



ARTWALK DEVELOPING VISUAL ARTIST AWARD

Application Guidelines

Providing financial assistance for developing visual artists from Central Alberta

Administered by the Red Deer Arts Council.

Application deadline: April 1st at 5:00pm

IMPORTANT NOTES

Read the application guidelines carefully for details about eligibility, the purpose of the award and how to apply. You may apply for one professional artist award per year.

Please contact Suzanne Hermary, Executive Director, well in advance of the deadline if you have questions about the award.

Telephone: 403-348-2787

Email: info@reddeerartscouncil.ca

Be sure the application includes all the required materials and forms:

- Fill in all sections of the forms
- Use the checklist provided to confirm that you are preparing a thorough application
- Include the checklist with your application.

Submit the complete application and all supporting materials on or before the deadline to:

in person/mail: Artwalk Developing Visual Artist Award
c/o Red Deer Arts Council
6 – 4919 49 Street
Red Deer, AB T4N 1V1

by email: info@reddeerartscouncil.ca

Award Introduction

The Red Deer Artwalk Society (1986-2014) believed in the power of art to ignite the imagination, stimulate thought, and provide enjoyment.

The Artwalk Developing Visual Artist Award is a legacy of Red Deer Artwalk Society; the society's remaining funds were donated to the Red Deer Arts Council in 2018 toward the establishment of an annual award available to developing visual artists living and working in Central Alberta.

Objective

The objective of the Artwalk Developing Visual Artist Award is to assist practicing visual artists with innovative projects, travel or educational pursuits that contribute to their personal artistic development.

The fund recognizes that committed artists contribute to the positive development of the arts community in Red Deer and Central Alberta. It acknowledges and encourages those artists who have worked at their craft and have become recognized as artists making contributions to the community.

The intention is to encourage artistic creativity, to enable artists to further develop their skills, and to improve the ability of artists to create new work.

For the Purposes of this Award, the Visual Arts includes but is not limited to:

Painting, printmaking, sculpture, carving, traditional arts, drawing, design, ceramics, photography, fine craft, and new media. Visual arts may include elements of performance art.

How to Apply

Read the application carefully for details about eligibility, the purpose of the program and how to apply. If you have specific questions, please contact the Red Deer Arts Council well in advance of the deadline.

Eligibility will be determined based on the information you provide in your application. Be sure that your application includes all the required materials and forms. It may be useful to have someone else review your application for eligibility and completeness against the award criteria.

Applicant Eligibility

- Canadian Citizens or permanent residents of Canada.
- Artists must reside and practice in Central Alberta (i.e., the region of the City of Red Deer or the Central Alberta Zone (up to and including the communities of Rocky Mountain House, Ponoka, Stettler and Olds, as our boundaries).
- Artists meeting the following criteria:
 - Have demonstrated learning and skill in their artistic field (not limited to academic institutions – may include workshops, apprenticeship, work with a mentor, traditional Indigenous practices, or postsecondary education),
 - Not currently enrolled in full-time art training,
 - Have maintained an independent practice for at least five years after learning experience,
 - Have produced an independent body of work and has established their own style in their chosen medium,
 - Have local exhibition or project experience,
 - May have been awarded local commissions, awards, or competitions,
 - Recognized as a skilled artist by their peers (i.e., those working in the same artistic tradition.)
 - Demonstrate a commitment to their arts practice,
 - Have received public exposure where selection was carried out by an objective, arm’s length process,
 - Have a history of public presentation of their work, at least in part via credible selection processes and/or publication of their work through a public presenter, gallery, museum, or publisher,
 - Teaching and mentoring experience within the art form is also relevant,
 - Age is not a factor,
 - Skill and talent are also assessed, based on examples of the artist’s work along with relevant support material.

Application Notes

One application for a Red Deer Arts Council professional artist award per year will be accepted from an individual artist. An applicant may not receive the same award in two consecutive years.

If the annual deadline falls on a statutory holiday or a weekend, the deadline will be extended to 5:00 pm the next business day.

Late or incomplete applications will not be adjudicated. Red Deer Arts Council is not responsible for loss or damage of materials submitted in support of this application. Red Deer Arts Council is not responsible for loss or damage of materials submitted in support of this application. Submission materials will not be returned.

Mailed applications must be delivered or postmarked on or before the deadline. An email confirming receipt will be sent when delivered by that means. Please note that emails exceeding 10MB in total size may not be received. Other means of delivery we suggest are: wetransfer.com, sending a cloud drive link, providing a thumb drive. Ensure the cloud link remains accessible without issue for at least 3 months upon submission.

Applicants must submit the following materials:

1. All completed forms: cover sheet, checklist, and portfolio description form.
2. A portfolio – see Portfolio Description in application.
3. An up-to-date resume that outlines artistic training, education, and presentation history.
4. Support Materials. Please note that email submissions may not be received if they exceed 10MB in total size. Another means of delivery is suggested for larger file sizes (e.g. wetransfer.com or a cloud link).
5. Applicants will include two letters of appraisal, support, or recommendation of their work from individuals with experience in the area that would assist the jury in assessing your application.
 - a. **Such materials may be sent directly to the Red Deer Arts Council by the appraiser, referencing the applicant in their subject line.**
6. Intended use of the funds awarded.
7. Upon receipt of the award, successful applicants must:
 - Use the funds within a 12-month period,

- Provide the Red Deer Arts Council with an article to be printed in the newsletter about their use of the award. If unable to provide this by December 31 of the year in which you have received funding, please contact the office in advance to provide an estimated timeline.

Assessment of Applications

Red Deer Arts Council values the principle of peer-assessment. Applications will be reviewed by a group of at least three jurors chosen by the Red Deer Arts Council. Red Deer Arts Council staff do not make award decisions but facilitate the application and assessment process.

Jurors are made up of fellow visual artists and arts consultants who have experience and an understanding of the practices within the visual arts.

Completed applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Assessment of the education, experience, and skill level of the applicant,
- The degree to which the application will meet the artistic development objectives of the applicant,
- The intended use of the award's funds

Decisions are final. There is no appeal process, although feedback is always welcome. The award for the successful applicant is \$1,500.00 CAD.

Applicants will be notified in writing of the results. Recipients will be acknowledged by the Red Deer Arts Council, and the media will be informed of award results.

Project Evaluation

Please acknowledge the support of the Artwalk Developing Visual Artist Award and the Red Deer Arts Council where possible.

Share your successes! Red Deer Arts Council collects information from successful applicants on their objectives achieved because of the funds awarded. Such feedback from award recipients is important to help highlight the development of the arts sector and the contributions made by individual artists.

A letter to the arts council on how the funds were used and your successes is a requirement of the award. It should include an article for printing in the arts council's monthly newsletter. The article is to be submitted to the Red Deer Arts Council by December 31 of the year in which you've received funding. Please contact us to discuss if this is not feasible within that timeline.