

CALL TO ARTISTS

from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Public Art Opportunity City of Winnipeg Archives ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

For artists working in the disciplines of
Visual, Media, Film, Video and Literary

OPEN CALL TO ARTISTS: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Deadline: 3 July 2007

Budget: \$ 33,000

ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

The Winnipeg Arts Council invites artists to submit expressions of interest for an artist-in-residence project at the City of Winnipeg Archives. The selected artist will be in residence at the Archives over a six-month period and will receive a \$15,000 salary/artist fee plus a total of up to \$18,000 for a permanent artwork commission.



The Winnipeg Arts Council is an arm's-length agency of the City of Winnipeg.



City of Winnipeg Archives

Artist-In-Residence

BACKGROUND OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG ARCHIVES

The City of Winnipeg has a long and storied past. Records held by the City of Winnipeg Archives, a relatively untapped source of information about this past, date from 1874 when Council instructed the City Clerk to “obtain a cupboard to contain the Corporation papers.” Since that time, the “Corporation papers” have grown into a collection of nearly 20,000 linear feet of records and includes material from all amalgamated municipalities and the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg.

While significant developmental milestones have been reached by the City of Winnipeg Archives in recent years, there are still a number of difficult challenges – primary among them are the issues of adequate, appropriate space and preservation of the core archival collection. Recognizing these key challenges, staff have been working to raise the profile of the City of Winnipeg Archives by promoting the unique and valuable nature of the collection and encouraging its use by historians, academics, journalists, students, genealogists, legal researchers, business people, civic staff, elected city officials and the general public. Research themes or topics supported by the collection include the physical growth, social and political development of the City of Winnipeg; significant events in the City’s past; decisions and policies of City Council, civic departments and agencies; the history of civic functions and programs; Winnipeg’s response to national or international issues or patterns of social development (i.e. the parks and playgrounds movement of the early 1900’s or civil defense issues during the cold war of the late 1950’s and early 1960’s); the history of residential and commercial buildings and properties; and biographical information on civic politicians.

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE OBJECTIVES

Though keeping the corporate record has a longstanding tradition in Winnipeg, the formation of the City of Winnipeg Archives is in fact quite recent. Hosting an Artist-in-Residence presents the City of Winnipeg Archives with a unique opportunity to engage with the public in a new and exciting way and to forge relationships within the artistic community to further enhance the Archives’ reputation and significance to the citizens of Winnipeg. Through the Artist-in-Residence program, we hope to enhance public understanding of why cities create and keep records; the various methods and technologies by which records have been and are now being created; how records are preserved, kept, organized and accessed; and, legal and ethical issues that relate to records, archives and society. We hope to get at these critical themes via stories embedded in the records themselves. Issues of particular relevance include the idea of archives as a cultural resource and of the role records play in defining, expanding upon and understanding the culture of *this “place”*. Also key is the integral role artists can play in this exploration and in illuminating “the relationship between the life that each of us embodies and the life outside us.” (Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*)

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE DETAILS

This is not a live-in residency. The selected artist will be required to engage with a diverse citizenry through one or more workshops or events that further the Archives’ stated

objectives. Participation by the artist in these events will be collaboratively organized between the artist, WAC and the Archives. The Artist-in-Residence will spend up to 15 hours per week on site at the Archives to conduct research and observe the Archives at work, to facilitate concept development and design of a permanent artwork for the Archives. The proposed artwork developed by the artist during the residency will be approved by representatives from the Archives and the WAC, and when completed will become the property of the City of Winnipeg.

ARTWORK GOALS

The artist's work and the resulting permanent artwork should address aspects of the City of Winnipeg Archives' mandate, such as the acquisition, preservation and maintenance of documents and artifacts and the accessibility of those documents to current and future generations. In addition, as a branch of the City Clerk's Department, the Archives fulfils the City Clerk's statutory responsibilities for the stewardship of City records and plays a key role as the "memory" of the corporation.

Artists working in public environments present a unique opportunity for community interaction. Some of the goals of this program include:

- The integration of an artist's perspective on the preservation and promotion of Winnipeg history
- The creative exploration of the idea of archives as a cultural resource and of the role records play in defining, expanding upon and understanding the culture of *this "place"*
- Opening the artistic process to the community through public events and/or engagement with the public
- Creating a permanent work of art that evolves from the research and insight gleaned from the artist's engagement in the work of the City of Winnipeg Archives.

ON-SITE INFORMATION MEETING

Tuesday, May 29, 5:00 – 7:00 pm, City of Winnipeg Archives, 380 William Avenue.

Artists are invited to attend this on-site meeting to tour the City of Winnipeg Archives and engage in conversation about the residency opportunity.

SITE LOCATION and PARAMETERS

The City of Winnipeg Archives is located at 380 William Avenue in the former Carnegie Library building.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE for the selected ARTIST

- Working space at 380 William Avenue and access to the Records Centre at 311 Ross Avenue.
- Research use of records held by the Archives, including textual records, photographs, documentary art, moving image and sound records and maps and plans.
- Working knowledge/expertise of reference staff and archivists/records managers.

BUDGET for ARTIST RESIDENCY PROJECT

The total budget for this project is \$33,000: \$15,000 salary/artist fee for a six-month period, and up to \$18,000 for the commission of a permanent artwork for the City of Winnipeg Archives. The commission fee must include all costs relating to the artwork including, but not limited to, materials, technical consultation, fabrication, insurance, installation, permit fees, documentation, all applicable taxes, etc.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

Open to professional artists* working in the following disciplines: Visual, Media, Film, Video and Literary. Artists outside Winnipeg may apply but no additional travel funding or living expense funding is available.

**The Public Art Policy defines a professional artist as a person who is critically recognized as an artist; possesses skill, training and/or experience in his or her artistic discipline; is active in and committed to his or her art practice; and has a history of public presentation.*

SELECTION CRITERIA

Artists' expressions of interest will be reviewed on the basis of:

- Artistic excellence, quality of artwork and professional experience of the artist
- Sensitivity to the context of the City of Winnipeg Archives
- Evidence of broad thinking and conceptual clarity
- Ability and willingness of the artist to work with the community through workshops and other public events
- Ability to work well with a wide range of people including community members, City staff, arts professionals, and professionals in other fields
- An expressed desire to create artwork in and for a public realm.

SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel of qualified individuals will review the applications based on the project goals and selection criteria, and recommend up to five artists for interviews. A final recommendation would then be made from the short-listed artists, if appropriate.

The artist selected for the residency and commission will be required to enter into an agreement with the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Arts Council which will contain provisions including but not limited to right of ownership and use, warranty and insurance.

Please note that the Winnipeg Arts Council is not compelled to award the project based on the submissions.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Artists wishing to be considered must submit a complete package. Please submit six copies of all application documents typed or written in black ink on white, **letter-sized paper (8½" X 11")** suitable for photocopying as outlined below. Please **DO NOT staple applications or bind them in any way** in folders, binders or plastic covers. Only one copy of support material is required. Applications must include the following, collated into packets:

1. Six copies of the completed application form (included at the end of this document).
2. Six copies of a written description detailing:
 - Why the context of the City of Winnipeg Archives is important to the artist, what impact it would have on the artist's work, and how the artist could contribute to the Archives
 - The artist's experience working in the public realm

- The importance of the residency to the artist's career.
Please limit the written description to two pages.
3. Six copies of a curriculum vitae that includes a brief statement of artistic activities for the past twelve to eighteen months. Please limit the CV to a maximum length of three pages.
 4. Support materials – depending on your artistic discipline, you may choose to submit **one** of the following as documentation of your artwork (if your support material is photocopied written material, please submit **six** copies):
 - CD-ROMs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and audio tapes, appropriately cued. Please select a five-minute section most representative of the work you wish to present. (**maximum of two five-minute selections**),
 - a pc compatible CD-ROM with up to **10 jpeg image files** (**please see below for digital specifications*) **Please note that slides will NOT be accepted.**
 - samples of written works in progress (**maximum 10 pages**),
 - books (maximum of 2), articles, or other published materials.
 and you also may include:
 - recent reviews and news clippings (*please submit on letter-sized white bond paper (8½" X 11")*) (six copies)
 - programs, catalogues and other publications that include examples of your work (*please highlight information specifically related to your work*).
- DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ARTWORK.**
- * **Digital support materials specifications:**
- 72 DPI to a maximum of 768 pixels in height
 - Title each image with your initials and the number that corresponds to your documentation list (for example: TW01, TW02...TW20).
 - Don't submit compressed files (WinZip, Stuffit, etc).
 - Don't submit materials that require software, plug-ins, extensions or other executables that need to be downloaded or installed.
 - For video files, submit files that can be accessed with RealPlayer.
 - Don't embed photographs in documents such as Word or Powerpoint.
5. Documentation list - All audio visual support materials must be accompanied by six copies of a typewritten documentation list with artist's name, title of work, medium, dimensions (if applicable), location and date.
 6. References: names, addresses, phone and e-mail for two references who can speak to your art practice and interest and/or experience in community-based projects.
 7. An addressed and stamped envelope for return of support materials. **Please ensure that the envelope is appropriate to the support material and contains sufficient packing material as well as sufficient postage.**

DEADLINE

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before **Tuesday, July 3 by 4:00 pm**. (This is not a postmark deadline). All supporting materials must accompany the application. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted. Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted. The Winnipeg Arts Council will not be responsible for applications lost in transit. While all reasonable care will be taken in the

handling of materials, the Winnipeg Arts Council cannot take responsibility for lost or damaged materials.

Please send complete proposal packages to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: Archives Residency Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
103 – 110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1K7

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE

May 29	On-site meeting for artists
July 3	Deadline for receipt of expressions of interest
July 16-20	Selection Committee review
July 23 – 27	Interviews with short listed artists
September 4	Residency begins
March 15, 2008	Artwork opening (or sooner by agreement).

For additional information or questions please call:

Tricia Wasney, Winnipeg Arts Council, (204)943-7668 or e-mail at twasney@winnipegarts.ca

The Art Selection Committee will include:

Jody Baltessen, Senior Archivist, City of Winnipeg Archives
Kenlyn Collins, Librarian, The Winnipeg Art Gallery
Cliff Eyland, Artist
Grant Guy, Interdisciplinary Artist

The Winnipeg Arts Council reserves the right to choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project.

For any Call To Artists updates please check the web site at www.winnipegarts.ca.

Public Art Opportunity:
City of Winnipeg Archives: Artist-In-Residence
Call to Artists APPLICATION FORM

Attach one copy of this form to the top of each application copy.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ E-mail _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Artistic discipline _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Checklist of materials included in each of the six packets in the following order:

- Application form (this page)
- Written description (limit two pages)
- Curriculum vitae and statement of artistic activities
- Names and contact information for two references (letters of reference not required)
- Support material documentation lists

And:

- Support material of representative work (images, etc.) – one set
- One self-addressed stamped envelope for return of support materials.

Send submissions to: Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: Archives Residency Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
103 – 110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1K7

*Complete proposal packages must be received on or before 4:00 pm **Tuesday, July 3 2007** (not a postmark deadline). Incomplete, late, faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted.*

Please let us know how you found out about this opportunity _____

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