



Cultural Services
Artist Live/Work Studio Program

CONTENTS:

- General Information
- About the Artist Studios
- Eligibility and Assessment
- Definitions
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Application Form

Deadline for receipt of applications: 4:30 p.m., Friday, October 7, 2011
Applications received after the deadline will be returned unopened.

General Information

The City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Studio Program offers four artist live/work studios to Vancouver-based professional artists who can demonstrate artistic excellence and financial need.

One studio will be provided rent free for a period of three years less two weeks (Artist Live/Work Residency Studio) and three studios will be offered at below market rent of \$375/month for a period of three years less two weeks ((Artist Live/Work Rental Studios).

All four studios are awarded through a peer review process organized by Cultural Services, City of Vancouver. The four studios collectively provide professional artists with support for extended terms of concentrated artistic activity.

City of Vancouver Artist Award Studio

The Award Studio is located at 4th Avenue and Scotia Street and is provided rent free. A damage deposit is required and the recipient will need to sign a lease. The recipient is also required to pay all associated occupancy costs (e.g., utilities, phone, insurance, moving expenses and charges, basic maintenance, small repairs, etc.).

City of Vancouver Artist Rental Studios

Two of the Rental Award Studios are located on West 8th Avenue and Cambie Street and the third Rental Award Studio is located on East Pender Street near Clark Street.

Rental Award Studio recipients will be responsible for a subsidized, monthly rental of \$375 to the building owner (which is the Provincial maximum monthly shelter allowance for a single person) plus all associated occupancy costs (e.g., utilities, phone, insurance, moving expenses and charges, basic maintenance, small repairs, etc.). There will be a lease with the building owner and damage deposits are required.

The City will do its best to prepare the studios for the new rental terms (i.e., cleaned and painted) but otherwise, all studios will be rented in "as is" condition.

Applications

Professional artists residing in Vancouver who can demonstrate artistic excellence and financial need are eligible to apply. More information is available in the Eligibility and Assessment section.

Deadline

Applications and all supporting materials must be received no later than **4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 7th, 2011**. Applications must be received by the deadline. Those postmarked but received after the deadline will not be considered.

Email:

An email address is currently being set-up. Please check back at:

<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/cultural/gasp/awards/artiststudio/index.htm>

Mail/courier/drop off:

ARTIST LIVE/WORK STUDIO PROGRAM

Cultural Services

City of Vancouver

Woodward's Heritage Building

#501 - 111 West Hastings

Vancouver, BC V6B 1H4

Questions

Questions can be submitted by email to Chisaki Muraki at chisaki.muraki-valdovinos@vancouver.ca

About the Studios

Three of the four studios (Studio 1, 2, and 4 - see below) in the Program are located in industrial/commercial districts and are Class B studios as defined by the City's Zoning By-law under Cultural and Recreational uses. The spaces have variable soundproofing and do not have industrial ventilation for the use of toxic materials. Please consider these factors, as well as the layout/size of the spaces, to ensure they meet your artistic practice needs.

The fourth studio (Studio 3 - see below) is zoned as a Class A studio which permits the use of the premises for the production of dance, music, creative writing, painting, drawing, pottery, sculpture, video and moving or still photography. As a one bedroom studio, priority consideration for this studio will be given to an artist with a child.

All studios have a maximum occupancy of two persons including children.

Studio Details

City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Residency Studio

1) Artist Live/Work Studio 1

Address: 272 East 4th Avenue

Owner: City of Vancouver

Lease Agreement: w/City of Vancouver

Zoning: IC-3

Class: B

This studio is a 528 sq ft single-level, strata unit. The third-floor studio has a large northeast-facing window and concrete floors. The studio is equipped with a fridge, stove, and washer/dryer. There is no associated parking stall in the building. There is a common roof deck area and amenity room.

The Award Studio is provided rent free; however, a damage deposit is required and the recipient is required to pay all occupancy costs and will need to sign a lease.

City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Rental Studios

Rental Studio recipients will be responsible for a subsidized, monthly rental of \$375 to the building owner (which is the GAIN shelter allowance for a single person) plus all associated occupancy costs. Recipients are also required to pay a damage deposit and sign a lease with the building owner.

2) Artist Live/Work Studio 2

Address: 428 West 8th Avenue

Owner: Intergulf Development (NYC) Corp.

Sub Lease Agreement: w/City of Vancouver

Zoning: IC-3A

Class: B

This unit is a single-level studio space of 520 sq ft plus approximately 60 sq ft of patio space. The studio is on the upper ground floor of the building and faces the lane. It is equipped with a fridge and stove and there is access to one parking stall and a common workshop within the building.

3) Artist Live/Work Studio 3

Address: 485 West 8th Avenue

Owner: 654570 British Columbia Ltd.
(Grosvenor Canada Limited)

Sublease agreement: w/City of Vancouver

Zoning: IC-3A

Class: A

The premises offered for lease to the City by the developer is a 960 sq ft split-level, one bedroom unit with approximately 140 sq ft of deck and balcony space as well as the use of one parking stall. It is equipped with a fridge, stove and washer/dryer. Amenities include an exercise room, green roof and common gallery space.

4) Artist Live/Work Studio 4

Address: 1202 East Pender Street

Owner: City of Vancouver

Lease Agreement: w/City of Vancouver

Zoning: CD-1(411)

Class: B

The unit is a 1,075 sq ft strata unit owned by the City of Vancouver. With a 300 sq ft loft area, this split-level studio includes the use of one parking stall and is the largest of the four studios. It is equipped with a fridge, dishwasher, stove and security alarm.

Further information on the studios including photos is available at:
<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/cultural/gasp/awards/artiststudio/tour.htm>.

Eligibility and Assessment

Tenancy for the Award Studio and the three Rental Studios will be determined through a single competitive selection process aided by a peer review jury of art/culture professionals. Vancouver-based professional artists whose works show exceptional talent and who can demonstrate financial need are eligible to apply. All applicants will be pre-qualified based on financial need by the City of Vancouver Social Development staff. The jury process will be administered by City of Vancouver Cultural Services staff.

Application Process

Interested artists should submit an application form and supporting documentation including demonstration of financial need (Revenue Canada Notice of Assessment or statement from the Ministry of Social Services), proof of Vancouver residency, examples of past artistic works, and a statement of intent indicating how the work produced during the residency will benefit both themselves as an artist, the arts and culture community, and the general public. A single selection process will be used for the Residency Studio and the three Rental Studios.

Eligibility

Professional artists based in Vancouver involved in the production of art, including, but not limited to visual, performing, media, literary, craft, interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary arts will be considered eligible. Professional artists are defined as those having specialized training in the field or who are recognized as artists by peers and arts professionals.

A. Residency

Professional artists currently living in the City of Vancouver are eligible to apply for either the Award and/or Rental Studios. Please provide your current landlord's name and address under *9. Landlord Reference and Proof of Residency* of the application form, and provide proof of residency (photocopy of your phone, hydro bill, or driver's license). Please note that there are no exceptions to the Vancouver residency requirement.

B. Financial Eligibility

While the award and rental studios are intended to recognize artistic excellence, they will only be available to artists who can demonstrate financial need. City staff will pre-qualify candidates with respect to financial need using the City's core-need housing criteria (maximum total annual income from all sources of \$29,000 for the studio-sized units and \$32,500 for the one bedroom unit). Applicants are asked to submit financial documentation for the past three years which will then be averaged to determine the average annual gross income. Acceptable documentation include either copies of Income Tax returns for the past three (3) years or a copy of a recent statement from the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance (MEIA) showing shelter allowance.

Please note that the requested financial documents are the same as those requested by City of Vancouver Social Development and BC Housing for assessment of financial need. All supporting confidential documentation will be destroyed upon conclusion of evaluation.

Selection Process

Once candidates meet the residency and financial eligibility criteria, a jury of Vancouver-based art/culture professionals will assess applications on the basis of artistic merit. Finalists will be selected according to artistic excellence and innovation as demonstrated by past work shown in the submitted materials.

Selection Schedule

Application Deadline: October 7, 2011

Jury Date: Early November 2011

Award Recipients Announced: Mid-December 2011

Definitions

Artist Live/Work Studio - Class A is intended for use by artists and craftspersons for the production of dance, live music, creative writing, painting, drawings, pottery or sculpture, video, moving or still photography, none of which involves amplified sound or one or more of the materials or processes specified under Artist Live/Work Studio - Class B.

Artist Live/Work Studio - Class B is intended for use by artists and craftspersons for the production of: (a) dance or live music involving electronically amplified sound, (b) moving or still photography (excluding video) involving on-site film processing, (c) paintings, drawings, pottery or sculpture involving the use of fibreglass, epoxy and other toxic or hazardous materials or one or more of the following processes: welding, woodworking, spray painting, silk screening or fired ceramics.

Core Need Income Threshold or CNIT is the maximum annual gross income below which a household (including single person household) occupying a particular type of dwelling unit is considered by the provincial government as being in core need. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation produce annual Core Need Income Threshold tables for each community. CNIT tables set maximum income levels for different sized units in different areas of the province. These incomes represent the most people can earn and remain eligible for a rent subsidy. Below these income levels, it's difficult for people to find uncrowded housing in good repair, without spending more than 30 per cent of their income for rent.

Gross Annual Income means either: (i) the total income or payments from all sources received at any time during the previous calendar year regardless of whether taxable including wages, salary, Self Employment Net Income, rents, fees, interest, dividends, pension payments, annuity payments, awards and payments in compensation for lost income, capital gains, bequests, lottery winnings and winnings from gambling and wagering; or (ii) the current total monthly income or payments from all sources regardless of whether taxable including wages, salary, rents, fees, interest, dividends, pension payments, annuity payments, awards and payments in compensation for lost income, capital gains, bequests, lottery winnings and winnings from gambling and wagering multiplied by twelve (12).

Income Assistance means the amount provided under the Employment and Assistance Act for shelter and support.

Maximum Monthly Shelter Allowance is the portion of Income Assistance issued for a person's place of residence, for the actual cost of rent. Currently, the rate for a single employable adult is \$375.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What's the difference between the residency studio and the rental studio?

The City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Residency Studio is provided to the successful recipient rent free. The recipients of the three City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Rental Studios must pay a monthly rent of \$375 (based on the shelter portion of Income Assistance for a single, employable adult). The recipients of all four studio awards are required to pay all associated occupancy costs (e.g. telephone, insurance, hydro, cable, etc.).

How do I know which studio to apply for?

Artists are asked to consider their practice and whether it is best classified as A or B. Please rank your preference(s). Priority for Studio 3, which is the one bedroom unit, will be given to an artist and child (note: all units allow a maximum of two individuals). Your preferences will be considered; however, the program cannot guarantee awards will be made to meet all preferences. Applicants are encouraged to attend one of the two open houses in September (see below).

How big are the studios?

Studio 1 at 272 East 4th Avenue is 528 sq ft; Studio 2 at 428 West 8th Avenue is 520 sq ft with a 60 sq ft outdoor patio; Studio 3 at 485 West 8th Avenue is 960 sq ft with 140 sq ft of deck space; and Studio 4 at 1202 East Pender Street is 1,075 sq ft plus a 300 sq ft loft area. The first two units have an open plan work/live/kitchen area with a separate washroom. The third is a one bedroom, split level unit with a separate work space and living room and the fourth unit is also a split level with a kitchen loft area. View studio photos and get more information at <http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/cultural/gasp/awards/artiststudio/tour.htm>.

Can I see the studios before I submit an application?

You are welcome to view the studios during the open house only. An open house will be held Saturday, September 24th from noon to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, September 27th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please do not disturb the current studio artists by asking to view the studios at any other time.

I live in North Vancouver. Am I eligible?

No. The award is funded by the taxpayers of the City of Vancouver and, therefore, eligibility is restricted to artists living within the City of Vancouver boundaries. We know that many artists would like to live in Vancouver and those currently living outside of Vancouver may be disappointed by this criterion. We encourage artists from other municipalities to speak to their local governments to make them aware of artist live/work needs.

How many people can live in the studio?

Occupancy is limited to two persons (including children); priority for Studio 3, the one bedroom unit, will be given to an artist with a child.

What is meant by professional artist?

Someone who has specialized training in his/her artistic field (not necessarily in academic institutions), who is recognized as such by his or her peers (artists working in the same artistic tradition), who, if financially feasible, is committed to devoting a significant amount of time to their artistic activity, and who has a history of public presentation.

I am a Musician. Can I apply?

Yes, according to the City's Zoning By-law under Cultural and Recreational uses, the production of live music is permitted in studios zoned as Class A and B. However, experience has taught us that these studios do not have sufficient sound proofing to accommodate amplified sound. If your music is not amplified and/or can be created with the use of headphones, these studios may be suitable for your work.

I don't want to share my financial information with the City. Are there other ways to prove my income level?

No, copies of income tax returns or MEIA statement are required. However, rest assured that Privacy Legislation ensures that your financial information will be protected against unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure or disposal. All financial statements are reviewed by City of Vancouver Social Development staff only, and will be destroyed following that review.

My net income is less than \$29,000 per year. Am I eligible?

Total gross household income from all sources must be \$29,000 or less to be eligible for the three studio-sized units. This means the full annual amount earned before expenses for all wage earners in your household (you and your spouse) combined must be less than \$29,000. For the one bedroom unit, total gross household income from all sources must be \$32,500 or less.

I had one "good year" where I made more than \$29,000. Am I no longer eligible?

You are asked to submit financial information for the past three years. City of Vancouver Social Development staff will review and determine if the average annual gross income over the three year period is less than \$29,000 (or in the case of the one bedroom unit, \$32,500).

Will the jury see my financial information?

No. Your financial information will be reviewed by City of Vancouver Social Development staff who regularly assess candidates for housing needs. To ensure that your required financial information is kept confidential, submit it in a sealed envelope marked "Confidential, Social Development" and write your name on the outside of the envelope.

Who is on the jury?

The jury will be composed of senior professional artists familiar with the Vancouver arts and culture community and selected by staff from City of Vancouver, Cultural Services. The names of the jury will be released after the award of the studios is made public.

Who are the past and current recipients of the existing award and rental studios?**Artist Live/Work Residency Studio:**

Michelle Allard (2009 - 2012)

Kevin Schmidt (2005 - 2008)

Myfanwy MacLeod (2002 - 2005)

Steven Shearer (1999 - 2002)

Teresa Marshall (1996 - 1999)

Artist Live/Work Rental Studio:

Josh Beamish (2009 - 2012)

Kristen Roos (2009 - 2012)

Althea Thauburger (2009 - 2012)

Rhonda Weppler (2005 - 2008)

Alex Morrison (2002 - 2005)

Alison MacTaggart (1999 - 2002)

Once I apply, will I get my submitted materials back?

You can pick up your submitted materials at the Cultural Services office once the recipients have been announced. We will endeavor to return materials to you; however, our ability to do so is dependent upon applicants marking their name on all submitted materials. Applicants must include a self-addressed stamped envelope for any materials to be returned by mail.

I still have questions...

We would like to share the same information with all applicants, so please email questions to Chisaki Muraki (604-873-7921) at chisaki.muraki-valdovinos@vancouver.ca so that the answers may be posted on our website.

<p>Deadline for receipt of applications: 4:30 p.m., Friday, October 7th, 2011 Applications received after the deadline will be returned unopened.</p>
