

CALL TO COMMUNITIES

from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

for expressions of interest to participate in

WITH ART
a community art program

Application deadline: 14 January 2010

The Winnipeg Arts Council is seeking community groups interested in participating in **WITH ART**, a program that creates opportunities for collaborative art projects between community groups and artists of all disciplines.



The Winnipeg Arts Council
funds, supports and fosters development of the arts
on behalf of the people of Winnipeg.



WITH ART

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

WITH ART is a program that creates opportunities for collaborative art projects between community groups and artists of all disciplines in Winnipeg. The program is based on the belief that WITH ART communities can explore issues, ideas, and concerns, voice community identity, express historical and cultural spirit, and create dialogue.

Central to the WITH ART program is the principle that exploration and the process of art-making are of utmost importance. The end product of the collaboration need not be a permanent work of art but the project should include a public event such as an exhibition or performance. WITH ART is designed to be flexible and experimental and truly collaborative. Both communities and artists will be asked to approach the process without preconceptions of what the final product will be. Artists and community groups will create a project based on community goals, the artist's working methods and the partnership that subsequently develops.

The type of project that might develop could include:

- Documentary artworks such as books, videos, or exhibitions;
- Performances, plays, concerts, readings, or dances;
- Site-specific artworks, which may include permanent outdoor outworks.

These are suggestions only, intended to spark possibilities. The goal of the program is that the final project be an expression of the collaboration between artist and community.

Community will be defined as broadly as possible and refers to a group of people brought together by any number of forces including a shared heritage, geography, tradition, history, mission, culture, lifestyle or interest. Groups must have a history of working together. A call will be issued to artists wishing to participate in a community-based process. Following an application and interview process, artists will be considered on the basis of artistic excellence, experience, ability to work well with a wide range of people and the ability and willingness to work collaboratively with community members on a shared goal. Selected artists will form a roster from which the participating community partner will select an artist whose art practice they feel best suits their interests. When a final match is made, the artist will receive funding for the project but will collaborate with the community on the budget details.

WITH ART PROJECTS Completed or in Development

We understand and encourage the fact that each community group and each artist will have a unique perspective and no two projects will be the same. However, the following information may be helpful in understanding the intent and results of the program to date. Since WITH ART was initiated in 2006 several thousand people from diverse communities have participated in and been impacted by art projects that explore community identity and issues. Several projects are now completed and others are in development:

COMPLETED:

- *Winnipeg First Nation: Heart of a Home*: Filmmaker Jim Sanders and the Manitoba Urban Native Housing Association created a film that explores Aboriginal housing in Winnipeg.

- *Live/Life from 95*: Filmmakers Ervin Chartrand and Jim Agapito worked with the youth of the Immigrant and Refugee Organization of Manitoba to create a rap song, video and making-of documentary that reflects the immigrant and refugee experience.
- *Elwick Community Centre*: Artist Dimitry Melman-Komar and the Elwick Community created a vibrant mosaic tile mural for the outdoor walls of the community centre located at 30 Maberley Road.
- *The Birthing Project*: Artist Judy Jennings and the Manitoba Maternity Care Action network collaborated on a glass installation reflecting images of birth that is now on view in the windows at the Women's Health Clinic, 419 Graham Avenue.
- *Spence Community Compass*: Artist Leah Decter with the Spence Neighbourhood Association collaborated on a permanent installation at Furby Park, on Furby north of Ellice, that explores notions of home through mosaic, indigenous plantings and text.

IN DEVELOPMENT:

- Documentary photographer Jon Schledewitz is collaborating with residents of Dorchester House on a photography and book project that examines the lives of the residents of the halfway house.
- Photographer Sarah Crawley is working with the Eritrean Community of Winnipeg on a photography project that explores the immigrant experience from the point of view of women and mothers.
- Visual artist Leah Decter will work with RaY, (Resource Assistance for Youth) a non-profit agency that works with homeless and street-entrenched youth in the West Broadway area of Winnipeg.

PROCESS OVERVIEW

1. Call to artists is issued for expressions of interest.
2. Call to community groups to participate in program is issued.
3. Selection panel recommends artists to form roster.
4. Selection panel chooses community group(s) to participate.
5. Each selected community group, in collaboration with WAC, selects an artist to work with from the roster based on review of materials and interviews.
6. Matched artist enters into a contract with WAC and the City and into a Working Agreement with the Community Group, facilitated by WAC; artist receives first phase of project funding.
7. Artist and community group meet to develop ideas, plan and budget.
8. Budget and plan are approved by WAC and funding is released.
9. Artist and community work on project with regular reporting process to WAC.
10. Project culminates in a public event.

COMMUNITY GROUP ELIGIBILITY

Community refers to a group of people brought together by any number of forces including a shared heritage, geography, tradition, history, mission, culture, lifestyle or interest. Community groups must have a history of working together. Interested applicants should have in mind a common goal that they wish to explore through the art making process.

Community groups must be located in the City of Winnipeg. WITH ART is not a grant program for projects already underway. It is not a children's art or amateur art program although community participation by citizens of all ages is encouraged. Organizations that receive operating funding from the Winnipeg Arts Council or are fully funded agencies of the City of Winnipeg may not apply.

Please note: Community groups should not apply with a specific project or artist in mind.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Community groups' applications will be reviewed on the basis of:

- Expression of a shared goal to explore through art, issues including but not limited to identity, social history, cultural expression, or the environment;
- A commitment to working collaboratively with an artist to explore these community issues;
- A willingness to enter the process without a predetermined idea about the outcome;
- The belief that the art-making process is unique and valid way to express community identity and concerns;
- Community cohesion and evidence of a history of working together as a group;
- A commitment of community time to work on the project.

SELECTION and MATCHING PROCESS

A panel composed of people with proven experience in art and community-building will review the applications based on the selection criteria above. Selection of community groups will be based on the written expression of interest. Facilitated WAC staff, the community groups chosen to participate will review the artist roster and select a shortlist of artists whose art practice would be most compatible with their interests and goals. Following an interview process between the community groups and artists, a final match will be made. The selected, matched artist will receive funding to carry out the project and the budget will be developed in collaboration with the community partner.

Please note that the Winnipeg Arts Council is not compelled to select community groups based on the applications received.

BUDGET

Community groups will not receive funding. Artists or artist teams* matched with a community group will receive a planning fee of \$3000 in the initial stage of the project. The artist and community group will work together during this period to formulate the kind of ideas they wish to explore, as well as develop a budget and implementation plan.

Funding of up to \$13,000 will be made available to the artist to carry out the project, based on a payment schedule and approval by WAC of the budget, implementation plan and working agreement. Community groups will not receive funding but the budget will be developed collaboratively between the artist and community group. The budget must include an artist fee for the implementation stage of the collaboration as well as cover all aspects of the project including but not limited to planning, community consultation, materials, insurance, and any other resources necessary to complete the project.

*Artists working as a team must share the \$3000 planning fee.

WORKING AGREEMENT

The selected community group will be required to enter into a Working Agreement with the artist, facilitated by WAC and endorsed by the City of Winnipeg, that outlines the roles and responsibilities of all parties as well as rights of use and ownership.

FINAL ARTWORK

The final artwork will become the property of the City of Winnipeg but with broad allowances for use by the various parties. Copyright will remain with the artist.

LETTER OF INTEREST: Application Requirements

Community groups wishing to be considered must submit a detailed Letter of Interest. The letter should describe your group and address why you wish to work with an artist. Please prepare your letter with the following headings, and answer the following questions:

1. Community Description

- How do you define your 'community'? Which members of this community do you envision participating in such a project?
- What is your history of working together as a group? Include a description of your mission or describe the common interest or activity that brings your community together.
- If you are a neighborhood group, what are your boundaries?
- What are the current projects and future initiatives planned by your community?

2. Participants, Leadership and Resources

- Who will lead the project for your community? Please use the application form to list two people who will serve as community liaisons. Community leads must sign the application form.
- Please indicate how your group is prepared to contribute time and human resources toward the project.
- Is there any other resource or special contribution that your community is able to commit to the project?
- Is there a space in your community to meet with the artist? Please describe it.

3. Working with an Artist

- Why do you want to work with an artist?
- Do you have an issue you would like to explore with an artist? How do you feel the art-making process will address this issue?
- How will a collaborative art project benefit or impact your community in a broader sense?
- How could an art project with your community contribute to the city?
- Does your community have experience working with art and artists?
- What kinds of artists can you imagine working with (e.g. writer, visual artist, filmmaker, musician)?
- Are any of your community liaisons artists themselves? If so, please describe the work they do.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Please submit one copy of all application documents typed or written in black ink on white, **letter-sized paper (8½" X 11")** as outlined below. Please **DO NOT staple applications or bind them in any way** in folders, binders or plastic covers.

1. Completed **Application Form** (page 7 of this document).
2. **Letter of Interest** (see above for letter requirements and format).
3. (Optional) **Support Materials**, such as examples of programs your group has initiated or other materials that describes your group's activities. These may include items such as pamphlets, brochures, etc. If you wish to have these support materials returned, you must enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

DEADLINE

Complete expression of interest packages must be received on or before **14 January 2010** by 4:00 pm. (This is not a postmark deadline). 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. Application materials will not be returned unless you have submitted support material you wish returned. In this case you must also enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the application package reaches the WAC office by the deadline. All applicants will receive a notice by mail or e-mail that their application has been received. If you have submitted an application and do not receive notification within two weeks, please contact the WAC office.

Please send applications to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
RE: WITH ART - Communities
Winnipeg Arts Council
103-110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1K7

For additional information or questions please call:

cam bush, Program Assistant, Winnipeg Arts Council, (204)943-7668 or e-mail at cam@winnipegarts.ca.

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 visit www.winnipegarts.ca.



WITH ART
Call to Communities **APPLICATION FORM**

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

Name of Community Group: _____

Website address, if applicable: _____

Community Representatives:

1) Name & Role _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Cell

Work

Home

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

2) Name and Role _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Cell

Work

Home

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Checklist – Please submit these items in the following order:

1. **Application Form** (this page)
2. **Letter of Interest** (see page 5 for letter requirements and format)
3. **Support Material** (optional) – one set

AND: I have included a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of support materials.

OR: I do not want my support materials returned.

Send submissions to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
RE: WITH ART - Communities
Winnipeg Arts Council
103-110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1K7

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before 4:00 pm 14 January 2010 (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 _____

The Winnipeg Arts Council funds, supports and fosters development of the arts on behalf of the people of Winnipeg.

