FAQ

Can an artist apply for more than one award category?
Yes, artists can submit an application for any one of the three award categories: Emerging Artist Award, Established Artist Award, or Community Arts Award.

Who reviews the applications?
Applications will be reviewed by a jury of professional artistic peers and North York Arts representatives.

What criteria is used to evaluate applications?
The rubric can be found here

How do I know if I qualify as an Emerging or Established Artist?

We kept the definition of each stage flexible to allow artists to define themselves based on their unique journeys and achievements. Generally, we expect those applying in the Established Artist to have reached a mature phase in their career, having built a substantial portfolio of original works. Recognized nationally or internationally, they have made significant contributions to their field. By not setting rigid criteria, we aim to honor the diverse ways artists can achieve and demonstrate their establishment in the field. I identify as a “Mid-career” artist, which award should I submit to? We have intentionally not put a cap on the years of practice for an Emerging Artist and have not specified a minimum number of years for an Established Artist. You should apply for the award that you feel aligns best with your artistic journey and achievements. We want this application process to be inclusive and open to all artists. I am a newcomer. Back home my practice was much more established, but in North York I feel like my practice is still emerging.

Which category should I apply to?

We understand that many newcomers bring extensive experience and artistic accomplishments from their home countries. When deciding which category to apply to, consider where your practice currently stands within the context of North York. If you are still building local networks, presenting your work to new audiences, or developing your practice in a new cultural environment, you may qualify for the Emerging Artist category—even if you had an established career elsewhere. That said, if you feel your current work in North York demonstrates a sustained, recognized contribution and leadership in your field, you are welcome to apply in the Established Artist category. If you're unsure, feel free to contact us. We're happy to help you determine the best fit.

When will the award recipients be announced?

Award recipients will be notified in Mid-November and will be publicly recognized during an awards ceremony, more details to come soon! What happens if I miss the submission deadline? Unfortunately, late submissions will not be accepted. Please ensure your application is submitted by **Friday, Nov 13th at 5pm.**

Is there support available if I need help with my application?

Yes, accessibility support is available. Contact our Program Lead, Declan, by Nov 11th at Programs@northyorkarts.org. We also have a recording of our info session from Oct 21st on our website for easy access.

Why do you ask for demographic information?

North York Arts is strongly committed to equity and inclusion in our programs. With this in mind, we have set out specific programming goals in our strategic plan to better serve our communities. We want to prioritize allocating funding to members of communities that have been historically marginalized. To ensure that we do so, we are collecting data on how our participants self-identify. This is optional and we appreciate your input. That being said, we also understand that some artists may feel pressure to relate their applications back to the hardships of their marginalization. If that is not something that is true to your work or you don't want to share, please do not feel obligated to include that information. We aim for you to feel uplifted and supported during this process and not that this process is an exploitation of identity. If you need further assistance, please reach out to our Program Lead, Declan, at Programs@northyorkarts.org