

2024 CALL FOR ARTISTS

Arts Alive Public Art Program

Arts Alive is Oak Bay Parks, Recreation & Culture's annual temporary public art program. This exhibition of sculpture is displayed for 10 months at outdoor sites in our municipality. Now in its ninth year, this Oak Bay Public Arts Program is an expression of our municipality's commitment to a flourishing arts environment for the economic, social and personal benefit of our entire community. It is also an important attraction for visitors and tourists.

The municipality has installed outdoor sculptures in a variety of locations around Oak Bay. The permanent collection of Arts Alive sculptures frames views, animates parks, streetscapes and gathering areas. The sculptures have been greatly appreciated for their artistic merit and have encouraged viewers to pause and reflect about living in and visiting this special seaside community. They include realistic and abstract pieces, both kinetic and static. They are made of a variety of materials including metal, stone, mixed media and mosaic and express each sculptor's personal style and interpretation of the yearly theme.

The annual exhibition of sculpture is chosen by a jury from works submitted by artists from the region. Selected sculptures are on temporary loan by each sculptor, sponsored by local business and community groups.

To learn more please visit: <https://www.oakbay.ca/parks-recreation/arts-culture/Arts Alive/Arts Alive-permanent-public-art>

About Oak Bay

The municipality of Oak Bay is part of Greater Victoria and is located on the southeastern tip of Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada. It lies in the traditional territory of the ləkʷəŋən people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Surrounded by beaches and parkland, its scenery includes splendid views across the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Salish Sea. This geologically fascinating area is also home to the unique and rare Garry Oak meadow ecosystem.

Our 18,000 residents have a deep attachment to our natural and built environment. The municipality is legendary for its fine domestic architecture, its picturesque, luxuriant gardens, and its parks. Its compact and charming village heart is the home of several art galleries enjoyed by local artists and art enthusiasts.

Theme for 2024

Artists are encouraged to submit sculptural work responding to the theme *'Beyond the Surface'*

When reflecting on the volatile times we face globally, locally, and personally, we may find ourselves clinging to an identity or cadre for comfort, support and familiarity. We seek works that require courage to look deeper at our shared but often hidden histories, that question easy tolerance and seek, with bravery and curiosity, to regard the unseen or overlooked. We seek works which inspire the viewer to move beyond their known boundaries, routine speeches and the obvious, to weave together abstruse ideas to reveal our core connections and commonality.

Information to Artists

This is an excellent opportunity for both mid-career and emerging artists to showcase their work. Artists are invited to reflect on and interpret the yearly theme.

Artist's work will have exposure to thousands of residents and visitors in this high-profile program. The municipality, local media and Oak Bay Tourism will promote this show throughout the year. Related arts events like art walks, paint-ins, concerts, and celebrations will be organized, generating excitement and building community.

- Artists based in Western Canada are invited to apply for our 2024-2025 outdoor public art program (due to shipping/importing logistics of artwork, we cannot accept sculptures shipped from outside of the region at this time).
- Work will be displayed for approximately 1 year.
- Proposals will be reviewed by a volunteer jury.
- Depending on community sponsorships, up to 10 works may be selected.
- Selected works will be installed in highly visible outdoor locations open to the public.
This year only sculptural works will be selected for inclusion in the program.

Financial Information

- Successful submissions will be provided with an honorarium of \$1,600 inclusive of travel and delivery/retrieval.
- All artwork is available for public purchase.
 - A commission of 10% of the sale of any sculpture while on exhibition will go to the Arts Alive program to be used for the development of the program.
- Permanent Municipal Public Art Work Collection Consideration
The purchase of artwork is at the discretion of the District of Oak Bay Council and is not guaranteed as part of this public exhibition.

The public will be invited to vote on a People's Choice Award.

- This piece will be among those considered for purchase by the Municipality for inclusion in Oak Bay's permanent public art collection, up to a fair market value of \$18,000, taxes included, pending annual budget approvals.
- Artwork valued over \$18,000 will be considered for exhibition and public sale only.

Jury Process

Incomplete applications will not be considered by the jury.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Arts Alive jury.

Shortlisted entries will be reviewed by Municipal staff to ensure technical feasibility and public safety.

Jury Criteria

- Originality and artistic merit. (50%)
- Expression of the theme. (30%)
- Quality of previous work (mid-career artists) / quality of the application information, photographs/sketches (emerging artists) (20%)
- Overall feasibility, appropriate size, practicality, durability.
- Appropriate for outdoor seaside environment, structural integrity, public safety, and level of maintenance required.
- Content must be appropriate for community members of all ages.

Arts Alive 2024-2025 Key Dates

- February 6, 2024 ~ Application deadline – (9AM Pacific Time)
- February 29, 2024 ~ Successful applicants will be notified.
- May 13, 2024 ~ New artwork delivered to Oak Bay Public Works Yard.
- June 14, 2024 ~ Installation of 2024 Arts Alive artwork complete.
- July 11, 2024 ~ Arts Alive opening celebration and tour
- April/May 2025 ~ De-Installation of 2024-2025 Arts Alive artwork complete.

How to Apply

We invite your submission by completing the attached application form with all supporting documentation outlined on the document checklist, by **9AM - February 6, 2024**.

Applications can be made online <https://www.oakbay.ca/parks-recreation/arts-culture/ArtsAlive/call-artists-application> or emailed to apass@oakbay.ca

(If emailing, place the artwork title in the subject line and attach application and supporting documents in one email.)

Please direct accessibility and accommodation requests or questions prior to January 25 to: Andrea Pass, Arts and Culture Programmer, apass@oakbay.ca or 250-370-7908.

ARTS ALIVE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

The following supporting documents, as well as a completed application form are required in order for your application to be considered:

- 1. Completed Application Form – Signed Agreement**
- 2. Artist biography, 100-150 words (Word or PDF format)**
- 3. Artistic statement, 150-200 words (Word or PDF format)**
- 4. THREE photos, sketches, images of artwork from three different views. (.jpg or PDF format)**

Note: Use the following format when naming these electronic files:

“last name_title of work”

example:

- “Smith_Resume.pdf”
- “Smith_My Sculpture Title_1.jpeg”
- “Smith_My Sculpture Title_2.jpeg” etc.

- 5. Artist Resume (if no website showing portfolio is available)**

Optional information: catalogue raisonne, list of exhibitions, press clippings, gallery representation. The limit is five pages.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 9AM FEBRUARY 6.

Arts Alive 2024 Application Form

Applicant Information: (please print clearly)

***required**

Full (Legal) Name * _____

Preferred Name (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address * _____

City * _____ Province* _____ Postal Code* _____

Email Address * _____

Phone Number * _____

Website (that shows portfolio) _____

Instagram/Facebook _____

About your Artwork:

Title * _____

Date of Work * (Within two years preferred) _____

Material/s * _____

Describe your work in 25 words:

Dimensions

Height _____ (inch/feet) * x Width _____ (inch/feet) * x Depth _____ (inch/feet) *

Total height (in/ft) * _____

(works will be installed by Oak Bay on a concrete base, 35.5 inches wide X 12 inches high, please see base guidelines and bolt pattern on the Arts Alive Call for Artist page.)

Weight (lbs) * _____

Full Market Value * _____ (Supported by gallery/website prices substantiated appraisal.)

Display and Installation Guidelines

All submissions should be appropriate to site and public space.

All sculptures need to be made of a durable material for the yearlong outdoor ocean side setting and constructed with safety in mind for display in a public setting.

All sculptures must be able to attach to concrete base supplied by Oak Bay - Base specifications. (PDF attachment - **Installation Guidelines**)

If providing an alternate weighted base, please provide technical specifications with application.

Please choose the category you wish to enter: *

- People's Choice Award Category (value up to \$18,000)
- Exhibition Only Category (value \$18,000+)

The artist agrees that their application accurately reflects the dimensions and appearance of the completed work that will be submitted to Arts Alive, if accepted. Changing the size and/or appearance of the work in any significant way is not advisable without written permission from the Public Art Jury and Municipal Staff. Oak Bay Parks, Recreation, and Culture reserves the right to disqualify work that does not meet the specifications and descriptions given by the artist on this application.

- I have read, understand, and agree to all the terms within the Arts Alive Application. **

Signature: _____ Date: _____