreation Committee will review all applications and make funding recommendations to Municipal Council for final approval.

- If applicants have questions about the application form or would like to receive assistance in completing the form, please contact Recreation & Parks Services at 902-275-3490 or recreation@chester.ca.

Evaluation

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Grant criteria have been met.
- Demonstrated positive community impact.
- Alignment with the Municipality's strategic priorities.

Grant Recognition

The Municipality of Chester encourages appropriate recognition as a funding partner of approved projects.

Note: The amount of grant funding available is limited. Council reserves the right to approve funding amounts lower than requested. Council also reserves the right to reject any grant application, regardless of whether the criteria have been met.