



**CALGARY
CHINATOWN
ARTIST
RESIDENCY**

THE
NEW
GALLERY

Calgary



CALGARY CHINATOWN ARTIST RESIDENCY CALL TO ARTISTS

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SUMMARY

The Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency is an opportunity for professional artists to be embedded in Calgary Chinatown, exploring its rich history and culture while engaging with the community as they look to envision the future of the area. This residency aims to support contemporary art practices and facilitate conversations and engagement with the Calgary Chinatown community.

The selected artists will broadly explore the history, culture, built environment, social and political issues relevant to Calgary Chinatown through an intensive 5-day program hosted in November that will highlight different aspects of Calgary Chinatown's identity. Following this programmed week artists will be invited back for a 3-month residency to build relationships, research and develop new work in relation to the focus of this residency.

The Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency is a partnership between The City of Calgary's [Public Art Program](#) and [The New Gallery](#). Artists will be supported with the time, space and resources to participate in this residency, with up to three artists being selected to participate.

The 5-day programmed week will take place from November 18 -22, 2019 with the 3-month residency beginning in Q2 2020 (exact start date negotiable with artist's availability).

KEY DATES

Submission Deadline **September 9**

Artist Shortlist Interviews **September 23 – 27**

5 Day Program **November 18 – 22**

Artist Residency **Q2 (April – June) 2020**

BACKGROUND

Chinatown is one of Calgary's most distinctive cultural neighbourhoods with a long history dating as far back as 1885 when the first Chinatown in the city was formed. Today's Chinatown is located in a 49-acre span bounded mainly between the Bow River and 4 Avenue SE, north to south, and Macleod Trail to 2 Street SW, east to west. This is a significant and unique area within the fabric of Calgary that is highly valued by residents, Calgarians and visitors to the city. But like many other Chinatowns across North America, Calgary Chinatown is at a crossroads – as Calgary continues to develop and evolve, so does the need to protect the culture, history and identity to ensure the continued vitality of Chinatown. Currently, The City of Calgary is launching the [Tomorrow's Chinatown](#) project, which will result in a new Local Area Plan and Cultural Plan for Calgary Chinatown. *Tomorrow's Chinatown* will work with the community to identify a cultural vision and planning priorities for future developments and uses of the area and, for the first time, cultural considerations will inform the policies related to the built environment.

More information on Calgary Chinatown can be found through the [Chinatown Historical Context Paper](#), a study commissioned by The City of Calgary which overviews major historical events, persons, institutions, landscapes and structures in Calgary Chinatown to help inform future planning work.

ABOUT CALGARY

The Calgary area, where the Bow and Elbow rivers meet, is a place of confluence where the sharing of ideas and opportunities naturally come together. Indigenous peoples have their own names for this area that have been in use long before Scottish settlers named this place Calgary. The Métis call the Calgary area Otos-kwunee. In the Blackfoot language, they call this place, Moh-kins-tsis. The Stoney Nakoda Nation refer to the Calgary area as Wíchíska Oyade and the people of the Tsuut'ina nation call this area Guts-ists-i.

We would like to acknowledge that this project will be located on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta. This includes: the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai collectively known as the Blackfoot Confederacy; the Îethka Nakoda Wícastabi First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation. The city of Calgary is also homeland to the historic Northwest Métis and to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We acknowledge all Indigenous urban Calgarians, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, who have made Calgary their home.

To learn more, watch the video: <https://youtu.be/7re1r0FY-4Y>

RESIDENCIES

Up to three (3) artists/artist teams will be selected to participate in the Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency. Artists selected must be available from **November 18 - 22, 2019** to participate in an immersive programmed experience of Calgary Chinatown that will highlight various aspect of its history, culture and challenges.

This 5-day program will include but not be limited to:

- Tours of the neighborhood, significant spaces and landmarks.
- Meeting with tongs, community associations and other groups.
- Culture and recreation tours, including mahjong lessons and martial arts demonstrations.
- Curated culinary experiences.
- Discussions with subject matter experts around the history of Calgary Chinatown, heritage resources, the unique built environment, neighbourhood boundaries and identity.
- A broader discussion on the current state of Chinatowns across North America and their current political and cultural challenges; tensions between traditional and contemporary representation and how to remain authentic while continuing to evolve.

Following the 5-day program in November, artists will be provided time to reflect on their experience and develop an outline for their residency, detailing areas of focus for their time spent during their 3 months in residence. Artists will have regular touch points with the residency coordinators during this period to determine a start date for the residency.

Artists will be required to start their residency in Q2 of 2020 and be in-residence for 3 consecutive months. Studio space will be provided to each participating artist/artist collective and accommodations will be provided in Chinatown for artist who are selected from outside of Calgary.

The outcome of the residency will require artists who participate to deliver the following:

- Engage with the Calgary Chinatown community (as defined by the artist).
- Focus on research that explores the history, culture and future of Calgary Chinatown.
- Develop a new body of work that is informed and directly responds to the research undertaken in the Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency.

CONSIDERATIONS

As part of the Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency, a documentary will be produced that will capture the process and development of each residency as artists build relationships with the community and create new work. Artists selected for this residency must agree to be filmed and collaborate with the videographers and photographers documenting the project.

The Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency is a standalone project produced by The New Gallery and The City of Calgary's Public Art Program but will run complementary to the *Tomorrow's Chinatown* project. Insights gained from the artist residency may provide important input into the development of the two plans being developed for the *Tomorrow's Chinatown* project.

BUDGET

Each artist/artist team will be paid an all-inclusive budget of up to **\$22,000 CAN** to participate

This budget is inclusive of:

- Artist fees \$15,000
- Travel allowance (up to) \$2,000
- Material budget (up to) \$5,000

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The deadline to submit an application is Monday, September 9th, 2019 by 5:00pm

Submissions are accepted in electronic form only. Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted, no extensions will be granted.

This opportunity is open to local, national and international professional artists of all disciplines. Individual artists or artist teams/collectives may apply. Artists applying for the Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency must submit the following information in a single PDF file:

1. Letter of Interest (Max 1 page)

The Letter of Interest must outline why you are interested in participating in this residency which focuses on Calgary Chinatown. Include your background, qualifications and relevant experience. Include your experience working within set budget and schedules. If possible, give insight into your experience engaging with the broader public, collaborating, and working within a public process (not a prerequisite). This is an opportunity for us to understand your interest at this stage, please do not submit a proposal.

2. Curriculum Vitae (Max 2 pages)

Include current contact information including e-mail address, telephone number and mailing address.

3. References

Provide a minimum of two professional references and include their name, address, e-mail and telephone number

4. Images (Max 10)

Images must be included in your single PDF document as a slide show and be compatible with PC. Please include an annotated image list.

Please include all requested information in a single PDF document at a maximum file size of 10MB.

Complete submission packages can be e-mailed to submissions@thenewgallery.org

SELECTION PROCESS

The Calgary Chinatown Artist Residency is a two-stage evaluation process. Submissions are jury reviewed by a selection panel following The City of Calgary Public Art Program's standard selection process that includes a 7-person volunteer panel made up of artists/arts professionals, community representatives and subject matter experts. Submissions will be evaluated by the selection panel to determine a short-list of applicants to advance to the second phase of the selection process.

The short-listed applicants will be interviewed by the selection panel as an opportunity to discuss the artists approach and interest more in-depth. Artists should be available for interviews the week of September 23rd.

The artists selected for the residency will be notified the week of September 30th, 2019. The selected artists will be required to sign a contract with The City of Calgary's Public Art Program, which includes an Artists Master Agreement and proof of general liability insurance.

ARTIST MASTER AGREEMENT

The Artist Master Agreement is a blanket agreement, renewable for up to five (5) years, and is not contract specific. To view the referenced document at The City's website, go to www.calgary.ca/bids and click on "Supply Management Terms and Conditions" – Artists should review prior to submitting for this opportunity.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

As per Clause 7 of the Artist Master Agreement, proof of insurance will be required prior to award of any contract with The City of Calgary. Please review prior to submitting for this opportunity.

Please submit applications to:
submissions@thenewgallery.org