

City of Olympia

Call for Artist in Residence



In partnership with Drexel House, the City of Olympia is seeking the services of a teaching artist who has experience in percussion and movement.

The City of Olympia is committed to being an inclusive, affirming and equitable place for our community members and staff to live, play and work. We adhere to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources. We strongly encourage people who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, transgender, non-binary, LGBTQ, immigrants, people with disabilities, and women to apply.

Short Description

In an effort to make the arts accessible to traditionally underserved populations, the City of Olympia has developed an Artist in Residence (AIR) program to meet this need.

The Artist in Residence Program hopes to address the following goals:

- Provide opportunities for underserved community members to participate in the art making process
- Broaden the community experience of the arts
- To create connection with the City of Olympia and the greater community.
- Enhance the quality of peoples' lives
- Offer a variety of unique opportunities for the city's diverse communities to participate and benefit from the art making process.

Primary Contact

Stephanie Johnson, Arts Program Manager
sjohnso1@ci.olympia.wa.us
360-709-2678

Budget

- The selected Artist in Residence will be paid a \$1500 stipend.
- There is also up to \$750 for reimbursable expenses available for agreed-upon materials, supplies and insurance (estimated at \$250-\$500 per year).

Eligibility

Applicants must be teaching artists who reside in Thurston County and be at least 18 years of age.

Deadline

Applications are due by _____(deadline)_____

Project Description

[Drexel House](#) campus provides a continuum of housing care in a safe environment that fosters respect and dignity, with an emergency shelter for 16 men and 86 units of permanent supportive housing for men and women coming out of homelessness, who have first been screened and deemed eligible and capable of living independently. Residents are provided a variety of support services to assist those living with trauma, addiction, and mental health issues. In response to a community survey, residents indicated strong interest in music and dance. Additionally in follow-up discussions with Drexel House staff, the concept of establishing a drumming circle among residents was identified as a way to build community, in the hope it will continue following the residency.

Scope of Work

- Each selected Artist in Residence will enter into an agreement with the City, and work with City Staff to determine a final scope of work.
- The Artist in Residence also agrees to responsibly handle administrative duties in association with the program, working with City staff and the partner agency to arrange.
- Artists in Residence agree that the City of Olympia may photograph them during their workshops and projects

Details

- Residency shall be 2 workshops a month, over three months, for a total of 6 workshops of 45 minutes each.
- Teaching artist will provide buckets or other percussive instruments to stay at Drexel House for continuing use.
- \$1500 stipend, up to \$750 in materials by reimbursement

SUBMISSION/SELECTION PROCESS

A minimum of three applications must be received for the review process to move forward.

Phase I—Submission of Application:

Selection Committee

Kim Kondrat, City of Olympia Homeless Response Coordinator
Hannah Nelson, Operations Coordinator, Catholic Community Services
Will Stockton, Catholic Community Services
Kathy Dorgan, Vice-Chair, Arts Commission
Kathy Murray, Arts Commission

The panel reserves the right to select up to three artists as finalists for this opportunity. The panel also reserves the right to not select any artists, if it so chooses.

Selection criteria

Artists should bear in mind that the audiences will be broad-based, and in representing the City's inclusive, non-partisan stance, must use discretion when acting in the capacity of the City's Artist in

Residence.

Aesthetic Quality:

- Do the work samples exhibit strong aesthetic merit?
- Are the works consistently strong? Does the applicant demonstrate a commitment to continuing their art practice?

Potential for Community Engagement:

- Does the applicant demonstrate an understanding of the needs of the underserved community with whom they will be working?
- Does the applicant have experience teaching percussion and/or movement?

Appropriateness of Teaching Strategy for the Drexel House Community:

- Do the workshop samples support the artist's ability to engage in meaningful ways to further the arts in the Drexel House community?
- Does the proposed engagement strategy create capacity for participant success?

Application Materials

Applicants may apply via SurveyMonkey ___link_____ through __ (deadline)_____.

☐ **Letter of Interest (one double-sided page or less)**

Describe why this opportunity is of interest, proposal of how the applicant would teach and engage with the partner community including engagement strategy, and samples of workshops or projects that would support the request of the community, and relevant skills brought to this project.

☐ **Digital Audio Work Samples**

Applicants may submit up to 8 attachments and/or digital files that clearly show past projects and work experience.

☐ **Annotated Descriptions List**

This list of descriptions should match the submitted work samples listing the title, year, media, or project samples with a brief description (50 words or less) of the applicant's role in the project.

☐ **Resume**

Applicants must include a resume, two pages maximum.

☐ **References**

Contact information for three professional references who are familiar with your teaching. Please do not include letters of recommendation. References will be contacted prior to the finalist interviews.

Do not submit specific proposals or additional information at this time.

Phase II—Finalist Interviews:

Each finalist will be interviewed by the same selection committee as in Phase I

During finalist interviews, the partner community will have a chance to meet the applicants and determine a good fit.

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Artist Selection Schedule (subject to change)

Application open
Deadline for Entry
Jury process
Finalist interviews
Arts Commission review
City Council approval

Schedule to be
determined following
approval.

Contact Information

Questions?

Stephanie Johnson, Arts Program Manager
Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation
sjohnson@ci.olympia.wa.us
360.709.2678

Legal Requirements

Applicants must have, or be willing to acquire an Olympia Business license, if selected. For more information, go to <http://olympiawa.gov/city-government/forms/busn-license-bo-tax/business-license.aspx>

The selected artist is required to carry insurance. Specific coverages are included in the contract the selected artist will execute with the City.

The City reserves the right not to select any artist at all, and reserves the right to change the process or schedule upon public notice.