

The Interim 2012 City of Richmond Arts and Culture Grant Program

Vision

A robust arts and cultural community that showcases its talent, enterprise and diversity to our citizens and visitors, thereby contributing to the vibrancy, appeal and liveability of the city.

Goals

The City of Richmond Arts and Culture Grants Program aims to:

- strengthen the infrastructure of arts & culture organizations;
- invest in arts & culture opportunities to create more opportunities;
- show support for the careers of local artists and encourage them to remain in the community;
- support a range of artistic and cultural activity including, but not limited to, literary, visual, media, dance, theatre, music, multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and community-based arts reflecting different historic cultural traditions as well as contemporary art forms and practices; and
- support ongoing annual activity through Operating Assistance as well as one-time or time-limited initiatives through Project Assistance.

In so doing it supports the overall Goals of the City:

- build capacity within and support for arts and culture organizations;
- strengthen, support and enhance the artistic community; and
- increase the variety and diversity of arts and culture experiences and opportunities.

Eligibility

In keeping with best practices as well as standards set for similar programs in other cities, the City of Richmond Arts and Culture Grants Program will offer two types of grants – Project Assistance and Operating Assistance – to registered non-profit arts and culture organizations; specifically, the applicants must be independent organizations with a clear mandate which includes the provision of public programs and services within an arts and culture focus. Organizations are encouraged to collaborate or partner with other service organizations in the delivery of their projects, if applicable.

The program provides grants to support organizational capacity through Operating Assistance as well as one-time or time-limited initiatives through Project Assistance. Organizations receiving Operating Assistance may also apply for one Project Assistance grant within the same calendar year in which they receive operating funding.

Project Assistance is available for new and/or developing arts and culture organizations, or arts and culture organizations working on a project basis or undertaking a special one-time initiative. Programming and services must be open to the public and publicized citywide. Project Assistance grant funds may be requested for up to 50% of the total cost of the project, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Operating Assistance grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible, established organizations that have an ongoing presence in Richmond and a track record of quality public programs and services. Applicants must be based in Richmond, registered as a non-profit society in good standing with the Province of B.C., having been

established legally and in operation for at least 2 years prior to the application deadline. New applicants are required to contact staff at Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to confirm eligibility and request an application form. Operating grants are awarded up to a maximum of 30% of the annual operating budget, to a maximum request of \$10,000.

All grants are reviewed on a yearly basis and are not to be viewed by applicants as an on-going source of funding.

Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds are *not* eligible for Project Assistance unless their project is outside the scope of their normal operations.

2012 Arts and Culture Grant Key Dates

As this is a newly developed program, and is subject to approval of the 2012 Operating Budget, the deadline dates will necessarily differ from the current City Community Grants and are proposed as follows:

Oct 28, 2011	Program Guidelines and Application form posted online
Jan 6, 2012	Submission deadline
Feb 2012	Adjudication
Mar 2012	Notification of results (pending budget approval & Council approval of recommended recipients)