



Exhibition Assistance

DEADLINES: Recommenders set their own deadlines. Please see the *Exhibition Assistance Recommenders Information* document at www.arts.on.ca/page122.aspx for a list of deadlines or contact the recommender directly.

The 2016-17 program is open from June 2016 through January 2017.

For questions about the Exhibition Assistance program, contact:
416-961-1660 / 1-800-387-0058

Bilingual Program Administrators:

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CE DOCUMENT EXISTE ÉGALEMENT EN FRANÇAIS

The OAC is committed to providing services in French according to the requirements of the French Language Services Act.

The OAC is also committed to providing accessible services. Deaf persons and persons with disabilities who require accommodation (e.g. assistance, alternate formats) are encouraged to contact us as soon as possible. Please see "Whom do I contact if I have questions?"

For more information about OAC's Accessibility Standards for Service to the Public Policy, please refer to the OAC website at: <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page3616.aspx> .

OAC's Mandate and Vision

MANDAT

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

VISION

We **envision** an Ontario where:

- ❑ people of all ages and communities experience, feel connected to and value the arts
- ❑ the arts sector is resilient and healthy
- ❑ Ontario artists and arts organizations are recognized locally, nationally and internationally for their work
- ❑ the arts reflect the diversity of stories of all of Ontario's people and communities

Program Description

The Exhibition Assistance program provides grants of \$500 to \$1,500 to assist artists with costs related to presenting their work in a confirmed, upcoming exhibition.

Grants are made through **third-party recommenders** (public art galleries, artist-run centres and arts service organizations) throughout the province. Artists submit their applications to one of the Ontario Arts Council's (OAC) recommender organizations (see the **List of Exhibition Assistance Recommenders** on pages 10-11). Once the recommender has made the decision to award a grant, they send the approved application and recommendation to OAC. OAC then prepares the grant payments and sends them directly to artists.

Eligibility

The program is open to:

- ❑ individual visual artists, craft artists and media artists
- ❑ artist collectives, i.e. two or more artists who create and exhibit together

Artists and collectives working in a range of media and practices are eligible, including: drawing, electronic media, installation (film/video, audio, sculptural), painting, performance, photography or photo-based work, printmaking and sculpture. Craft-based practices include beadwork, book arts, ceramics, fibre arts, furniture, jewellery, metal-work, glass and wood.

Students enrolled full-time in undergraduate or graduate level studies are not eligible. Full-time is defined as more than two courses.

For group exhibitions, each artist must apply individually for his or her own expenses.

Curators are not eligible.

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

To be eligible for OAC project funding, you must:

- ❑ be a professional artist.

The OAC defines a professional artist as someone who has developed skills through training or practice, is recognized by artists working in the same artistic tradition, has a history of public presentation or publication, seeks payment for her or his work and actively practises his or her art. Short breaks in artistic work history are allowed.

- ❑ be a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident of Canada, or have an application pending for Permanent Resident status and, if requested, be able to provide documentation to verify this

AND

- ❑ be a resident of Ontario who has lived in Ontario for a minimum of one year prior to making a grant application,
- ❑ have a permanent physical address in Ontario, and
- ❑ live in Ontario no less than eight months a year.

If requested, you must be able to provide one or more of the following documents to verify your residency status:

- an Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) card
- an Ontario driver's licence
- other documentation to validate your residency

If you do not produce this documentation upon request, you are ineligible.

ABSENCES FROM ONTARIO

In some circumstances, you may be eligible to apply to OAC while you are temporarily absent from Ontario (e.g. for an educational or artistic opportunity). Your absence must be no more than one year and not recurring. You must maintain your permanent physical address in Ontario, and you cannot apply for support from the jurisdiction of your temporary residence.

ARTIST COLLECTIVES

To be eligible for OAC project funding, your collective must:

- ❑ be composed of professional artists,
- ❑ have at least 50% of its members residing in Ontario,
- ❑ not be an incorporated organization,
- ❑ have a permanent physical address in Ontario,
- ❑ operate on a not-for-profit basis.

Note: To apply as an artist collective you must be able to cash a grant cheque issued in the name of the collective.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

To avoid a conflict of interest, you must not apply to a recommender if you are associated with the recommender organization as a staff person, board member or member of the jury/committee that makes Exhibition Assistance decisions, or if you are a member of their immediate family.

RESTRICTIONS

You are not eligible to apply to any OAC program if you have an **overdue** or **submitted but unapproved** final report in any OAC grant program.

NEW

Individuals, ad hoc groups, collectives and incorporated organizations that do not receive OAC operating funding are eligible to receive up to three project grants per calendar year.

Multiple grants in a third party recommender program received in a year count as one grant. Third party recommender programs are: Aboriginal Artists Materials and Supplies Assistance (AAMSA); Exhibition Assistance; Theatre Creators' Reserve; Writers' Reserve.

Multiple grants received from the Aboriginal Artists in Schools and Artists in Education programs (Mentorship Initiative, Travel) in one year count as one grant.

If you submit three project program applications during the year, you cannot submit a fourth until you have received notification that one of your applications has not been successful.

If you have already received one project grant in a given year, you may apply for only two other project grants at a time; if you have already received two project grants in a given year, you may apply for only one other project grant at a time.

The Creative Engagement Fund to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment in Ontario is an exception – grants given under this fund do not count as OAC grants.

Grant Amounts

The minimum grant you may apply for is \$500 and the maximum \$1,500.

Recommenders may award less than you request (although not less than \$500) and cannot recommend more than you request.

You can apply for and receive more than one Exhibition Assistance grant in any one program year (April 1 to March 31), but **each grant must be for a different exhibition** and the total for the program year cannot be more than \$1,500.

Important note: Do not apply to more than one recommender at a time for the same exhibition. If your application is denied, you may then submit an application to another recommender.

Support for Deaf Persons or Persons with Disabilities

Funding is available for Deaf persons or persons with disabilities who need support to complete an application. Contact the program office as soon as possible to request support.

Individual applicants who are Deaf or who have a disability, or ad hoc groups or collectives with members who are Deaf or who have a disability, may request additional accessibility expenses to realize the project (for example, sign language interpretation, personal attendant, etc.).

Please include this amount on the application. The requested supplementary funds are over and above your grant request amount.

Note: Deaf persons or persons with disabilities includes people who have physical, mental or learning conditions with long-term, temporary or varying effects that may be apparent or not.

How and when do I apply?

APPLICATION PROCESS – STEP BY STEP

1. Send the full application package to the recommender, containing:
 - Completed and signed application form
 - Résumé
 - Document confirming your exhibition
 - 10 images or audio-visual documentation of your work (the recommender will specify the formats they can accept)
 - Postage-paid envelope for the return of your support material
2. If the recommender decides to recommend a grant to you, they will complete and sign your application and send it to OAC along with the exhibition confirmation document and your résumé. The recommender will return your visual support material to you, if requested. Whether successful or not, you will be notified by the recommender within six weeks of the deadline or receipt of the application (if there are no deadlines).
3. OAC will check the application to make sure we have all the required information and confirm that you are eligible. We then issue a grant cheque to you, usually within 3 weeks of receiving the recommendation. If there is any missing or incorrect information in your application the cheque payment may be delayed.

HOW TO CHOOSE A RECOMMENDER

The province is divided into six Exhibition Assistance zones. You are eligible to **apply only to the recommenders located in the zone in which you live (exceptions noted below)**. The *Map of Exhibition Assistance Zones* is available, along with application forms, on the OAC website at www.arts.on.ca/Page122.aspx.

Once you find out which recommenders are located in your zone, you decide which one to apply to. In addition to the recommender's location, you may also consider:

- Whether the deadlines are convenient for your exhibition dates.
- Whether the recommender's mandate or stated priorities relate to your work.

Read the *Exhibition Assistance Recommenders Information* document (available on the website) to find information on each recommender's deadlines and funding priorities.

SPECIALIZED RECOMMENDERS

In addition to regional recommenders, there are a number of **recommenders with specialized expertise**. Eligible artists also have the option of applying to these:

- Artists of colour** in all regions have the option of applying to one of the culturally diverse recommender organizations.
- Deaf artists and artists with disabilities** have the option of applying to Tangled Art + Disability.

- ❑ **First Nations, Inuit and Métis artists** in all regions have the option of applying to one of the Indigenous recommender organizations.
- ❑ **Francophone artists** have the option of applying in French to any of the francophone recommenders.
- ❑ **Craft artists** in all regions have the option of applying to one of the craft-specific recommenders.
- ❑ **Media artists** in all regions have the option of applying to one of the specialized media arts recommenders.
- ❑ **Photo-based artists** in all regions have the option of applying to Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography, a designated recommender for photography, or of applying to a local recommender with photography expertise.

DEADLINES

The program is open and processes grant payments from June through January each year. Each recommender sets its own deadlines, or may decide to accept applications on an ongoing basis. Please refer to the OAC Exhibition Assistance web page for a list of deadlines (www.arts.on.ca/Page122.aspx) or contact the recommender directly.

To be eligible, you must apply to a recommender before your exhibition opens. If possible, you should apply well in advance of the opening date. You may receive funding up to 18 months in advance of the exhibition.

Program break: Recommenders must send their final grant recommendations to OAC by the end of January each year. There is a break in the program from February through May while the OAC prepares the program materials and budget for the following year. During this period there are no grant payments.

If you have an exhibition opening between February and May and you did not apply in advance, you will need to find a recommender that will accept your application during the program break. They are identified in the *Exhibition Assistance Recommenders Information* document on the OAC website.

Please note that you must still submit your application to the recommender before your exhibition opens. There may be a delay in notifying you of the grant decisions at this time of year because the recommenders can only make grant recommendations once the program opens in June. If successful, you may receive the grant payment retroactively.

Eligible exhibitions and expenses

ELIGIBLE EXHIBITIONS

Eligible exhibitions must be confirmed and scheduled to take place in locations that are open to the public. **Your exhibition can, but does not have to, take place in a gallery that is a recommender.**

The following exhibitions are **eligible**:

- ❑ Exhibitions taking place in Ontario, other provinces and international locations
- ❑ Exhibitions in public art galleries, artist-run centres and commercial art galleries

- ❑ Solo and group shows
- ❑ Do-it-yourself (DIY) or self-presented public exhibitions
- ❑ Exhibitions in alternative locations such as community centres, restaurants, rented spaces, etc.
- ❑ Art or craft exhibitions, art fairs, collective studio tours

The following exhibitions are **not eligible**:

- × Exhibitions that have already opened before you submit your application to a recommender
- × Exhibitions for which you have already received an exhibition assistance grant
- × Exhibitions in private homes or other venues that are not open to the public
- × Theatrical-style screening of film or video
- × Exhibitions of student work

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Exhibition Assistance grants can be used towards expenses related to the presentation of work including materials to install your work, framing, hardware for mounting and installation, construction of structural elements specific to an installation, etc. (For more details please see the application.)

Only costs that are your responsibility and are not covered by the gallery are eligible.

Exhibition Assistance grants do not replace fees that a gallery may pay you to exhibit your work.

Recommender Decision Making Process

Recommenders establish their own processes for assessing Exhibition Assistance applications and making grant recommendations. In some cases, a jury or committee assesses applications; in others, the curator or other staff makes grant decisions.

Recommenders in zones 1 through 4 are limited to recommending up to 40% of their Exhibition Assistance grants to artists exhibiting in their own spaces. Northern recommenders, in zones 5 and 6, may recommend up to 80%.

NOTE: Recommenders cannot approve grants that will be paid back to them in any way.

OAC'S PRIORITY GROUPS IN ASSESSMENT

OAC is committed through its strategic plan *Vital Arts and Public Value*, to ensuring equitable access for **all Ontarians**, with particular emphasis on the following priority groups:

- ❑ Indigenous artists¹
- ❑ artists and arts organizations located in regions across Ontario²
- ❑ artists of colour³
- ❑ Deaf artists and artists with disabilities⁴

¹ Indigenous means First Nations, Inuit and Métis people.

² Region means outside Toronto. Toronto postal codes begin with M.

³ OAC's definition of the term artists of colour is based on the Government of Canada's definition of "visible minorities," which is "persons, other than Indigenous peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."

- ❑ francophone artists⁵
- ❑ new generation artists (18-30 years old)

Recommenders are asked to consider these groups when assessing applications and making funding decisions, taking into account the context of applicants who are members of priority groups.

Some of these priority groups have a unique history, identity and status in Canada, some have faced historical and/or systemic barriers, others reflect OAC's province-wide mandate and all are essential to the future of the arts sector.

OAC acknowledges that there are other population groups in Ontario that face barriers. However, we believe that the priority groups identified above are the appropriate ones for OAC to focus on at this time.

For more information on the strategic plan, refer to <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page525.aspx>

What are the decisions based on?

In making grant decisions, recommenders consider your visual support material and application to assess artistic merit, and review the budget to assess the use of grant. They also consider OAC priority groups. We therefore encourage you to explain or describe in your artist's statement whether your geographic or cultural background influences your work.

Recommenders may also establish additional criteria and priorities for Exhibition Assistance grant recommendations, based on their expertise and in response to their community's needs.

You can find information on recommenders' criteria and funding priorities in the *Exhibition Assistance Recommenders Information* document on OAC's website. You can also contact recommenders directly for this information.

Finding Out About a Grant Decision

Once the recommender has made a decision, they will contact you to let you know whether or not you have been recommended for an Exhibition Assistance grant. **Please do not contact the OAC for this information.**

If you are recommended for funding the OAC will send you a letter and cheque, usually within 3 weeks of receiving the completed application from the recommender. A T4A will be sent to you the following February.

You can receive Exhibition Assistance grants in addition to other OAC grants for individual artists.

⁴ OAC's definition of Deaf artists or artists with disabilities includes people who have physical, mental or learning conditions with long-term, temporary or varying effects that may be apparent or not.

⁵ Francophone is based on the Government of Ontario's Inclusive Definition of Francophone (IDF) which includes "those persons whose mother tongue is French, plus those whose mother tongue is neither French nor English but have a particular knowledge of French as an Official Language and use French at home."

If You Get a Grant

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

If you receive a grant you must acknowledge the support of the OAC through the inclusion of the OAC logo on all printed promotional material for your exhibition. If you are notified about the grant after you have already printed invitations, please acknowledge OAC support in other formats, such as signage, websites, presentations, etc.

REPORTING

If you receive a grant you must submit a brief final report within 3 months of the last day of your funded exhibition. The report form is available to download on the OAC website. You must notify OAC if your funded exhibition is delayed or cancelled.

Exhibition Assistance grants will not be released if your final report for a previous OAC grant is overdue.

If you do not submit a final report, the OAC may require you to repay the grant. You will be ineligible to submit future applications to any OAC program or receive grant payments from the OAC until the grant is repaid or an acceptable report submitted.

Whom do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about the Exhibition Assistance program, contact us (see page 1 for contact details).

If you are Deaf or a person with a disability and require accommodation please be aware that OAC may need advance notice to provide certain alternative formats and additional support in order for applicants to submit their application at the program deadline date. Please contact the program office as soon as possible to discuss options.

A current application form may be downloaded from the OAC website. For a paper copy to be mailed to you, contact us: 416-961-1660 | 1-800-387-0058 | info@arts.on.ca). We do not send application forms by fax or email.

Ontario Arts Council
121 Bloor Street East, 7th Floor
Toronto ON M4W 3M5
www.arts.on.ca / info@arts.on.ca

List of Exhibition Assistance Recommenders 2016-17

Regional Recommenders

ZONE 1

Art Gallery of Windsor	McIntosh Gallery, London
Artcite, Windsor	Museum London
Durham Art Gallery	St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre, St. Thomas
Forest City Gallery, London	Thames Art Gallery, Chatham
Judith & Norman ALIX Art Gallery, Sarnia	Tom Thomson Art Gallery, Owen Sound

ZONE 2

Gallery Stratford	Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery
Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford	Art Gallery of Guelph
Grimsby Public Art Gallery	Niagara Artists' Centre, St. Catharines
Idea Exchange, Cambridge	Rodman Hall Art Centre, St. Catharines
	Woodstock Art Gallery

ZONE 3

A Space, Toronto	McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton
Art Gallery of Burlington	Mercer Union, Toronto
Art Gallery of Hamilton	Power Plant, Toronto
Art Gallery of Mississauga	Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa
Art Museum at the University of Toronto	Station Gallery, Whitby
Hamilton Artists Inc.	Varley Art Gallery, Unionville
Immigrant Culture and Art Association, Hamilton	YYZ Artists' Outlet, Toronto

ZONE 4

Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston	Artspace, Peterborough
Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden	Galerie SAW Gallery, Ottawa
Art Gallery of Peterborough	Modern Fuel Artist-Run Centre, Kingston

ZONE 5

Art Gallery of Algoma, Sault Ste. Marie	MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie
Art Gallery of Sudbury/Galerie d'art de Sudbury	Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Centre
Gore Bay Museum, Gore Bay (Manitoulin Island)	White Water Gallery, North Bay

ZONE 6

Definitely Superior, Thunder Bay	Pictograph Gallery, Atikokan
Fort Frances Museum, Fort Frances	Thunder Bay Art Gallery

Specialized Recommenders

INDIGENOUS ARTISTS

First Nations, Inuit and Métis artists in all regions have the option of applying to one of the Indigenous recommenders, including those located outside of their zone of residence:

- Neto Hatinakwe Onkwehowe Native Arts Canada, Niagara Falls
- Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, M'Chigeeng
- Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford

CRAFT ARTISTS

Craft artists in all regions have the option of applying to:

- Craft Department at Harbourfront, Toronto
- Craft Ontario, Toronto
- Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto

ARTISTS OF COLOUR

Artists of colour in all regions have the option of applying to:

- Gendai, Toronto
- South Asian Visual Arts Centre, Toronto
- Sur Gallery, Toronto
- Third Space Art Projects

DEAF ARTISTS AND ARTISTS WITH DISABILITIES

Deaf artists and artists with disabilities in all regions have the option of applying to :

- Tangled Art + Disability

FRANCOPHONE ARTISTS

Francophone artists have the option of applying in French to any of the designated francophone recommenders, including those located outside of their zone of residence.

- Centre d'artistes Voix Visuelle, Ottawa
- Centre francophone de Toronto, Toronto
- Galerie 815, Hearst
- Galerie d'art Eugène-Racette, Ottawa
- Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario, Sudbury
- Galerie SAW Gallery, Ottawa (*Note: Accepts applications in French or English*).
- Le Labo, Toronto (**NEW**)

MEDIA ARTISTS

Media artists in all regions have the option of applying to a media arts recommender:

- Ed Video, Guelph
- InterAccess Media Arts Centre, Toronto
- SAW Video, Ottawa

PHOTO-BASED ARTISTS

Photo-based artists in all regions have the option of applying to Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography, Toronto.