

# Grants for Individual Artists 2023

*Summary Report: October 24, 2023*



# Introduction

# Introduction

*“We know now, more than ever, how much the arts contribute to the quality of life in our community and the larger world. The arts lift our spirits, tell our stories, connect us, inspire us, and help us to better understand ourselves and this complex planet we live on. The arts entertain us, bring us together, enable us to think in new and different ways, see the world from various points of view, imagine alternative ways of living and being, and contribute incalculably to our economic, social, mental, and physical well-being, no matter what our ages or backgrounds.... As a city, we have to remember that **the arts come from the hard work of individual artists.**”*

# History

- **2021:** At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, EC3 launches **Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup>**, a grants program for local professional artists, with two streams to support professional development activities and a ‘pocket festival’ of events. It serves as the model for the Grants for Individual Artists program.
- **2022:** The City of Peterborough provides a one-time grant of \$40,000 to support a **pilot program** for the Grants for Individual Artists program.
- **2023:** Following a successful pilot, the City of Peterborough makes a **three-year commitment** to support the Grants for Individual Artists program at \$50,000 per year.

# Program Description

- The **2023 Grants for Individual Artists program** is an Electric City Culture Council (EC3) program, supported by the City of Peterborough, strategically designed to provide financial support to local professional artists so they can bring their imagination, dreams and visions to life and share them with audiences.
- It provides essential funding for the development, production, and presentation of projects, and works to assist artists in acquiring additional funding from other sources as they advance their practice and their careers.
- It is divided into two **Components**.

# Component One

## *Mini Development Grants for Individual Professional Artists*

Grants  
for  
individual  
artists

- Provides up to **\$1,500** for local professional artists to undertake a program of activities that aid their creative research and development, fuel innovation and imagination, and support the sustainability and/or advancement of their practice.
- While projects may include public presentation of a completed work or works, this is not a requirement of Component One of the program.

# Component One

## *Mini Development Grants for Individual Professional Artists*

Activities in **Component One** may include:

- Development of new projects or ideas, research, experimentation
- Advancing works in progress
- Transitioning to new disciplines or mediums
- Advancing skills and knowledge to build or strengthen their work
- Adapting existing works or developing new approaches to creating and producing their work, or distribution/presentation of their work including, but not limited to, the use of new technologies or digital opportunities

# Component Two

## *Project Production & Presentation Grants for Individual Artists*

Grants  
for  
individual  
artists

- Provides up to **\$3,500** to individual professional artists for the creation, production and presentation of innovative new projects or works in progress in any artistic discipline, taking place virtually or live in Peterborough, **in the next two years**.
- Projects may include works in any artistic discipline or combination of disciplines, in any form, for any location within the city or county, including new or established indoor venues, outdoor spaces, mobile activities, broadcast, banners, billboards, publications, and/or for virtual projects including: social media, live streaming, websites, etc.
- This is a program of grants to individual artists; however, artists may work as part of collectives, ad hoc groups, or with established arts organizations, as long as the individual artist retains creative control over the project.



# Component Two

## *Project Production & Presentation Grants for Individual Artists*

Grants  
for  
individual  
artists

- Project proposals may include the work(s) of one artist or several. Partnerships and collaborations with other community organizations are welcome and encouraged.
- Live/in-person projects may take place anywhere in the City or County of Peterborough. Pop-ups, one-time, short-run, series, or continuous project proposals are all eligible.
- Artists' fees must be paid.
- This program strives to support proposals that reflect and promote the cultural diversity of Peterborough and Canada today and welcomes applications from artists in equity-seeking communities.

# 2023 Timeline

- **June 20:** The 2023 Grants for Individual Artists program is announced.
- **July 4-18:** EC3 hosts a series of three workshops for interested applicants.
- **August 20:** Deadline for applications.
- **September 28:** Following a two-day assessment process with a five-member peer jury, program results are announced.

# Results

# Program Results

In total:

- 49 applications submitted
- 24 grants awarded
- \$57,425 awarded

Across both Components, the 2023 Grants for Individual Artists program will financially support at least **110 artists** (including both primary artists and additional artists working on projects).

# Program Results

## Component One

- 21 applications submitted
- 13 grants awarded
- \$19,500 awarded

## Component Two

- 27 applications submitted
- 11 grants awarded
- \$37,925 awarded

# Program Results

*“Very honoured to be awarded funding through this local granting program, administered by Electric City Culture Council on behalf of the City of Peterborough.*

*As a mother and a community radio administrator - it is hard to find time and space to focus on my music. I am so often in a position where work and family comes first. I'm sincerely grateful that the jury believes in my artistry and the value of my work - and I can't wait to engage with other musicians and my songs and share them with you! Thank you for this opportunity.”*

**--Jill Staveley**

# Policy Notes

- Final Reports and eligibility
- Applying in both Components
- Residency questions
- Professional/student projects
- Confirmation of participating artists
- Other grant and other revenue confirmation and budget plans
- Fix tick box
- Separate application forms for each Component

# Policy Notes (continued)

- Tell people not to send the Guidelines
- Dance parties and DJing
- Teaching courses and starting businesses or organizations vs personal creative/creation and production processes
- Activity start and stop times
- Conflict of Interest: personal conflicts





**THANK YOU** to the **City of Peterborough, City Council,**  
**and the Mayor** for their three-year commitment to  
support the Grants for Individual Artists program.



**Any questions?**