



Call for Submissions RISE Emerging Artist Program 2026

Submission Deadline: Friday October 3, 2025

Notification of Acceptance: November 1, 2025

Exhibition Dates for RISE Emerging Artist Program 2026

PLEASE NOTE that these dates are subject to slight changes in response to other artsPlace programming needs.

Slot 1

February 27 - April 9, 2026

Installation – February 25 & 26, 2026

Deinstallation – April 10, 2026

Slot 2

June 24 - August 5, 2026

Installation – June 22 & 23, 2026

Deinstallation – August 6, 2026

artsPlace is a welcoming, user-friendly space where community can gather to explore, discover, and celebrate the adventure of art and creativity. The artsPlace Gallery is now accepting submissions for the RISE Emerging Artist Program.

The aim of RISE is to cultivate Alberta's emerging artists by pairing an exhibition opportunity with mentorship by artist professionals. Participating artists will build experience in exhibition design, installation, marketing and business skills and professional practice. This program will foster community awareness of contemporary arts and work to prepare emerging artists for a professional career in the arts.

Eligibility:

An emerging artist is defined as: someone who is in the early stage of their fine arts career (less than 5 years), has specialized training in their field (not necessarily gained in an academic institution), and who has created a modest independent body of work.

Emerging artists may include students, recently graduated students from a post-secondary institution, or someone who has made a recent career change or decision to prioritize their art practice. The artist cannot be exhibiting work with a commercial gallery, and **MUST** be resident of Alberta for at least a year prior to the application deadline date. This call for submission is open to ALL visual art disciplines, and applicants may apply as an individual or as part of a collective of artists. We welcome applications from disabled artists and are happy to provide any support needed throughout the process.

RISE Emerging Artist Program:

RISE Emerging artists will be selected by a jury based on the artist's ability to deliver a cohesive, high-quality body of work with their chosen media. The artwork should display creativity, originality, experimental or bold stylistic risks taken in a successful way, a



knowledge of artistic craft and a skilled use of aesthetics. For the RISE Emerging Artist Program, the artist's work should offer the artsPlace community an innovative, educational or avant garde arts experience.

The exhibition presentation is approximately six weeks long, allowing the selected RISE Emerging Artist the opportunity to exhibit, sell, and promote their artistic practice. When accepted, the RISE Emerging Artist will receive mentorship from a professional, practicing artist. Mentorship may include coaching on exhibition preparation, curation and installation, including preparing and delivering an artist talk and tips for successful promotion. The artist is responsible for securely installing and taking down their work. Some mentorship for the installation process may be offered by artsPlace staff. RISE Emerging Artists may sell the work presented in their exhibition. artsPlace will take a 30% commission on all artwork sold.

RISE Emerging Artists receive a \$1500 honorarium.

Submission Requirements:

The deadline for submissions is Friday October 3, 2025. Please submit one PDF file containing the written items 1-8. Please also submit 10 individual .jpeg images. Please use the subject line: RISE Emerging Artist Submission.

Send submissions to: programs@artsplacecanmore.com

1. Cover Letter

This letter of introduction contains current contact information including a mailing address, email, and telephone number. The letter should also indicate first and second choice for exhibition slot dates. If you are applying as a collective please list all member names and disciplines, but clearly state which person is the main contact. If you are an artist with a disability, please be welcome to indicate this in your application if you feel comfortable, and specify any supports or accommodations that would help you fully participate in this program. Applicants who wish to do so may use the following statement, or adapt it in their cover letter: *"I identify as an artist with a disability. To support my full participation in this program, I request the following accommodations: [please specify]."*

2. Project Description

The project description should indicate the media, technique, theme and/or context of the artwork, and title of the proposed exhibit. It should be clear in the project description whether the exhibition is already a completed body of work or will need to be completed. It should also address any specific technical or spatial requirements regarding the installation of the work.

3. Artist statement/ Collective Statement

The artist statement should be approximately 300 words maximum and should share the artist or collective's vision and philosophy behind the art making process and the effect the artist or collective wishes to have on their intended audience.

4. Curriculum Vitae

Maximum 2 pages, with a font size no smaller than 10pt.

The CV should demonstrate the artist's continued commitment to their arts practice.

5. Corresponding Image list

Image list should provide: number corresponding to file name, title of artwork, size of artwork, medium, year produced, proposed value, and if it will be part of the exhibition.



(Please note Y or Yes, or N for N to indicate whether it will be part of the proposed artsPlace exhibition.)

6. Description of Artist Talk or Community Focused Demonstration

RISE Emerging artists are asked to engage the public in a short artist talk or a short community focused demonstration of their arts practice. This may be presented in-person at an opening reception, or online through video. Please provide a description of your proposed short artist talk or short community focused demonstration.

7. Relevant Support Material

If relevant, please include a selection of support material, such as copies of recent reviews or publications featuring the artwork.

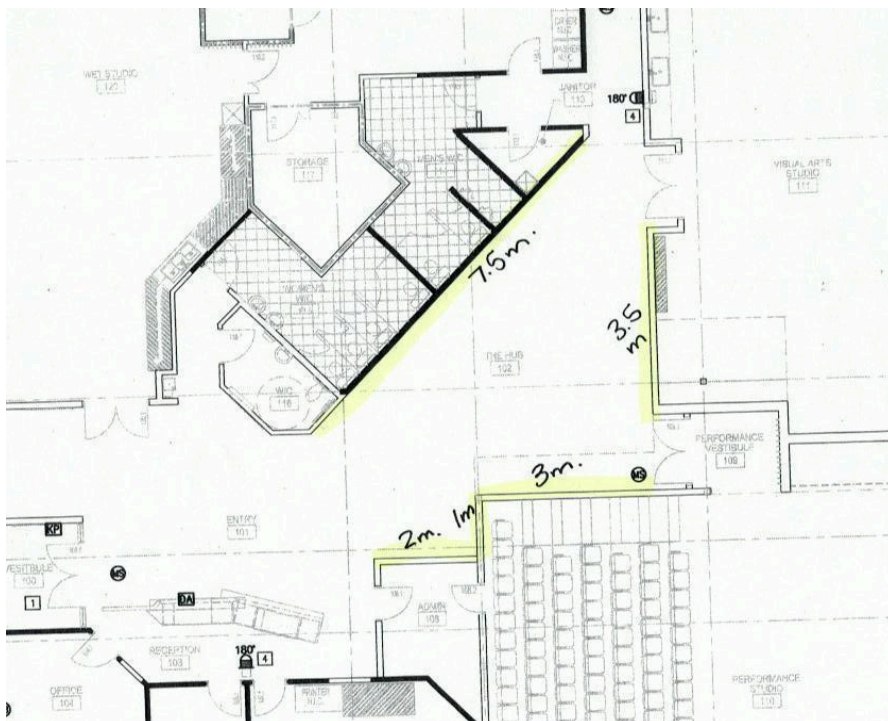
8. A maximum of 10 Images

Each image MUST be numbered and include the name of the artist and title of each artwork. Please submit images via email only. Files MUST be in .jpeg or other standardized format with a minimum of 500KB and maximum of 1MB. Label images: last name, first name, title of work, and number matching the corresponding image list and Y or N for whether it will be part of the proposed artsPlace exhibition i.e.

SmithJosephineTitle1Y.jpg

Hub Gallery

Designed to accommodate a variety of exhibitions, the Hub Gallery is located within the heart of artsPlace. It has five wall sections, coloured yellow in the diagram below, measuring 7.5 m, 3.5 m, 3 m, 1 m, 2 m. These five sections are all white drywalled walls backed by solid wood, ideal for hanging 2D artwork, and capable of displaying 3D work within specified weight limits. The high-traffic area makes it ideal for emerging artists to gain exposure but also **limits** our ability to display certain 3D artwork that might be easily compromised or damaged.





We look forward to hearing from you!

Send submissions to: email: programs@artsplacecanmore.com

All submissions **MUST** be received by email by the deadline, failure to do so will disqualify your submission.

If you have questions about accessibility or would like to discuss accommodations at any stage of the application, exhibition, or mentorship process, please contact us. We are committed to working with you to remove barriers and support your participation.

Please contact the Director of Programs, Outreach & Inclusivity if you have questions.

Contact Info:

Director of Programs, Outreach & Inclusivity
Shanon Fitzgerald
programs@artsplacecanmore.com

artsPlace is proud to recognize Aven's Gallery as a Major Sponsor for the 2026 RISE Emerging Artist Program.

