



kingston
arts council

For Immediate Release

18 February 2021

Kingston Arts Council announces launch of the 2021 City of Kingston Arts Fund Operating and Project Grant applications, and the addition of special one-time funding totaling \$200,000

The Kingston Arts Council (KAC) is now accepting applications for Operating and Project Grants as part of the 2021 City of Kingston Arts Fund (CKAF). This funding program is administered each year by the KAC on behalf of the City of Kingston and provides grants to local arts organizations and collectives to enrich how Kingston residents experience and engage with the arts. The City investment for the 2021 CKAF Operating and Project Grants is \$569,050.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, the KAC led an expanded consultation process in Fall 2020 to ensure these funding streams continue to support the arts sector and respond to the needs of the community. Feedback from the consultations is reflected in the 2021 CKAF Plan for Administration that guides the implementation of the Operating and Project Grants. Changes include:

- Underscoring the importance of hiring Kingston artists at industry standard rates
- Addressing current community needs
- Fostering collaboration and partnerships
- Expanding arts access
- Improving diversity, equity, and inclusion within the arts sector

More information about the consultation process and resulting updates can be found online [here](#). Kingston City Council approved the 2021 Plan for Administration on December 15, 2020.

CKAF and special one-time funding in 2021

The CKAF looks different than in previous years, again, due to the impacts of COVID-19. Kingston City Council has approved one-time special funding aimed at supplementing the annual program. On January 28, 2021, Council passed a motion allocating an additional \$200,000 to individual artists and arts non-profits in recognition of the impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the arts at a local level.

Work is currently underway on a plan to have the special funding administered through Kingston Arts Council. A review by Kingston City Council is anticipated in early March with more details being announced at that time.

“We are extremely grateful Kingston City Council recognizes COVID-19 has had a detrimental effect on the arts scene here in Kingston and is making additional funding available in 2021”, says Kirsi Hunnako, Executive Director, Kingston Arts Council. “The Kingston Arts Council welcomes the opportunity to work with the City to support artists in particular and looks forward to submitting a plan for Council to consider that would see an additional \$200,000 in funding be made available to artists and not-for-profit arts organizations this year who are doing their best to survive while continuing to create and to engage the community.”

Operating and Project Grant Applications

2021 CKAF Operating and Project Grant Guidelines and Application Forms are available for download on the KAC [website](#). The administration of this annual program will follow normal timelines with applications for both the Operating Grant and Project Grant streams due **Wednesday, 21 April 2021 by 5:00 pm**. The juries will be convened to assess the applications in May 2021 with the recommendations being submitted to Kingston City Council for ratification in July 2021.

If you require assistance, please contact the KAC Grants Coordinator Felix Lee at grants@artskingston.ca.

Information Sessions

KAC Grants Coordinator, Felix Lee, is available for one-on-one virtual meetings with CKAF applicants. This year, the KAC will be hosting two information sessions for the Operating and Project Grant programs.

2021 CKAF Webinar: Important Program Updates

Changes to 2021 CKAF Operating and Project Grant Programs

Thursday, 4 March, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm on Zoom

This session will review important changes to 2021 CKAF Operating and Project Grant Programs in response to the impacts of COVID-19, and provide resources for new applicants and current recipients.

ASL and Live captioning available.

2021 CKAF Webinar: Applying to Project Grants

New Applicants to CKAF Project Grants

Thursday, 18 March, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm on Zoom

The session is intended for new and returning Project grant applicants but is not mandatory. It will include a detailed review of the 2021 Project Grant Guidelines, Application Forms and Assessment Criteria, as well as a Q&A about the CKAF grant

process.

Please note that first-time applicants to the 2021 CKAF Operating Grant program **must** book a formal online consultation with the KAC Grants Coordinator (Felix Lee, grants@artskingston.ca) before March 19, 2021 to be eligible.

About the City of Kingston Arts Fund

In 2007, Kingston City Council established the City of Kingston Arts Fund, comprised of \$100,000 from the Healthy Community Fund Program and an additional \$400,000 in new funding. The Kingston Arts Council was contracted to administer CKAF and Kingston City Council has continued to invest in the funding program growth each year as part of its commitment to supporting arts and culture in Kingston. CKAF nurtures the capacity of the arts, artists, and arts sector in Kingston while fostering creativity, encouraging social cohesion, enhancing the quality of life, and stimulating economic development through direct investment. Through this program, the City of Kingston has invested close to \$6.9 million since its inception.

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