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Workshop Agenda

- Introduction: VADA Mandate and Supporters
- Eligibility
- Application Form: A Step-by-Step Guide
- Adjudication Process
- Question & Answer Period

The Visual Arts Development Awards (VADA) Mandate

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 who are working in traditional or contemporary media or techniques.

VADA Funder

VANCOUVER FOUNDATION is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening communities across British Columbia.

VADA Administrator

CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY is a non-profit public art gallery dedicated to research, exhibition, documentation and education about contemporary visual art.

Grant Size and Range

- Total grants budget is \$56,500.
- Grants range from \$3,000 to \$5,000.
- In 2006, VADA received 119 applications from 30 communities across BC and granted 14 awards.

Who May Apply

- 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.
- 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.

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.
- Self-guided, non-institutional learning AND/OR
- A learning experience or apprenticeship with a senior artist, mentor, or elder.
- The program of work must be achievable within 12 months following the jury decision.

Activities NOT Eligible

- A program of work based exclusively on research of a theme or concept.
- A program to acquire entrepreneurial or professional practice skills.
- 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.
- Collaborative projects. VADA funds individuals only.

Application Form: Sections 1&2

PERSONAL DATA

- BC Residency
- SIN Number
- Summary of learning proposal

ARTISTIC BACKGROUND

- Include 6 copies of your Curriculum Vitae listing education, training and exhibitions.

Application Form: Section 3

LEARNING PROGRAM

(describing artistic rationale and cultural content)

- Outline your proposed learning program. What NEW skill, technique or process do you want to learn?
- How does your learning proposal relate to your current artistic practice?
- How does your learning proposal relate to your long-term artistic aims?

Application Form: Section 3

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.

Application Form: Section 3

IF YOUR PROGRAM IS MENTOR-LED, COMPLETE QUESTION 6:

- Describe the person with whom you will be working.
- Provide a timeline of how you will learn your new skill/technique/process.

IF YOUR PROGRAM IS SELF-DIRECTED, COMPLETE QUESTION 7:

- Provide a timeline of how you will learn your new skill/technique/process.

OPTIONAL: Six copies of your Artistic Statement

Application Form: Section 4

DRAFTING A BUDGET

- Jurors are trained to review budgets – a realistic work plan and budget is the sign of an achievable learning program. (expenditures must reflect the overall learning proposal and timeline).
- Please be as specific and realistic as possible. (level of mentor fees and equipment costs should be in keeping with the overall budget)
- Provide quotes to support your budget whenever possible (submit only one copy of quotes).

Application Form: Section 4

Eligible Expenses

- (Modest) Costs of honoraria for mentor/elder/technician.
- Materials.
- Travel cost directly related to the proposed program.
- Equipment rental or purchase.
- Expenses directly associated with proposed program.

Ineligible Expenses

- Documentation of work.
- Exhibition related costs (i.e. framing, exhibition fees, promotions, invitations).

Application Form: Section 5

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- Documentation of recent work **clearly reproduced**, consisting of no more than **ten still images** or **3 minutes of video**.
- Arrange your images in **chronological order**.
- Acceptable formats for still images: 35mm slides OR photographs OR digital files
- 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, DVD or CD (Real Media or QuickTime) for PCs.
- Please do not submit original artwork.

Digital Documentation

Clearly mark your **name** on Digital Documentation. Please also 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.

Acceptable formats

- **PC-compatible** images.
- **.jpg, .tif, or .bmp** file types.
- 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).

Digital Documentation DOs

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).

Digital Documentation DONTs

- 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.

Application Checklist

- **Six** copies of the **completed application form**.
- **Six** copies of a **current CV**.
- **One** copy of **visual documentation**: No more than 10 slides or 10 digital images or 10 photographs or 1 VHS, CD or DVD labelled and cued (3 minutes maximum).
- **OPTIONAL: Six** copies of optional 500-word **Artist Statement**
- Applicant's signed declaration.
- Mentor's signed declaration, if applicable.
- **Collate all written material into 6 complete applications**
NO STAPLES, PAPER CLIPS OR FOLDERS PLEASE!
- **Self addressed stamped envelope with sufficient postage to return documentation.**

Application Deadline

Completed applications **MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE CAG NO LATER THAN 6 P.M. ON FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH, 2007.** Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Adjudication Process

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

Criteria 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.

Other Sources of Funding

- **BC Arts Council:** www.bcartscouncil.ca
- **Canada Council:** www.canadacouncil.ca
- **Hnatyshyn Foundation:** www.rjhf.com
- **Aboriginal Arts Development Awards**
www.fphlcc.ca
- **Vancouver Foundation**
www.vancouverfoundation.bc.ca



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Contemporary Art Gallery

If you have additional questions,
email the VADA Coordinator at
vada@contemporaryartgallery.ca