



2023 SEASON COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART (CSA) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

We invite performing artists, musicians, visual artists, writers and artisans to apply to participate in The Arts Partnership's 2023 season of its Community Supported Art program. The program, modeled after the Community Supported Agriculture program, also operates under the goals of being local and community-driven. Selected artists receive a stipend to assist with production costs for take-home art or performances.

The stipend is a small portion of the benefit of participating. Artists are introduced to invested shareholders plus their guests – enthusiastic participants who will spread the word about your talents. Past CSA artists have received commissions, been offered adjunct teaching positions, created solo exhibitions and been contacted for additional art thanks to the CSA experience.

Throughout the CSA season, up to 55 shareholders receive 3 artworks to take home and 3 performances at events held in May, July and September. Over the past 11 seasons, we have paid nearly \$97,500 in stipends to 80 artists, artist groups and arts organizations. We also hire local chefs to create food sourced as locally as possible for the events. More than 225 shareholders and their guests have participated in the program, many of the shareholders over multiple seasons.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Deadline: 5 pm Monday, August 29, 2022

Submission Instructions

Send all application materials electronically to Tania Blanich, Director of Operations, at tania@theartpartnership.net.

Eligibility

Visual artists, artisans, writers/poets, musicians and performing artists and organizations from the region. Any artist or entity that has participated in a previous CSA program must wait two CSA seasons before applying again. That means if you participated in 2020 or before, you may apply for the 2023 season.

Stipends

- Performing or musical artists or arts groups *that are Partners in good standing* receive a \$1,000 stipend for a 20-minute performance. Artists or groups that are not Partners in good standing receive a \$750 stipend.

- Visual artists, artisans and writers *who are Partners in good standing* receive a stipend of \$40 per art share produced, with a guaranteed minimum of 35 shares or \$1,400. Artists who are not Partners in good standing receive \$30 per art share produced or \$1,050 for 35 shares. A maximum of 55 shares will be sold.

Guidelines and Selection Criteria

A good departure point for your proposal would be a connection, however subtle, to the theme of the CSA (think “local,” “harvest” and “bounty”). *However, such a connection is not required for your proposal to be considered.*

The selection committee considers the following when reviewing applications:

- Do the work samples represent a high level of artistic quality?
- Is the project proposal unique and original for the artist or arts organization while also staying true to the artist’s/organization’s body of work?
- Has a similar work or performance been included in a recent CSA season?
- Performing artists:
 - Does this performance piece have a special quality that cannot be heard or seen anywhere else in your CSA season?
 - Can the proposed performing arts share be produced feasibly in an untraditional performance venue, often in limited physical space?
- Visual artists and artisans:
 - Can up to 55 shares of the proposed take-home art be made feasibly? No additional support beyond the stipend will be available and the deadlines are fixed.
 - Does the format of take-home art consider the physical size, number and distribution of artworks? It should be easily transportable by the shareholders and fit into a box no larger than 18”x12”x12”.
 - The art should not be commercial or appear to be mass-produced.
 - Is each work unique or is it one-size-fits-all? Our shareholders have appreciated when they’ve had the opportunity to make a selection, whether 1 in 50 or 1 out of 6, etc.

*Please note: the proposed work must be **exclusive to this CSA program** until 6 months after your CSA event date.*

Questions regarding the program or application process, contact Tania Blanich, Director of Operations, at tania@theartspartnership.net.

Required Application Materials are to be submitted via e-mail to tania@theartspartnership.net.

1. A brief artist’s statement and proposal for the work you would create for the CSA program (one-page maximum). Consider the following:
 - Why is this artwork/performance a good fit for the CSA program?
 - Does the proposed work connect conceptually to “local,” “bounty,” “harvest” or other themes related to the concept of CSA? *Note: Your proposal will be considered whether or not there is a strong tie to the concept of CSA.*
 - Discuss the materials you will utilize and their connection to our region, if any.

- For visual artists and artisans, please note the physical size of the share and discuss how you will package the artwork, which can be as simple as a bag with handles or a plastic sleeve.
- How might your proposed art share allow you to plant the seeds for your own future artistic harvest?

2. Resume (specific to your artistic practice)

3. Sample CSA Work

Please note: The selection committee reserves the right to ask for modifications before accepting your work.

Visual Artists and Artisans

- 2-5 good-quality images. For 3-D work, capture the work from multiple angles.
- The sample should be in a complete, final format to your satisfaction at the time of application.

Writers

- A PDF or WORD document of your proposed CSA share.
- The sample should be in a complete, final format to your satisfaction at the time of application.

Musicians and Performing Artists/Organizations

- Submit a description (no more than a single page) of what you/your organization will be performing during the actual CSA event.
- The performance should be between 15 and 20 minutes in length.
- Please note: space is generally limited, so keep that in mind when deciding how many performers will participate; for example, a chamber orchestra rather than the full symphony or a pas de deux rather than a full corps de ballet.

4. Samples of Current Work

- Visual Artists and Artisans: 4-6 good-quality images
- Musicians: 1-3 MP3 audio files
- Performing Artists: links to 1-3 video examples of your work hosted at an outside site, for example, YouTube or Vimeo.
- Writers/Poets: 1-3 writing samples (no more than 10 pages total) in either PDF or Word format.

Applications received after 5 pm on the deadline will not be considered.

Selected artists will be notified **by Friday, September 9**. The selection committee reserves the right to put out another call for artists if necessary.

Primary Arts Partners will receive priority over non-Partners, but you do not have to be a Primary Partner to apply. If your CSA application is accepted, you will have one (1) week to apply for Partnership and pay the annual dues so that you may receive the larger stipend. You will also be expected to pay dues and be a Partner in good standing for the calendar year in which your CSA season occurs.

The Arts Partnership purchased the Community Supported Art template from Springboard for the Arts in St. Paul and adapted it to best fit our community.