

# Summary of the Peer Jury Feedback from the September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Deadlines – Artist in Residence and Career Development Programs

### **Artist in Residence Program**

#### **General Information and Data**

- 16 applications to the Artist in Residence application were evaluated by a multidisciplinary jury of peers.
- The jury was able to award 8 grants with the available budget envelope for this competition (50.0 % success rate).
- The jury assigned 8 applications the status of "Not Recommended". This result does not
  necessarily mean that the work lacks merit; grant assessment is a competitive process
  and budgets are limited. Remember that every program deadline has a different set of
  applicants and a different jury.
- Prior to peer jury evaluation, 3 additional applications were disqualified due to ineligibility for this program, and 2 applications were withdrawn by the applicants due to project changes.
- Of the 8 grants awarded, 2 were awarded to applicants receiving their first grant from artsnb.
- The department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture has announced additional funding to the remodeled Artist in Residence program, as a response to the recommendations from the Premier's Task Force on the Status of the Artist.
- For more detailed information including success rates by artistic discipline, please visit the official press release featuring the results of this deadline.

### **Recommendations on application components**

- The jurors recommended that applicants write their proposal with a multidisciplinary artistic audience in mind. When describing the proposed residency, be sure to describe it in a way that will be understandable by a jury of arts professionals from a variety of artistic backgrounds, as one or more jurors may not be as familiar with the technical terms or needs of your specific art form.
- The jury was excited to see many projects featuring and led by artists from
  underrepresented communities, and they recommended filling out the Cultural
  Relationships section of the application when necessary, including clear language to
  describe the applicant or organization's relationship to these communities. The jury
  cautioned against vague general terms such as "inclusive" and "diverse," and
  recommended using specific examples of resources in place to support and
  accommodate artists from underrepresented communities.
- The jury appreciated applications that explained exactly how the residency project will advance or benefit the artist's career development, in addition to describing the activities of the residency.
- The jury recommended including detailed budget breakdowns whenever an application includes multiple types of expenses, e.g., multiple types of materials, many different services required, collaborator fees, and explanation for any travel requested. It is also



- important for the jury to know whether other revenue sources indicated in the budget are confirmed or still pending.
- The jury advised organizations and institutions who apply to host an artist to demonstrate how the proposed residency will benefit the artist as well as the host organization or community: what resources or connections is the host organization offering the artist? How will the artist and their collaborators be compensated?

### Other artsnb programs that may interest the artists who applied to this program deadline:

- Applicants who were unsuccessful in this deadline may be eligible to reapply for a future deadline; for long-term residencies that have already begun, this may involve reframing the project in multiple phases. Please refer to the <u>Artist in Residence program guidelines</u> or email <u>prog@artsnb.ca</u> with questions.
- For applicants seeking travel funds after an invitation to show their work, please refer to artsnb's Career Development—Arts by Invitation program.
- For applicants seeking professional development opportunities, including conferences, mentorships, or any further education in their art form, please refer to <a href="artsnb's Career Development-Professional Development program">artsnb's Career Development-Professional Development program</a>.
- For applicants seeking to professionalize their portfolios and/or samples of work (e.g. hiring a professional photographer or videographer to document their work), please refer to artsnb's Career Development—Professionalization & Promotion program.
- For applicants proposing the creation of new work outside of the context of a residency, please refer to <u>artsnb's Creation program</u>.

### **Career Development Program**

### **General Information and Data**

- The jury evaluated 33 applications and was able to award 19 grants with the available budget envelope for this competition (57.8 % success rate).
- 4 additional applications received a status of "Merit." This status indicates that the jury wished to recommend these applications for funding, but that the program budget was insufficient to fund all meriting applications.
- The jury assigned 10 applications the status of Not Recommended. If an application isn't successful, it doesn't necessarily mean that the work lacks merit. Grant assessment is a competitive process and budgets are limited. Remember that every competition has a different set of applicants and a different jury.
- Two additional applications were withdrawn by the applicant prior to the peer jury evaluation due to project changes.
- Of the 19 grants awarded, 4 were awarded to applicants receiving their first grant from artsnb.
- For more detailed information including success rates by artistic discipline, please visit the official press release featuring the results of this deadline.

### **Recommendations on application components:**



- Overall, the jury was excited to see so many strong applications and appreciated that many had a clearly articulated impact on the practices of New Brunswick artists and communities.
- The jury reminded applicants of the importance of double-checking the accuracy of the numbers in their budgets, as some applications contained discrepancies between the project budget and other information in invitation letters or project descriptions. The jurors also recommended including detailed budget breakdowns whenever an application includes multiple types of expenses; extra details and context for the budget helps convince the jury of the applicant's capacity to undertake the project. Please refer to the Application Toolkit on artsnb's website for more tips on how to prepare a budget.
- The jury recommended that applicants ensure the goal of their project description matches the focus of the travel/mentorship/professionalization opportunity. If the jurors have doubts about the effectiveness of the proposed opportunity to achieve what the applicant is proposing, this can affect how they view the feasibility of the project.
- The jurors noted that several applicants submitted very few samples of work, which made it difficult to assess the applicant's artistic experience; they recommended that applicants curate their selection of samples of work to support their application, including targeted samples/extracts for the jurors to evaluate. Please refer to <a href="Appendix">Appendix</a> 2 of the program guidelines for more detail on submitting samples of work.

## Other artsnb programs that may interest the artists who applied to this program deadline:

- For applicants seeking support for an artist residency, please refer to <u>artsnb's Artist in</u> Residence program.
- For applicants proposing the creation of new work, please refer to <u>artsnb's Creation</u> <u>program</u>.