

Expression of Interest - Art for the Moment - Community Partners

Art for the Moment is an initiative of the City of Lethbridge Public Art Program, administered by the Allied Arts Council of Lethbridge (AAC)

Wouldn't it be amazing to have an artist create unique and engaging work at your community event? Lethbridge Public Art is excited to launch a new initiative that pairs innovative artists with community partners who are planning public activities, festivals, markets, and more. Make your event stand out while contributing to the vibrant cultural fabric of Lethbridge. Art for the Moment connects artists with community organizations hosting public activities, festivals, markets, and other events. Selected artists may receive up to \$8,000 in project funding, while community partners will receive a modest honorarium and may access additional support for accessibility and engagement. For more information, read the call for expressions of interest.

Purpose

The *Art for the Moment* program seeks expressions of interest from community partners-local organizations, neighbourhood associations, festivals, markets, schools, cultural groups, and other hosts-who wish to collaborate with artists on temporary public art projects scheduled for January-September 2027. Partners will help activate public spaces across Lethbridge by providing venues, audiences, or programmatic support and will contribute to the creation of vibrant, short-term artworks that animate the city.

Eligibility

Community partners may include:

- Neighbourhood associations, cultural societies, educational institutions, business improvement areas, festivals, markets or nonprofits based in or serving Lethbridge. Projects may take place on public or privately owned land, provided there is clear permission from the property owner or custodian.
- Organizations that can host or support an artist between January and September 2027, provide access to a site or event, and coordinate with artists on logistics.
- Groups committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility, and willing to work alongside artists and the program team to remove barriers for participation. Honoraria are available to support knowledge-keepers and accessibility needs.
- Projects must be public-facing and within Lethbridge city limits.

Roles and Responsibilities

Partner organizations are expected to:

1. **Identify a site or event** that would benefit from a temporary artistic project or creative intervention. Sites may include parks, festival grounds, civic facilities, or other public spaces.
2. **Collaborate with the selected artist(s)** on project planning, including site access, scheduling, safety considerations, and community engagement. Partners should be prepared to support artists in obtaining permits where required and to coordinate with the City on logistics.
3. **Promote the project** through existing communications channels (newsletters, social media, event listings) and assist in connecting the artwork with their audiences and communities.
4. **Provide reasonable on-site support**, where needed, during installation, public interaction, demobilization, and cleanup. AAC will provide project coordination assistance and work with community partners to clarify roles, timelines, and time commitments in advance.
5. **Commit to accessibility** by working with the program team to identify and address potential barriers (e.g., physical accessibility). Modest funds are available to support accessibility measures and community knowledge-keeper honouraria.
6. **Partners are encouraged to attend the optional information session**, if available. A non-mandatory information session will be held approximately one month after the call launch to connect partners and artists.

Benefits

By participating, partners will:

- Contribute to the cultural vibrancy of Lethbridge while supporting emerging and established artists.
- Increase visibility for their organization or neighbourhood through project promotion and media coverage.
- Receive a small honourarium (drawn from the program's community partner and accessibility support fund) to acknowledge staff time, knowledge sharing, and community engagement.
- Help shape the character of Lethbridge's public spaces and demonstrate the value of arts-based placemaking.

Submission Requirements

Partners interested in being matched with an artist should submit a brief expression of interest (one to three pages) containing:

1. **Organizational profile** - primary activities, community served, and contact information.

2. **Proposed site or event** - a description of the location or event where art could be hosted, including ownership or permissions, approximate dates, and any relevant logistical considerations (e.g., outdoor/indoor, power access, existing programming).
3. **Statement of interest** - why you wish to participate, how temporary public art aligns with your community or event, and what you can offer (audience, volunteers, promotional support).
4. **Accessibility and community considerations** - any cultural protocols, accessibility needs, or potential barriers that artists should be aware of.

Expressions of interest should be submitted **by 4:30 p.m.(MST) on October 30, 2026**, to **publicart@artslethbridge.org** (subject line: *"Art for the Moment - Community Partner EOI"*). Early submissions are encouraged. Please attach a PDF and include contact details. Staff will review all EOIs and assemble a contact list for artists. Participation does not guarantee a project, but eligible EOIs will be considered during matching based on project fit and feasibility.

Timeline

- **Call Launch:** September 2026
- **Information Session:** October 13, 2026
- **EOI Deadline:** October 30 2026
- **Partner Matching:** November 2026
- **Project Implementation:** January - September 2027

Partners will be notified of artist matches by late November 2026. Selected partners and artists will then work together to refine project plans.