



visual arts development awards

a program of



VANCOUVER
FOUNDATION

administered by



Contemporary Art Gallery

VISUAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT AWARDS (VADA) 2007 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The **Visual Arts Development Awards (VADA)** is a Vancouver Foundation initiative, administered in partnership with the Contemporary Art Gallery, to assist the growth and development of British Columbia's visual artists. The intent of VADA is to support the exploration of artistic learning and non-institutionally based artistic development. The Award offers opportunities for exploration in new techniques or processes to emerging or mid-career visual artists and artisans from all cultures that are residents of British Columbia and are working in traditional or contemporary media or techniques.

Who May Apply

This Award is available to individual artists who meet the following criteria:

- Residents of BC who have lived in the province for at least 12 months.
- Emerging or mid-career visual artists and artisans.
- **Not** full or part-time students.
- Artists who can demonstrate a commitment to their creative practice through their independent production and exhibition activities.
- Priority will be given to artists who have not previously been a recipient of the VADA Award.
- Applications will not be accepted from artists who have been a recipient of the VADA Award within the past three years.

Grant Size and Range

- The total grant budget is \$56,500.
- Grants range from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Eligible Activities

- Learning a **new technique or process** that furthers the visual artist or artisan's creative growth and development. The proposal must have a distinct learning component based on technique or process.
- A learning experience or apprenticeship with a senior artist, mentor, or elder **AND/OR**
- Self-guided, non-institutional learning.

Activities NOT Eligible

- A program of work based exclusively on research of a theme or concept.
- Proposals to complete work for an exhibition.
- Collaborative projects. VADA funds individuals only.
- A program to acquire entrepreneurial or professional practice skills (i.e. promotions, studio or business set up).
- The learning experience cannot centre on a course or group workshop in a school or art studio, nor can it be a program of directed or independent studies in a school or institute.

Completing the Application Form

- We recommend that you **TYPE** your application by working on the Word version of the application form available for download on the VADA website. Use the space provided only. Do not reformat the application form. Minimum font size: 10 point

- Alternately, you can print the PDF version of the application form and complete the form using BLACK ink.

Drafting a Timeline

- The program of work must be achievable within 12 months following the jury decision.
- Whether you are proposing to work with a mentor or a self-directed program of study, you must provide a timeline for your learning program.
- You can lay out a work plan in any manner that works for you. A simple format may be setting up two columns that address A) dates and B) work to be done. Alternately, you can describe the steps and timing of your work plan in paragraph form.

Drafting a Budget

- Jurors are trained to review budgets – a realistic work plan and budget is the sign of an achievable learning program.
- Please be as specific and realistic as possible. If you are renting or purchasing equipment or computer programs, we recommend you attach backup documentation (a price quote) to support your estimates. If submitting a price quote, only one copy of this material is required.
- **Eligible Expenses:** Costs of honoraria, materials, supplies, travel, subsistence, equipment rental/purchase (whichever is most cost effective), or expenses directly associated with proposed program. If your budget includes purchase of equipment, the amount used for this purpose should not exceed 30% of the overall budget.
- **Ineligible Expenses:** Documentation of work, exhibition related costs (i.e. framing, exhibition fees, promotions, invitations).
- If your proposed budget includes an honorarium, the level of mentor fees should be in keeping with the overall budget.

Supporting Documentation

- Supporting documentation of previous work allows the jury to evaluate artistic skill and assess the proposed learning program in the context of an artist's broader practice.
- Documentation of applicant's recent work (within the last 5 years), **clearly reproduced**, must consist of no more than **ten still images** or **three minutes of video**.
- Please do not submit original artwork.
- Only submit one copy of your supporting documentation.
- We recommend that you arrange your images in **chronological order**, from oldest to most current, to show the jury the development of your artistic practice.
- Acceptable formats for still images: 35mm slides, digital files (see below for specifications) or photographs. It is recommended that you submit slides. Submission of photographs is discouraged. **Submit slides OR digital images, not a combination of both formats.**
- Acceptable formats for video: VHS or CD (Real Media or QuickTime) for PCs.
- VHS tapes or CDs should be clearly labelled (name, length, title).
- Acceptable formats for digital files:
 - PC-compatible images.
 - jpg, .tif, or .bmp file types. (between 300-1200dpi).
 - movie or video files that can be accessed with one of the following plug-ins: QuickTime, RealPlayer, Windows Media Player or Flash (or submit a DVD).
- If you choose to submit digital files:
 - DO:**
 - clearly mark your name on each CD you submit.
 - indicate the program that is best for viewing your material.
 - test your material before you submit it to make sure that it is readable. It is your responsibility to ensure that all material is in a readable format.
 - if you are submitting single images rather than a presentation, **label each of your images** with a number and title. Start the number of the first nine images with a zero to ensure they are presented chronologically (for example: 01title.jpg, 02title.jpg, 10title.jpg).
 - DON'T:**

- exceed the maximum of 3 MB per image.
- submit Mac-compatible files.
- submit PDFs.
- use hyperlinks to Internet sites with your images.
- include programs or software that must be installed.

Adjudication Process

- A jury of diverse individuals who are active in the visual arts in British Columbia will be convened in July to evaluate the applications and make the award decisions. Applicants will be notified approximately 8 weeks after the June 29, 2007 deadline.

Basis for Evaluation

- Merit and quality of the proposed artistic learning program.
- Applicant's skill as determined by the jury, based on submitted documentation.
- Applicant's commitment to developing artistic vision and technique.
- Feasibility of learning program based on proposed budget and timeline.
- Clarity of application presentation.

Submitting your Application

- A completed application form with the required documentation and a self-addressed stamped envelope must be received by the Contemporary Art Gallery by **Friday, June 29, 2007 by 6 p.m.**
- **Include a stamped and self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage to return documentation.** Please include the gallery's return address: 555 Nelson Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 6R5. Please ensure you have a large enough envelope with sufficient postage (stamps only—no meter postage please) to cover the return of your visual support material.
- Additional material not pertaining directly to the proposed program of work, such as reviews, catalogues, invitations and certificates will not be accepted or returned if submitted.

Deadline

**Applications must be received at the CAG by Friday, June 29, 2007 by 6 p.m.
Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

Send completed applications to:

Visual Arts Development Awards, Contemporary Art Gallery
555 Nelson Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6R5

Need Help?

Visit www.vada-awards.org or contact vada@contemporaryartgallery.ca