

Purpose

The Individual Artist Development Grant enables and encourages professional and emerging artists who live in Strathcona County to further their skills and to share their learnings with the wider cultural community, thereby enhancing cultural and heritage programs, projects and activities in Strathcona County.

To be considered for funding under this category, the artist must meet the eligibility criteria:

1. The individual must be an adult 'professional or emerging artist' who has lived in Strathcona County for 12 months at the time of application.
2. A professional artist is someone who:
 - has specialized training in the field (not necessarily in academic institutions)
 - is recognized as such by peers (artists working in the same artistic tradition), and
 - has a history of public presentation or publication
3. An emerging artist is at an early stage of their career, has specialized training in their art form and has a modest body of artistic work or can prove consistent participation in their art form for a minimum of 3 years.
4. Grant recipients must include a plan for sharing their learnings with the wider cultural community in Strathcona County. This might include a member of Cultural Services asking the artist to participate in a community event such as: Alberta Culture Days, program instruction at Gallery@501 for a school tour or special event held in Strathcona County within 18 months of the grant funding.

What projects might be funded? (Note: these are examples only)

- Development of a "new body" of work
- Registration fees for a workshop or course
- Only one application per artist will be considered every other calendar year

What is not eligible for funding?

- Formal education that will result in a diploma or degree
- Travel expenses
- Capital or equipment expenditures
- Liquor license, liquor and food
- Lodging expenses
- Re-applying for additional grant funds for an initiative already funded during the same calendar year
- Retroactive funding for courses/workshops that have already been attended

What is considered to be an arts and culture activity? Examples are:

- Visual Arts: painting drawing, calligraphy, fibre arts, ceramic arts, mosaics, sculpture, crafts
- Media Arts: Film/video, photography, sound recording, multi-media, publishing
- Performing Arts: drama, music, dance, choral, theatre, opera, comedic, puppetry, mime, performance art
- Literary Arts: storytelling, creative writing, prose, poetry
- Environmental Arts: architecture, urban design, landscape design, environmental installations
- Multicultural Arts: ethnic celebrations, festivals, fairs, ethnic-specific performing, visual, literary, crafts, folk tales, culinary traditions
- Heritage Arts: protection, restoration, display and interpretation of heritage archives and materials, artifacts, archeological and heritage sites.
- Educational Arts: summer camps, youth festivals, youth and adult training programs in any of the arts or heritage forms

Individual Artist Development Grant - Guidelines

Grant Amounts

Applicants may apply for individual artist development funds to a maximum of \$750.00. Funds must be spent in the year they are awarded.

Evaluation Criteria

The following factors are considered in evaluating grant requests:

- Clearly articulated description of how the funds will be used to further the artist's development
- Clear definition of why the funds are needed
- Clear explanation of how the artist's learning will be shared with the wider cultural community
- The degree to which the applicants record of activity and achievement demonstrates that they warrant public support
- Lack of overlap with existing services
- Viability of the project (realistic goals, appropriate planning, cost-effectiveness)

How will my application be evaluated?

Applications for Individual Artist Development Grants will be evaluated by independent jurors in a peer assessment system. Peer assessment implies the use of practicing artists, arts professional and others who are knowledgeable and active in the local/regional arts community within the particular discipline they are asked to jury. Each committee will consist of three to five members who will assess the applications according to the grant criteria. By consensus, jurors will arrive at recommendations on the amount of grants.

Strathcona County will be responsible for the selection of jurors and will be continually researching and adding names of qualified people to the juror database. The arts community, organizations and individuals are encouraged to recommend qualified names to the database.

Prior to being appointed to a committee, jurors will be asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest due to relations with the grant applicants.

Financial

Approved funding can only be used as detailed on the application. In the case of a change to the original application, such as a cancellation or change in programming, the applicant must submit a letter of explanation requesting approval of a change in the use of the grant. In the event that an approval is not received, the funding or balance of funding must be returned to Strathcona County.

Strathcona County Recreation, Parks and Culture may request access to all financial statements and records pertaining to the application.

Reporting

Within 30 days of the completion of the community sharing, the artist must submit a final accounting report to Strathcona County. Any new applications for funding under the Arts, Culture and Heritage Community Investment Program will be denied if accounting is outstanding.

Individual Artist Development Grant - Guidelines

Public Acknowledgement

Strathcona County must be given recognition for its funding support in all publicity. Visual identity guidelines must be followed at all times. Strathcona County logo and other promotional materials are available and must be requested.

Application Deadlines

To request funding, artists must submit an application consisting of a fully completed grant application form and the required support documents. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. The original, signed grant application must be submitted to Strathcona County Recreation, Parks and Culture by:

- **November 30** for Phase I (January to June)
- **May 8** for Phase II (July to December)

You may submit your application using one of these three ways:

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| EMAIL: | Signed applications may be scanned and emailed to: Chris.munn@strathcona.ca |
| DROP OFF: | Recreation, Parks and Culture Administration Building 2025 Oak Street Sherwood Park, AB (Monday – Friday from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm except on Statutory Holidays) |
| MAIL IN: | Recreation, Parks and Culture 2001 Sherwood Drive Sherwood Park, AB T8A 3W7 |

If you have any questions, please direct them to Chris Munn, Cultural Development Liaison, either by telephone at 780-464-8058 or email at chris.munn@strathcona.ca.