

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

artsnb announces changes to the Creation program

Fredericton, February 11, 2025 – The New Brunswick Arts Board (**artsnb**) is pleased to announce the implementation of updated grant categories and the addition of equipment purchases as an eligible expense under the Creation program.

As a result of consultations with New Brunswick's artistic community, artsnb has simplified the artist categories to the Creation program, reducing from 3 to 2 categories. Effective immediately, artists may now apply under one of 2 categories:

- Artist: the applicant demonstrates <u>more than</u> 5 years of activities as a professional artist and can receive up to **\$20,000**, or;
- Artist early career: the applicant demonstrates <u>up to</u> 5 years of activities as a professional artist and can receive up to **\$12,000**.

The Online Application System now also includes a checklist to facilitate the category selection by applicants.

Additionally, the consultations highlighted the need for funding that allows artists to purchase equipment that will enable them to carry out their proposed Creation projects. As of now:

• Artist and Artist - early career may now include up to **\$1,500** of equipment purchase costs in their budget when they apply to the Creation program.

Darren McLeod, artsnb Chair shares: "*Consultations with arts and culture stakeholders and a survey to artists have helped us identify the need for these important changes to the Creation program. The Board of directors at artsnb is committed to continue improving the programs at artsnb through ongoing consultations with its partners and with the artistic community of the province.*"

artsnb Creation program

The Creation program is designed to support professional New Brunswick artists for the research, development, and execution of original projects in the arts. Creation grants are intended to allow artists to devote some or most of their time to research and creative production. More information on this program is available on our <u>website</u>.

The New Brunswick Arts Board is an arm's length arts funding agency with a legislated mandate to facilitate and promote the creation of art as well as administering funding programs for professional artists in the province. Funding for these programs is provided through the Arts Development Trust Fund, which benefitted from an increase in 2024, and by the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture. The department has also allocated additional funding to the Artist in Residence program, as a response to the recommendations from the report of the Premier's Task Force on the Status of the Artist.

-30-

Media Contact

Audrée Hamelin-St-Amour, Communications Officer, comm@artsnb.ca, 506-259-9776