

Program Guidelines

Annual Application Deadline: February 15

Vision

Arts Nova Scotia envisions a thriving and diverse professional arts community celebrated at home and abroad for breaking new ground, ensuring equity and achieving a high level of artistic excellence.

Overview

The Nova Scotia Art Bank encourages the development of artistic excellence, stimulates awareness of, and interest in visual arts and fine craft. This is accomplished through the acquisition, loan, and maintenance of a working collection of contemporary art by Nova Scotian artists. Works are added to the collection annually through the Art Bank Purchase Program.

Eligibility

Professional artists who are Canadian citizens, or landed immigrants who have maintained their primary residence in Nova Scotia for at least 12 months prior to the application deadline.

Professional artist collectives may apply. For the purposes of the Art Bank Purchase program, a collective is defined as a group of (minimum two) artists, the majority of whom reside in Nova Scotia, who share copyright over collaboratively created artworks. A collective may be either a non-profit society or non-profit cooperative registered with the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stock Companies or ad-hoc. Ad-hoc collectives will be asked to provide the social insurance number of the signatory applicant who will accept payment.

Nova Scotian Commercial galleries may submit on behalf of a living Nova Scotian artist or artist collective who they represent on regionally-exclusive and contractual basis.

Only one application is accepted per artist or artist collective.

Work must have been **produced within five years** prior to the application deadline.

The determination of professional is determined by the [Status of the Artist Act](#) including but not limited to the following criteria:

- To have peer recognition
- To have a history of public presentation
- To have training appropriate to the artist's chosen discipline (including self-taught and/or apprenticeship training)
- To earn income, fully or in part, from artistic activity
- To demonstrate seriousness of intent and devotion of energy to practicing one's art

Ineligibility

Artists engaged in their initial training (e.g. a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree or an apprenticeship) are not eligible for consideration under this program as the program is intended to support established artists and emerging professional artists. Likewise, works created during the period an artist was engaged in their initial training are ineligible.

Application Requirements

- Applications can be delivered by hand, courier or sent by regular mail but in all cases, must be either received in the Arts Nova Scotia office by 4:30 PM on the deadline date or be postmarked no later than the deadline date
- Deadlines on a statutory holiday or weekend will be extended until the next working day
- Arts Nova Scotia does not accept faxed, e-mailed, late, or incomplete applications
- All documents including text (e.g. artist statement, resume) should be printed out and sent together with the application form single-sided with no staples
- Digital photos should be sent on a USB or disc

The following documents must be included with all applications:

- A completed application form
 - Galleries please note: one application form per artist
- An artist statement (maximum 300 words)
- A brief résumé or short bio noting education and/or apprenticeship, experience, professional and artistic achievements (maximum 2 pages)
 - Artist collectives must include a list of all active members along with their place of residence
- A maximum of ten (10) images of work per artist with information provided on the application form for each image
 - More than one photo may be submitted of the same artwork (e.g. different angles), however the total images submitted may not exceed ten (10)

Support Material

Support material is included in each application in the form of digital photos to assess artistic merit. Please do not send valuable originals as support material. If you want your support material returned you must provide a self-addressed stamped envelope. *Support material can no longer be picked up in person after the competition.*

General Information

- Files must be in digital form (PC or MAC) on USB, CD or DVD and not exceed format maximums
- Files must be labeled with the numbers 01, 02, 03, etc. at the start of each title
- Files must be directly readable, requiring no extraction from another format
- A list of support material should be printed and submitted with application

Ensure that electronic files are working before you submit your application.

Technical requirements

	Maximum # Submitted	Maximum Length/File Size	Accepted Formats
Digital Photos	10 images	2 MB each	.jpg, .tiff, .tif

Note: Assessors **will not** consider material that exceeds the specified limits or is not on the list of accepted formats

These materials are not accepted:

- Support material embedded in documents (PowerPoint presentations, etc.)
- Compressed files (WinZip, Stuffit, etc.)
- Material that requires third-party software, plug-ins, extensions, or other executables that need to be downloaded and installed
- Material accessed on websites – only artworks that are created specifically for the Internet to take advantage of one or more of its technologies may be submitted
- Personal websites or online documentation of artworks in an online gallery, portfolio, or archive
- Magnetic tape (cassettes, video tape), film, vinyl, slides
- Original art works

Application Assessment

Applications are reviewed for completeness and eligibility. Following this, a Peer Assessment Committee (PAC) will make purchase recommendations based the following factors:

- the quality of the work as evidenced by the support material provided

Applications are ranked based on merit and works are purchased based on the ranking.

The resume and artist statement help determine eligibility and context and are secondary to the visual works alone.

The program officer facilitates the assessment process but does not participate in the ranking of applications and the funding decisions.

Contents of the applications and proceedings of the meetings are strictly confidential. The decisions of the PACs are final.

Policies and procedures are in place to ensure fairness, and to avoid conflict of interest in the assessment process.

Peer Assessment Committee (PAC)

- PAC members are professional practicing artists of the relevant discipline
- The composition of the PAC is sensitive to regional, gender, age, and cultural differences
- Different PACs are appointed for each competition

Notification of Results

The results of the PAC meetings are communicated to applicants via notification letters sent by Canada Post eight to ten weeks after the deadline date.

Notification letters are sent to all applicants, without exception.

Unsuccessful applicants may resubmit eligible works to the next deadline.

The program officer is available prior to the deadline date to answer questions about eligibility and the application process.

Conditions of Purchase

The following are the conditions of purchase:

- Works purchased become part of a working collection and may be installed in government offices, and displayed on an online database of the Nova Scotia Art Bank collection
- The Nova Scotia Art Bank has permission to use the right to publicly exhibit, reproduce and publish purchased artworks without fee for publicity, promotion and educational purposes associated with the Nova Scotia Art Bank and its exhibitions
- Images must accurately represent the work as is submitted for purchase
- Only works recommended by the peer selection committee will be purchased. No substitutions are allowed
- Payment will be provided following delivery of the work and the signing of an Exhibition & Copyright Agreement
- Payment for works purchased is deemed taxable income by the Canada Revenue Agency. The Province will issue T4A slips to all artists whose works are purchased
 - If you are registered as a business with an GST/HST number, you may submit an invoice with the purchase price of the work with sales tax to Arts Nova Scotia. In this case, you will not be issued a T4A slip
- Works must be delivered unframed and un-matted except in the case that the frame is an artistic choice integral to the viewer's experience of the work

Send completed application forms to:

Art Bank Purchase Program
Arts Nova Scotia

In person/courier:
Homburg Building
3rd Floor, 1741 Brunswick Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3X8

By regular mail:
Arts Nova Scotia
PO Box 456
B3J 2R5

For further information, call Lauren Williams, Assistant Curator and Outreach Officer

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