

Call to Fraser Valley Artists: Art Exhibition Opportunity

Proposals must be submitted by April 10, 2027, 11:59PST

Purpose of the Call:

The CM+A Window Residency reimagines the museum façade as a living gallery—where contemporary artists activate the historic building and invite the community to encounter art in everyday space.

Located in the historic 1912 Chilliwack City Hall, the Chilliwack Museum + Archives' ground-floor windows face a key pedestrian corridor in downtown Chilliwack. These windows act as a threshold between inside and outside, between the institution and the daily life of the city. Through this residency, they become a highly visible site for artistic voice—inviting passersby, neighbours, and visitors to engage with contemporary art as part of the rhythm of the street.

This call invites artists to create site-responsive work that explores connections between people and place, past and present, and individual experience and collective memory. Artists are encouraged to consider how their work might surface community stories, lived histories, or place-based inquiry, transforming the museum's exterior into a dynamic public-facing exhibition.

Developed in collaboration with the Chilliwack Arts Council, the residency supports artists in developing new work while fostering meaningful exchange between artists, the museum, and the wider community through creative engagement and public programming.

Medium and Project Components:

Artists are invited to create site-specific artwork for the 11 to 13 museum's ground-floor windows, designed to engage pedestrians and the surrounding downtown environment.

Possible approaches may include:

- Window painting or illustration
- Vinyl or graphic installations
- Photography or digital work adapted for window display
- Mixed-media or text-based visual works

Technical Considerations

Artists should consider:

- Visibility from street level and pedestrian viewpoints
- The architectural context of the historic building
- Artwork that can be safely installed and maintained the exterior of the window surfaces

Detailed window measurements and installation guidance will be provided to selected artists.



Selected artists will:

- Develop a window design for installation
- Collaborate with CM+A and the Chilliwack Arts Council
- Participate in at least one public engagement activity (artist talk, workshop, etc.)
- Take part in a public unveiling event

Artist Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Artistic quality and originality
- Relevance to themes of place, community, and shared memory
- Suitability for the window exhibition format
- Feasibility of the proposed concept
- Potential for community engagement

Criteria	Points
Artistic Quality and Originality	25
Relevance to Themes of Place, Community & Shared Memory	25
Suitability for the Window Exhibition Format	20
Feasibility of the Proposed Concept	15
Potential for Community Engagement	15
Total	100

Who is eligible/encouraged to apply?

The CM+A Window Residency is open to emerging and established artists working in visual art, design, illustration, or related creative practices.

Artists may apply as:

- Individual artists
- Artist with assistant
- Artist duos
- Collectives

Artists living in Chilliwack, the Fraser Valley, and surrounding regions are particularly encouraged to apply.

CM+A is committed to supporting an inclusive and representative arts community. We strongly encourage applications from artists who identify as:

- Indigenous
- Black or People of Colour
- 2SLGBTQIA+
- Disabled
- Neurodivergent

Artists whose work engages with community, cultural storytelling, place-based narratives, or lived experience are especially encouraged to apply.

Demographic information may be collected as part of the application process to help support equity and representation in the residency program. Providing this information will be **optional and confidential**.

Submission Requirements:

Applicants are asked to submit the following materials:

- Artist name and contact information
- Short artist biography (max. 150 words)
- Artist statement (max. 150 words)
- Portfolio of recent work (5–10 images with titles, dates, and mediums)
- Website or portfolio link (if available)

- Brief statement of interest describing how you would approach the CM+A Window Residency (max. 200 words)
- Community engagement plan outlining how you would connect your proposed project with the public (max. 150 words). This could include an artist talk, workshop, demonstration, or other creative activity that invites community participation or dialogue.

Artists applying as a **duo or collective** should include information for all participating artists.

All materials must be submitted by the **application deadline** through the designated application form.

Submissions must be sent by email to:

Rosslyn Shipp, Executive Director at Chilliwack Museum and Archives

rosslyn@chilliwackmuseum.ca

Please use the following subject line: Artist Proposal – Window Residency Program 2027

If the file size is too large for email, artists are asked to use an external file share program, such as WeTransfer.

Accessibility:

The Chilliwack Museum and Archives will provide accommodation(s) for applicants with disabilities. Please notify Rosslyn Shipp, Executive Director at rosslyn@chilliwackmuseum.ca of the nature of any accommodation(s) that you may require in respect of any materials or processes used to ensure your equal participation.

Artist Fee:

The Chilliwack Museum and Archives will be using recommended CARFAC fees to compensate the selected artist, a remuneration scale is between \$10,000 to \$12,000 for a 12 month exhibition installation. A compensation agreement will be made before the final artist is selected. The fee will be paid in three installments, based on the schedule created by the artist. If the artist does not comply with their outlined schedule, the Chilliwack Museum and Archives maintains the right to withhold payment until the deliverables are met. The artist will also be required to submit a revised schedule, outlining deliverables to complete artwork by installation date.

Please Note: The artist will not be permitted to sell their artwork in the display.

Selection Process:

Applications will be reviewed by a **jury panel** made up of representatives from the **Chilliwack Museum + Archives, the Chilliwack Arts Council, and members of the local arts community.**

Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- Artistic merit and originality
- The strength and clarity of the proposed concept
- Relevance to themes of place, community, and shared memory
- Suitability for the window exhibition format
- The proposed community engagement strategy

Shortlisted applicants may be contacted for additional information if required. Selected artist(s) will work collaboratively with CM+A and the Chilliwack Arts Council to refine the final design and plan for installation and public programming.

The Chilliwack Museum and Archives reserve the right to select and retain the artist deemed most appropriate for the project at its sole discretion.

Schedule:

It is expected that the selected artist will comply with the project's timeline and dates, as highlighted below:

- Proposals must be submitted by April 10, 2027, 11:59PST
- The selected artist will be notified by April 27, 2027
- The artwork development period is from May 1 – June 12, 2027
- CM+A & Chilliwack Arts Council Engagement Review – June 15-19, 2027
- The artist must be available for an opening reception on July 9, 2027
- Public Installation Period is from June 2027 – May 2028.

Reserved Rights of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives:



The Chilliwack Museum and Archives (CM+A), at its sole discretion, may request clarifications or request additional information, as deemed necessary to evaluate the submissions. The CM+A retains the sole discretion to determine whether a submission is responsive and if the prospective Artist is capable of performing the work. The CM+A reserves the right to not proceed with awarding a contract.

Artist Information Form

The personal information collected on this form will be kept confidential.

Personal information on this form is collected in adherence with the 'Personal Information Protection Act'. The personal information you agree to provide herein, will be used by the Chilliwack Museum and Archives (CM+A) for internal administration purposes only. The information will not be disclosed to any outside party. Questions about his collection should be directed to Mary Watson, Curator, Chilliwack Museum and Archives, 45820 Spadina Avenue, Chilliwack, BC, V2P 1T3.

1. Artist Contact Information:

Name: _____

Pronouns: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Social Media Links (if applicable): _____

2. References

Please provide contact information for two references who can speak to the artist's artistic practice and interest and/or experience in public art projects. If contacted, information by a reference may be shared with art selection panel members. However, their contact information provided on this form will remain confidential.

Reference Name: _____

Pronouns: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email Address: _____

Reference Name: _____

Pronouns: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email Address: _____

3. Artist Declaration

I am 18 years of age or older. I have read and understand this form, and by signing below, I hereby voluntarily give my consent and authorize the Chilliwack Museum and Archives to collect the personal information I have provided herein for the above-stated *Purpose*, and to do so without any payment or compensation to me of any kind. I hereby declare that the information provided in this entire submission package is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____