

# BIERK ART FUND BURSARY PROGRAM FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDIES IN THE VISUAL ARTS

## Program Guidelines and Application Form

The Electric City Culture Council (EC3) is pleased to offer a bursary program for Peterborough high school students completing Grade 12 in 2022 who plan to undertake post-secondary studies in the visual arts during the 2022-23 academic year. This program is made possible with support from the **Bierk Art Fund** at the **Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough**, and in partnership with the **Art Gallery of Peterborough**.

The **Bierk Art Fund Bursary Program** provides **two bursaries of \$1,000.00 each** to graduating high school students in the City or County of Peterborough (including Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations) whose work demonstrates great promise (artistic merit) and who have a serious commitment to pursuing further studies at the post-secondary level in the visual arts. Students will have the opportunity to present their work (including but not limited to portfolios) to a virtual jury panel comprised of local arts professionals. The two successful candidates will be announced immediately in the media and celebrated at the next Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts.

Eligible students are encouraged to fill out and submit a **Bierk Art Fund Bursary Application Form** by **Thursday, May 26 at 11:59pm EDT**. Students will then receive a confirmation email from EC3 Program Coordinator Gabe Pollock, with an appointment time and Zoom link to meet with the jury panel for a Portfolio Review during the week of May 30 to June 5. Appointments are 30 minutes in length. The jury panel will choose two winners after meeting with all of the applicants. All applicants will be assessed on the same criteria (see below). Winners will be announced on Tuesday, June 7.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Bursary, the student must:

- Be completing their graduating year of high school in 2022
- Live and attend school in the City of Peterborough or Peterborough County, including Hiawatha and Curve Lake First Nations
- Be registered to pursue post-secondary education in the visual arts at a recognized college or university in 2022-23 (proof of acceptance is required)
- Demonstrate great promise, interest, ambition, and ability in the visual arts.

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

In order to successfully apply for the bursary, students must do the following:

- Complete and submit a Bierk Art Fund Bursary application form (see below) by **Thursday, May 26 at 11:59pm EDT** to [bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com](mailto:bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com).
- Attend a virtual Portfolio Review with our jury panel during the week of May 30 to June 5

### WHAT IS THE PORTFOLIO REVIEW?

The Portfolio Review is a conversation between you and the jury panel. The artwork in your portfolio will give the jurors a sense of who you are as an artist. The goal of the review is to learn about your strengths, experiences, and interests, as well as your motivation for pursuing an arts education. The jurors are in your corner! They want to hear about your artistic process, vision, and goals. For more information, you can attend the free, virtual Portfolio Workshop EC3 will be offering for this program (see below).

## HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR MY PORTFOLIO REVIEW?

The jury panel will be accessing your work based on its artistic merit. As such, you should present documentation of the works that best represent your abilities and potential. They might reflect your current curiosities, show evidence of creativity, research, or point of view, and may vary in size, subject, and materials. Painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, sculpture, textiles, mixed media, book and paper arts, performance art, and film or electronic media are all acceptable submissions for review. Artworks that illustrate what is important to you and allow you to speak about your inspirations and ambitions are great choices! Please let us know if you need special accommodation due to the virtual platform of this year's Portfolio Review.

## PORTFOLIO REVIEW PREPARATION CHECK LIST:

- Complete the Bierk Art Fund Bursary application form (see below)
- Compile documentation of 3 to 10 examples of your best work
- Prepare to talk about the following subjects: your interests and experiences in the visual arts, your commitment to your development as an artist, your short-term and long-term goals, your past achievements, why you have chosen to pursue an education in the visual arts, and why you believe you should be awarded a Bierk Art Fund Bursary

## PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP

In advance of the Bierk Art Fund Bursary deadline, EC3 will be running an informal virtual Portfolio Workshop on **Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 to 8:30pm**. This workshop will discuss portfolio creation and portfolio review prep, and answer any of your questions about the application process. See the [Bierk Art Bursary website](#) or [contact Gabe Pollock \(bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com\)](mailto:bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com) for the Zoom link. Additional portfolio workshops can be scheduled on demand.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

EC3 is committed to establishing fair and equitable practices for all of our programs and services in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Persons with disabilities are encouraged to come forward at any stage of the application process to request accommodations, if needed. Members of our team will consult and can adapt processes wherever possible to provide individuals with disabilities with equal opportunity to apply.

EC3 advocates for equal opportunity for all applicants from our diverse community in the application and selection process. EC3 is committed to supporting and promoting diverse artists, artistic practices, and arts communities that represent a wide cross-section of Peterborough and the surrounding area, including artists who are Indigenous, Black, or people of colour, as well as artists with disabilities, Deaf artists and those who are members of marginalized religious, sexual orientation, and gender identity groups. EC3 strives to make our juries, selection, and assessment committees equitable and inclusive by ensuring broad representation from the communities outlined above.

If you have a disability and require assistance with the process, please don't hesitate to contact Gabe Pollock at [bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com](mailto:bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com).

## SCHEDULE

- Applications open: **May 9, 2022**
- Virtual portfolio workshop: **May 19, 2022 at 7:00pm**
- Applications due: **May 26, 2022 at 11:59pm**
- Announcement: **June 7, 2022**

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POST-SECONDARY STUDIES IN  
THE VISUAL ARTS

Bierk Art Fund Bursary Program  
for Post-Secondary Studies in the Visual Arts

APPLICATION FORM

**Name of Applicant:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Phone number(s):**

**Please check the boxes to confirm your eligibility for a Bierk Art Fund Bursary:**

I am graduating from a Peterborough-area high school in 2021

I am registered in a post-secondary arts program at a recognized college or university  
and can provide proof if needed

**Please Provide a brief artist statement—i.e. what you do and why you do it! (Note that this is not an artist biography) (250 words max)**

**Why do you want to continue your arts education at the post-secondary level?**

(250 words max)

**Student Signature:**

**Date:**

Please submit your application form to [bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com](mailto:bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com) by **Thursday, May 26 at 11:59pm EDT**. You will then receive a confirmation email from Program Coordinator Gabe Pollock, with a designated appointment time and Zoom link to meet with the jury panel for a Portfolio Review during the week of May 30 to June 5.

**For Further Information Contact:**



Gabe Pollock  
Program Coordinator and Research Lead  
Electric City Culture Council (EC3)  
[bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com](mailto:bierkartfundbursaries@gmail.com)  
(705) 930-9279

This bursary program is organized by the Electric City Culture Council (EC3), a not-for-profit organization serving the arts and culture sector in Peterborough and surrounding area.

Thank you to the Art Gallery of Peterborough and the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough for their kind support.



EC3 is grateful for the generous support of all the funders who make our work possible.

