

ARTIST-DIRECT GRANTS
SUBMISSION WINDOW FEB. 1- 29, 2024
GRANT AMOUNT \$5000

GRANT OVERVIEW

Partners in Art (PIA) is proud to announce the launch of its Artist-Direct Grants.

Differing from PIA's existing grants, which are open to visual arts organizations, the Artist-Direct Grant will award funds directly to GTA-based artists who have confirmed exhibitions in Canada between May 2024 and May 2025.

The goal of PIA's Artist-Direct Grants is to provide funds directly to artists to cover supplies, studio rentals, exhibition expenses, production costs, and up to 50% of the grant can be used to pay for their time and labor. This grant aims to address the lack of funding for artists on a more holistic level. PIA acknowledges the barriers artists in Toronto face due to the soaring living costs, shortage of studio spaces, and reduced opportunities to create and showcase their work. With this new funding stream, PIA will not only support more excellent, contemporary art projects exhibitions Canada-wide, but aims to also bolster artists' ability to live and prosper in Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

For 2024, PIA will be awarding grants in the amount of \$5000.

PIA's organizational mission is to "fund and champion contemporary visual art through philanthropy, volunteerism, and education".

Please email artistdirect@partnersinart.ca for any questions pertaining to this program.

ELIGIBILITY + EXPENSES + ASSESSMENT

Eligible Applicants

- Canadian (citizens or permanent residents) visual artists who have a confirmed, upcoming public exhibition in Canada between May 2024 and May 2025.
- Applicants must live in the Greater Toronto Area (see definitions on page 3);
- Confirmed exhibitions may be hosted by public art galleries, not-for-profit galleries/artist-run centres, DIY spaces, commercial art galleries and other public spaces; *
- Applicants must have creative control over the project and hold copyright to the proposed work;
- Solo or group exhibitions are both eligible;
- Collaborative or collective applicants will be considered as one applicant.

* *A Letter of Support from the exhibiting organization's curator/director/or equivalent must be provided. Please contact us if you have any questions about venue eligibility.*

Ineligible Applicants

- Undergraduate, graduate, or doctorate students enrolled full-time at an educational institution.*

* Continuing studies or part-time students contact PIA to confirm eligibility.

Ineligible Exhibitions

- Exhibitions in venues that are not open to the public;
- Fundraising projects;
- Publications or books without an accompanying exhibition;
- Exhibitions presented for credit in a secondary, post-secondary, graduate or doctorate programs;
- Virtual or online exhibitions;
- Exhibitions in spaces where a Letter of Support cannot be provided;
- Artists and organizations cannot apply for the same project in PIA's other funding streams.

Priority Groups

- Priority will be given to first-time applicants;
- Priority will be given to emerging and mid-career artists (definitions provided below);
- Priority will be given to IBPOC and other underrepresented groups in the cultural sector in hopes of furthering PIA's equity and inclusion initiatives.

Expenses

Funds from the Artist-Direct Grant should be used for the creation of new work and for artists to pay themselves for their time. Up to 50% of the grant (\$2500) can be used as an artist fee. Materials, production costs, framing, and fees associated with producing an exhibition are all eligible.

Full Expense Eligibility

Eligible expenses include costs associated with visual arts practices including painting, drawing, printmaking, installation, sculpture, performance art, craft, video, new media, photography and electronic media:

- material, supplies, production and post-production costs;
- studio space or equipment rental;
- purchase of small-scale equipment, software, electronics and similar materials required to carry out the projects;
- exhibition presentation costs (shipping, crating, installation and framing);
- artist fees (up to \$2500).

This grant is not in lieu of the exhibiting gallery paying appropriate artist/commission fees.

Activity Timing

Successful candidates will be notified in May 2024.

The activity for which you are requesting funding:

- exhibition cannot start before you receive your grant results in May 2024;

- exhibition/project must be completed by May 2025.

Assessment - How are decisions made?

Artistic Merit - 50%

- Artistic quality the applicants past and current work
- Potential artistic outcomes from this exhibit/project

Impact - 40%

- Impact on your artistic development
- Importance of project at the stage of the applicant's career/practice
- Impact on discourse of contemporary art
- Impact on artistic community and community at large

Innovation + Experimentation - 20%

- Demonstration of new materials or productions
- Conceptual rigour and/or thoughtfulness

Applications for this grant will be juried internally by the Artist-Direct Committee of PIA.

Final Report + Expectations + Acknowledgement

Successful applicants must fill out a brief Final Report after their exhibition is complete. This report will request information regarding the impact of the project and high budget summary.

If successful artists and PIA are interested in organizing a studio, exhibition or virtual tour, this can be arrangement based on availability, but is not required.

Successful artists will be asked to add the PIA logo to their website and project/exhibition website as acknowledgement of support.

Definitions

- Greater Toronto Area: The GTA is comprised of six local boroughs—Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, York, East York and Toronto, plus the cities of Mississauga and Brampton.
- Emerging: artists in the early years of their professional careers who have a small exhibition record. You must have been practicing professionally for at least three years (meaning public presentation of your work).
- Mid-career: artists whose professional careers have passed the early stages, who have produced a reasonable body of work and have attained a fair degree of public exposure. You must have been practicing professionally for at least 8 years (meaning public presentation of your work).
- Underrepresented Groups/Equity Seeking Groups: Equity-seeking groups are communities that face significant collective challenges in participating in society. This marginalization

could be created by attitudinal, historic, social and environmental barriers based on age, ethnicity, disability, economic status, gender, nationality, race, sexual orientation and transgender status, etc. Equity-seeking groups are those that identify barriers to equal access, opportunities and resources due to disadvantage and discrimination and actively seek social justice and reparation.

PIA Funding Disclaimer

PIA's mission is to "fund and champion contemporary visual art through philanthropy, volunteerism and education". In this pursuit, PIA supports artists and projects that provide thoughtful and challenging perspectives on our world. As a result, PIA may, at times, associate itself with controversial points of view, opinions, and activism from the diverse individuals and groups that PIA supports. The views expressed by these individuals and organizations are their own and do not necessarily reflect the policies or points of view of PIA or its members. PIA is comprised of 200+ members from different cultural, ethnic, and religious demographics, and as an organization, PIA strives to meet our core principles of tolerance, the health of dissent, freedom of association, and freedom of expression.