



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** November 15, 2023

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 11-7000-09-20-089/Vol 01

Re: **2024 Engaging Artists in Community Program Public Art Projects**

Staff Recommendation

That the 2024 Engaging Artists in Community Program Public Art Projects as presented in the staff report titled “2024 Engaging Artists in Community Program Public Art Projects”, dated November 15, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved for implementation once the Consolidated 5-Year Financial Plan (2024-2028) is adopted by Council.

CM Fenwick

Marie Fenwick
 Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
 (604-276-4288)

Att. 3

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>BJS</i>
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability & District Energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: <i>db</i>	APPROVED BY CAO <i>Green</i>

Staff Report

Origin

Richmond's Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program creates opportunities for collaborative art projects involving community associations, schools, non-profit organizations and professional artists of all disciplines.

This report recommends three artist proposals for community public art projects in partnership with Aspire Richmond and Richmond Public Library, Richmond School District No. 38, and Richmond Nature Park Society.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #6: A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.1 Advance a variety of program, services, and community amenities to support diverse needs and interests and activate the community.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

This report supports the strategic directions of the Richmond Arts Strategy 2019-2024 to:

- *Ensure affordable and accessible arts for all.*
- *Promote inclusivity and diversity in the arts.*
- *Activate public spaces through (and for) the arts.*

This report supports the Richmond Community Wellness Strategy 2018-2023 and the action plan focus area #2 to:

- *Enhance physical and social connectedness within and among neighbourhoods and communities and provide opportunities to increase Richmond residents' sense of belonging to their neighbourhoods.*

Analysis

Background

The Engaging Artists in Community Public Art program invites professional artists to imagine innovative ways to engage culturally diverse seniors, adults, youth and children in the making of artwork to foster individual creative expression, multigenerational and cross-cultural exchange, and community building. From 2016 to 2023, 17 Engaging Artists in Community Public Art projects have been commissioned (Attachment 1).

In the summer of 2023, staff invited interested community partners to participate in the 2024 Engaging Artists in Community Program. The following organizations and City Departments provided an expression of interest to work with an artist this year:

- Richmond School District No. 38 / Dixon Elementary School in collaboration with the City's Flood Protection and Sustainability Programs;
- Richmond School District No. 38 / Maple Lane Elementary School;
- Richmond School District No. 38 / Tomsett Elementary School;
- Aspire Richmond in partnership with Richmond Public Library;
- The Arts Connection; and
- Richmond Nature Park Society.

Three locations and community partners were selected:

1. Aspire Richmond and Richmond Public Library;
2. Richmond School District No. 38 / Dixon Elementary School in collaboration with the City's Flood Protection and Sustainability Programs; and
3. Richmond Nature Park Society.

Terms of Reference and Artist Selection

The projects' Terms of Reference were developed in consultation with the selected partners. Profiles were included in the Artist Call to describe the three separate artist opportunities. This information assisted artists in choosing to apply for the opportunity that best matched their skill sets and interests (Attachment 2).

The Artist Call was issued on August 17, 2023 and closed on September 14, 2023. An extended deadline for the Dixon Elementary School artist opportunity was issued on September 18, 2023 and closed on October 3, 2023. Staff received a total of 26 artist applications for three artist opportunities. The selection process for each opportunity was implemented in accordance with the terms of the Public Art Program Policy Administrative Procedures. All artist proposals were evaluated on the basis of artistic merit, appropriateness to the goals of the Community Public Art Program, community organization objectives, artist qualifications, and project feasibility.

The following three artist proposals were presented to the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) on November 14, 2023. RPAAC supported all proposed projects with no feedback.

Aspire Richmond and Richmond Public Library Community Artist Project

The final artist selection meeting for the Aspire Richmond and Richmond Public Library artist opportunity took place on October 17, 2023. The selection panel included the following four members:

- Ginny Dunnill – Community Partner, Richmond Public Library;
- Jason Liu – Community Partner, Aspire Richmond;
- Nikhat Qureshi – Artist; and
- Shannon Fitzpatrick – Community Representative at Large.

Panel advisors included staff from the Public Art Program.

Richmond-based artist Keely O’Brien was recommended for this artist opportunity. Her proposed project will engage youth ages 13-19 years old who identify as neurodiverse or neurotypical (Neurodiversity is the range of differences in individual brain function and behavioural traits, seen as typical variations in the population). A variety of art activities will be led by the artist, including mixed-media drawing and painting, zine-making, printmaking and textile printmaking. The artist-led engagement sessions will take place at Aspire Richmond and Richmond Public Library Brighthouse Branch. The artist will be supported by Aspire Richmond youth counsellors and Richmond Public Library staff (Attachment 3).

Richmond School District No. 38 / Dixon Elementary School in collaboration with the City’s Flood Protection and Sustainability Programs

The final artist selection meeting for the Dixon Elementary School artist opportunity took place on November 3, 2023. The selection panel included the following three members:

- Kirsten Wallace – Community Partner, Principal, Dixon Elementary;
- Nikhat Qureshi – Artist; and
- Shannon Fitzpatrick – Community Representative at Large.

Panel advisors included staff from Public Art Program. A member of the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee attended as an observer.

Artist Andrea Hoff was recommended for this artist opportunity. The artist brings to the project an established practice in creating graphic novels and demonstrated experience working with young learners. Their project will include a range of art activities to engage young learners on the topic of flood protection and environmental protection, including drawing, painting, cyanotype photography, storytelling, poetry and animation. Through a process of working collaboratively with students, a final legacy art project and celebratory gathering will be completed and engage the larger neighbourhood and community. The artist will be supported by Dixon Elementary School teachers and a staff project liaison from Engineering and Public Works (Attachment 3).

Richmond Nature Park Community Artist Project

The artist selection meeting for the Richmond Nature Park Community Project took place on October 19, 2023. The selection panel included the following three members:

- James Greenhalgh – Community Partner, Richmond Nature Park Society;
- Nikhat Qureshi – Artist; and
- Shannon Fitzpatrick – Community Representative at Large.

Panel advisors included staff from Parks Services and Public Art Program. A member of the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee attended as an observer.

Artist Desirée Patterson was recommended for this artist opportunity. Their professional practice incorporates photography and mixed-media printmaking techniques. The proposed project will use socially-engaged art activities (such as artist-led walks with a staff naturalist and multiple types of printmaking techniques) to educate participants and visitors about the life-cycle of the bog and seasonal changes in flora/fauna within the park. A final legacy art project and celebratory gathering will be completed and engage the community (Attachment 3).

Next Steps

Following Council endorsement of the artist proposals, staff will work with the artists and community partners to execute contracts and develop work plans. If approved, the projects will move into the development phase with implementation completed by December 2024.

Financial Impact

The Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program budget is \$36,000 and is funded by voluntary developer contributions to the Public Art Program Reserve Fund. Each community art project will be allocated \$12,000. Richmond School District No. 38 is contributing an additional \$2,000 for the project with Dixon Elementary School in collaboration with the City's Flood Protection and Sustainability Programs.

The budget is included in the City's proposed 2024 Public Art Program operating budget as part of the 2024 budget process and will be implemented once the proposed Consolidated 5-Year Financial Plan (2024-2028) is adopted by Council.

Any maintenance and repairs required for any legacy artworks will be the responsibility of the Public Art Program as part of the annual operating budget, unless otherwise negotiated with the project partners.

Conclusion

This year's Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program creates opportunities to support a diverse group of artists and artist practices in socially engaged arts. The topics for each artist project focuses on environmental conservation, flood protection and youth development. The

November 15, 2023

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proposed projects promote the building of inclusive communities and equitable opportunities for people of all ages to access and participate in the arts.



Biliana Velkova
Public Art Planner
(604-247-4612)

- Att. 1: 2016-2023 Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program Projects
- 2: 2024 Engaging Artists in Community Program, Artist Call Terms of Reference
- 3: 2024 Project Proposals

2016-2023 Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program Projects

Between 2016 - 2023, the following artist projects have been completed as part of the Engaging Artists in Community Program:

- *Harvest Full Moon Project*, activities, procession, celebration at City Centre Community Centre
- *spART* project, physical and visual art activities at Thompson Community Centre
- *Minoru Seniors Legacy Stories*, digital stories and online legacy project at Minoru Place Activity Centre
- *Great Blue Heron*, visual art activities and sculpture at McLean Park
- *Tide Water Tales* storytelling, community performances at Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site
- *FANFARE*, community engagement sessions and murals at Minoru Arenas
- **Musqueam Artist Workshops** at Richmond Public Library (Brighthouse Branch)
- *The Interpreter Project*, storytelling and visual art activities at Richmond Nature Park
- *Minoru Manifesto* performance, storytelling, visual art activities and installation at Minoru Chapel and City Centre Community Centre
- *Victory Gardens for Diversity*, outdoor artist walks and visual art activities at Terra Nova Rural Park
- *A mid-way point: the present is an infinite moment* community engaged mural project at Thompson Community Centre
- *Art Cultivation From Nature*, printmaking activities at Paulik Neighbourhood Park
- *Walk. Listen. Record.*, outdoor artist walks, digital oral and video-based storytelling at various Richmond Parks and Trails
- *Wayfinding Art Studio*, storytelling, visual art activities at Brighthouse Park Pavilion
- *Creative Community Resilience*, puppetry, storytelling and visual art activities at Ferris Elementary School
- *Garden Time*, photography, printmaking art activities at Terra Nova Rural Park and the Sharing Farm
- *Weaving Lives Together*, printmaking and paper weaving art activities at Tait Riverfront Community Park

call to artists



Garden Time, Aaron Friend Lettner, collaboration w/ Terra Nova Nature School / Sharing Farm, 2023

The City of Richmond Public Art Program seeks artists with socially-oriented and civic-minded practices for three unique community-engaged artist opportunities in 2024. Professional artists are invited to imagine innovative ways in which art can act as a catalyst to foster individual creative expression, build community and address topics of relevance working within communities.

Opportunity A: \$12,000 | Aspire Richmond / Richmond Public Library

Opportunity B: \$14,000 | Dixon Elementary / CoR Engineering

Opportunity C: \$12,000 | Richmond Nature Park Society

Eligibility: Artists residing in British Columbia

Deadline: September 14, 2023

Duration: January – December 2024

Engaging Artists in Community Program

Request for Proposals (RFP)

August 2023

call to artists

BACKGROUND

The Engaging Artists in Community (EAC) Program supports artists with socially-oriented practices and encourages the development of a wide variety of collaborative practices. Community-based artworks can express a shared goal or theme and/or provoke dialogue on ideas related to cultural identity, social history or the environment. Artist projects can leave a physical or social legacy for the community and/or may include a community event to present the final work.

Projects will engage participants by providing them with a greater sense of self, identity, community and place through learning and experience of art-making experiences. The work must be accessible and appeal to a diverse and local audience. Artists will also demonstrate the capacity to undertake and complete their proposed work within an approved timeframe.

PREVIOUS EAC PROJECTS

Applicants are encouraged to view previously commissioned projects here: www.richmond.ca/culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew/EngageArtists

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

Open to professional artists and artist teams residing in British Columbia. City of Richmond employees, Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee members and artists who are currently contracted by the Richmond Public Art Program are not eligible to apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection panels consisting of a combination of artists, art professionals and community representatives will convene for each of the three opportunities. The selection panels will engage in a two-stage selection process to review all artist submissions. During the second stage, shortlisted artists or artist teams will be invited to an interview with the selection panels and will receive a \$250 honorarium. At the conclusion of the process, the panels will recommend one artist or artist team for each opportunity. Subject to approval by Council, the artist or artist team will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Richmond.

call to artists

ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

- Artistic merit and clarity of the artist's Statement of Interest in response to the Partner Profile goals and objectives. The proposal should demonstrate artistic quality, innovation and creativity.
- Demonstration of artistic quality, innovation and creativity in applicant's previous work and experience.
- Community impact of work to connect diverse and multi-generational audiences with artists in creative dialogue, participation and awareness.
- Artist's capacity to work with community members, other design professionals and project stakeholders.
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the Public Art Program Policy goals: www.richmond.ca/culture/publicart/policy

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: PublicArt@richmond.ca

- **INFORMATION FORM:** Please complete the information form attached to the end of this document.
- **STATEMENT OF INTENT:** One page maximum, describing proposed approach to the work, relevant experience and skillsets, and how the proposal responds to the specific aims of the project opportunity.
- **ARTIST CV:** One page maximum. Teams should include one page for each member.
- **WORK SAMPLES:** Up to ten (10) examples of previous work. Please include artist name(s), title, year, location and medium information as captions on the bottom of each image page. If submitting digital video, please include link to YouTube, Vimeo or similar online platform. **Please do not submit digital video files.**
- **REFERENCES:** Three references who can speak to your abilities and accomplishments. Only provide contact name, title, phone number and e-mail. References will only be contacted if applicant is shortlisted.

ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT

The City of Richmond strives to create artist opportunities that are inclusive and accessible to individuals of all abilities. If you are living with a disability and require assistance in completing the written application, please contact PublicArt@richmond.ca or Tel: 604-204-8671.

call to artists

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. All submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages. Support images and concept sketches are best formatted to landscape format.
3. Artist submission PDF file must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit an individual resume/curriculum vitae.
5. All documents must be sent by email to: PublicArt@richmond.ca. Please include name and project when naming your file, e.g. Jane_Smith_EngagingArtistsCommunity_RFP

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The selected artist may be required to show proof of WCB coverage and up to \$5,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. Please be advised that all commissioned artists from this program will be required to complete Police Information Checks with the Richmond RCMP.
3. Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obligated to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the Artist Call as required.
4. All submissions to this Artist Call become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.
5. Extensions to this deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.

QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:

Tel: 604-204-8671

Email: PublicArt@richmond.ca

call to artists



COMMUNITY PARTNER PROFILE

Aspire Richmond /
Richmond Public
Library



Artist Opportunity

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Aspire Richmond's Youth Connections Program is an out-of-school program designed for young people with developmental disabilities. Youth Connections operates after school on weekdays during the school year and for full days during spring, summer and winter breaks. The program offers school-aged children and teens the opportunity for interaction and recreation in a fun and safe environment.

Richmond Public Library has been proudly serving the Richmond community since 1976 as an essential source of information and learning. Our mission is to create opportunities to learn, connect and belong and our vision is to inspire curiosity, transform lives and empower everyone. Guided by our Strategic Plan, the library is focused on building and growing the community, communicating who we are and what we do; developing and leveraging our resources; expanding access to programs, services and collections; and reimagining space for our community to use.

call to artists

ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

Artists or artist teams with socially-engaged, multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary artist practices in visual arts (including but not limited to painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, sculpture, video/sound media arts, ephemeral arts, storytelling and/or performance/dramatic arts are invited to submit a proposal for this opportunity.

The commissioned artist or artist team will work collaboratively with Aspire Richmond youth (12 to 19 years old), and youth from the larger Richmond community to explore the topic of self-identity and self-awareness. Self-identity forms the basis of our self-esteem; as youth move into adulthood, it is important for them to learn who they are in the world. The commissioned artist project will offer youth an opportunity to explore their emerging identities through individual and collective creative expressions. The following questions may be explored in the artist project:

- *What are creative ways to engage youth that honour neurodiversity and can create safe and inclusive spaces for all forms of creative expression?*
- *How do we use art to honour the differences and similarities among us?*

A final legacy project should emerge from the youth engagement work and incorporate participant contribution however possible.

The commissioned artist will be supported by Aspire Richmond Youth Recreation Counselors and a staff representative from the Richmond Public Library, who will support with registration, logistics and day-of presentation. Additional resources available to the artist include:

- indoor/outdoor gathering spaces;
- temporary storage space for artist materials and equipment;
- basic office supplies, including photocopying and printing services; and
- digitization stations, Cricut Maker 3, 3D printers, musical instruments, podcasting equipment, laptops and printers.

ARTIST SCOPE OF WORK

The commissioned artist will complete a minimum of 250 hours. This will include research, administration, preparation work, public engagement, production and presentation of a final legacy work.

The commissioned artist will take part in an introductory orientation session with Aspire Richmond to support them in working with youth who live with developmental disabilities.

The commissioned artist will participate and present work for Richmond Culture Days in September-October 2024.

Neurodiversity is the range of differences in individual brain function and behavioral traits, seen as typical variations in the population.

call to artists

The artist will create and maintain an artist blog website to communicate and document the process and work created during the artist project.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- to create a collaborative and community-based creative expression that encourages dialogue and exploration of self-identity and self-awareness;
- to use creative forms of expression as a catalyst to connect with diverse youth; and
- to create opportunities for youth to learn, connect and build community.

LOCATION

The commissioned artist or artist team will work from the Richmond Public Library Brighthouse Branch, 7700 Minoru Gate; Aspire Richmond, 7000 Minoru Blvd.; and/or the Seedlings Early Development Hub, 6380 No.3 Road

Please refer to Figures 1 to 6 for additional photos of activity spaces and off-site locations available to the artist for indoor/outdoor project activation.

BUDGET

The project budget for this opportunity is \$12,000 CAD and is inclusive of community engagement work, production/material expenses, administration, artist fees, photography documentation, artist insurance and applicable taxes, excluding GST.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Aspire Richmond | [AspireRichmond.com](https://aspire-richmond.com)
- [Aspire Richmond Strategic Plan](#)
- Richmond Public Library | [YourLibrary.ca](https://yourlibrary.ca)
- Richmond Public Library | [2019-2021 Strategic Plan](#)
- Richmond Public Library | [Annual Report](#)
- City of Richmond Public Art Program | [Engaging Artists in Community](#)

PROJECT TIMELINE

Deadline to Apply:	September 14, 2023
Finalist Notifications:	September 2023
2nd Stage Interviews*:	October 17, 2023, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Project Start:	January 2024
Completion:	December 2024

*Artists applying for this opportunity are kindly asked to ensure they will be available to attend the second stage interview date and time.

call to artists



Figure 1. Brighthouse Library Launchpad Flex Space & Classroom



Figure 2. 3D Printers



Figure 3. Brighthouse Library Outdoor Spaces – Minoru Park



Figure 4. Seedlings Multi-Purpose Room



Figure 5. Youth Connections Outside Space



Figure 6. Seedlings Multi-Purpose Room

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call to artists



Figure 1. Horseshoe Slough Pump Station, City of Richmond

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROFILE

**Dixon Elementary
School / Richmond
Engineering &
Public Works**

**Artist
Opportunity**

COMMUNITY PARTNER

The Richmond School District's mission is to cultivate a safe, accepting and engaged community that inspires a passion for lifelong learning. The values that guide their work and to achieve their vision and mission are: collaboration, creativity, curiosity, resilience, respect and equity for all.

Arts education plays a key role in the development of social-emotional competencies that enable young people to interact productively with others, build and express a healthy sense of self and community, and work effectively toward their goals. Art is valuable because it allows young learners to process their world and engage in critical sensory input.

A.B. Dixon Elementary School is located at 9331 Diamond Road in West Richmond. The school comprises 340 learners, 40 staff, and a proactive Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) that works towards supporting students. The school offers two programs: the Neighbourhood Program draws students from the direct neighbourhood and the District Program Option Early French Immersion Program draws from greater Richmond. Their focus is to support all learners to identify a sense of connection, belonging and positive personal and cultural identity within the Dixon community.

The school's outdoor amenity spaces include an outdoor learning space with a school community gathering area, outdoor shed and raised garden beds. Many classes embed outdoor learning along the West Dyke Trail, a ten-minute walk away.

call to artists

RICHMOND ENGINEERING SUSTAINABILITY

The City of Richmond is comprised of islands within the floodplain of the Fraser River, where the river flows into the Salish Sea. At an average of one metre (three feet) above sea level, Richmond faces flood hazards from coastal storm surges, snowmelt flooding and extreme weather events, making flood protection incredibly important.

To ensure Richmond remains safe, the City has one of the most comprehensive flood protection systems in British Columbia. The City's Engineering and Public Works service teams maintain and monitor the following flood protection infrastructure:

- Dikes: 49 km of dikes that hold back the waters of the sea and river
- Drainage pipes: 595 km of drainage pipes that transport water out of the city
- Culverts: 61 km of culverts and tunnels that carry streams and store rainwater
- Channelized watercourses: 155 km of built channels that move water through and out of the city
- Pumps: 39 drainage pump stations that pump rain and groundwater out of the city
- Sensors: Numerous flood protection sensors that provide real-time data on river levels, rainfall and stormwater drainage.

The Engineering department includes sustainability staff who are consulted on all city flood protection planning, construction or maintenance. These staff are responsible for protecting native plant and animal species and the ecosystems in which they live.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

Artists or artist teams with socially-engaged, multidisciplinary art practices in environmental art, performance arts, storytelling, music production, digital media arts (to name a few) are invited to submit an expression of interest for this artist opportunity.

The commissioned project will engage about 60–80 learners, 8–11 years old in grades 4 to 6. The artist will engage three classes, individually or as one group depending on the preference of the commissioned artist.

call to artists

In partnership with the City of Richmond Engineering and Public Works Department, the commissioned artist will engage young learners on the topic of flood protection. The commissioned artist may wish to explore the following question within the artist project:

During a time of climate change and sea-level rise, how can art explore awareness, knowledge sharing and adaptation when planning for flood protection?

The commissioned artist will be supported by City staff, teachers and educational leaders and will have access to:

- indoor and outdoor learning environments such as multipurpose classrooms, outdoor learning space, school yards, sport fields and the West Dyke Trail;
- general office supplies including, photocopying and printing services;
- a storage area for temporary storage of artist materials and equipment;
- if required, a work space within the school with access to WIFI; and
- Richmond Engineering and Sustainability staff, who are subject matter experts about the City's flood protection infrastructure and natural habitat enhancements or upgrades.

ARTIST SCOPE OF WORK

The commissioned artist or artist team will complete a minimum of 250 hours. This will include research, administration, preparation work, public engagement, creation, production and presentation work resulting in a final legacy work to be installed and/or presented at Dixon Elementary school. A final celebratory event will engage the larger community.

The implementation, delivery, format and structure of the engagement sessions with young learners can be coordinated working with supporting project teachers at Dixon Elementary School.

The expectation is for the commissioned artist or artist team to create and produce individual and collaborative creative expressions that will result in a final legacy work.

The commissioned artist/artist team will also create and maintain a project website blog to document the project.

Note: the commissioned artist must successfully complete Police Information Checks with the Richmond School Board and City of Richmond, prior to project implementation.

call to artists

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- to lead a place-based art experience with culturally diverse students on the topic and theme of flood protection and climate change;
- to encourage and offer learners an opportunity to express their voice, feelings, and emotions, while inspiring hope and a sense of agency for the future; and
- to create a legacy artwork that encapsulates the collaborative process of creating and learning between the commissioned artist, young learners, and the larger community.

LOCATION

The commissioned artist or artist team will work indoors and outdoors at Dixon Elementary, 9331 Diamond Rd. Off-site activation or fieldwork along the West Dyke Trail may also be possible.

Please refer to Figures 2 to 4 for additional photos of activity spaces and off-site locations available to the artist for indoor/outdoor project activation.

BUDGET

The project budget for this opportunity is \$14,000 CAD and is inclusive of community engagement work, art materials for engagement activities, administration, artist fees, photography documentation, artist insurance and applicable taxes, excluding GST.

Subject to the nature of the artist project and availability, additional in-kind materials and resources for implementation, installation or presentation of the project may be available and contributed by Dixon Elementary/Richmond School District and/or Richmond's Engineering and Public Works Department.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Richmond School District | sd38.bc.ca
- Dixon Elementary | dixon.sd38.bc.ca
- City of Richmond Public Art Program | www.richmond.ca/culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew/EngageArtists
- Richmond's Engineering and Public Works Department | www.richmond.ca/services/water-sewer-flood/dikes

call to artists

PROJECT TIMELINE

The selected artist must complete all work by June 2024.

Deadline to Apply:	September 14, 2023
Finalist Notifications:	September 2023
2nd Stage Interviews*:	October, 18, 2023, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Project Start:	January 2024
Completion:	June 2024

*Artists applying for this opportunity are kindly asked to ensure they will be available for the second stage interview dates/times.

call to artists



Figure 2. Aerial location map showing Dixon Elementary and proximity to the West Dyke Trail



Figure 3. Dixon Elementary open green field



Figure 4. Off-site outdoor learning along the West Dyke Trail

call to artists



Figure 1. Nature House Interpretative Centre, Richmond Nature Park.

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROFILE

Richmond
Nature Park

Artist Opportunity

COMMUNITY PARTNER

The Richmond Nature Park Society is a non-profit organization aimed at promoting natural history and natural history education in Richmond. The Society works in partnership with the City of Richmond Parks Services Department to provide natural history education opportunities that encourage residents and visitors to learn about the environment and natural history of this community. Through a formal partnership agreement with the City, the Nature Park Society provides governance, determines programs, sets policy, fundraises for programming and exhibits, hires programming staff and advocates on behalf of the Richmond Nature Park. Through our partnership agreement, City staff assist the Society in its mandate by facilitating programs and activities.

City of Richmond Parks Services Department is renowned for its high quality parks, trails, natural areas and its vibrant urban realm. Preservation of wildlife habitat, the natural environment, and our natural and cultural heritage are cornerstones of parks and trails strategies. The department provides pathways and amenities within our urban settings that link people to each other, their community and their natural environment while fostering healthy active lifestyles.

call to artists

Parks Programs, a division of Parks Services, is focused on public programs that engage individuals and community groups in the activation of parks and open spaces, encourage ecological stewardship and education, support urban wildlife management, and support capacity development of our local community partners in the advancement of these objectives. The portfolio spans a broad and diverse range of activities, such as coordinating community and special events, fostering urban agriculture initiatives such as community gardens, administering grant programs, offering environmental stewardship opportunities such as the Partners for Beautification program, and invasive plant removals and tree planting events.

RICHMOND NATURE PARK

The Richmond Nature Park is located at 11851 Westminster Highway and consists of 200 acres of raised peat bog habitat that once covered large portions of the geographical land area now known as Richmond. Four walking trails totalling 5 kilometres provide visitors the chance to encounter plants and animals in bog, forest and pond habitats. The shortest trail, an elevated boardwalk around the park pond, is wheelchair accessible. All other trails are soft-surfaced with wood chips and are well-marked. The Nature Park offers a variety of School and Home Learners Programs in addition to public recreation programs.

The Nature House is an interpretive centre located at the entrance to the park and features interactive displays and games about the park, the bog and other aspects of nature. There are activity kits, an active beehive, a small collection of live animals and a gift shop.

The park is always changing. In spring, visitors can see and hear the territorial fights of hummingbirds as bog flowers bloom below. Summer days are long and the trails are ideal for an evening stroll. Autumn brings owls, northern migratory birds and spectacularly coloured foliage. In winter, visitors can hear varied thrushes and see winter birds at the feeders or follow animal tracks in the snow.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

Artists or artist teams with socially-engaged, multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary artist practices in visual and performing arts (including but not limited to) storytelling, performance-based art forms, walking practices, sound-based practices, environmental art, therapeutic and installation art, sculpture, digital mixed-media installations and photography are invited to submit a proposal for this opportunity.

The commissioned artist or artist team will use art as a catalyst to connect new and long-time users of the park with Richmond's natural heritage, including native plant and animal species. The artist will engage a culturally diverse and multigenerational audience.

call to artists

The artist-led place-based creative experience will focus on the activation of the park, using natural materials in the creation of artwork.

Artists will be supported by Richmond Nature Park staff and volunteers, and have access to:

- the pavilion space and other park spaces and features for hands-on art making and community engagement work;
- an on-site secure storage area;
- general office supplies, including photocopying and printing equipment;
- office meeting/work space, if required;
- on-site naturalist with specialized knowledge of the park's natural features, including plant and wildlife species; and
- Nature House library exhibit pieces and artifacts.

ARTIST SCOPE OF WORK

The artist or artist team will complete a minimum of 250 hours. This will include research, administration, preparation work, public engagement, production and presentation work.

The commissioned artist will present a final celebratory project event in the fall of 2024 and may be coordinated as part of other fall events. Examples of events that have taken place in the fall include:

- Halloween Hoot
- World Migratory Bird Day
- BC Rivers Day

The commissioned artist will have the option to display project work at the Nature House interpretive centre or within the Richmond Nature Park

The artist or artist team will also create and maintain a project artist blog to communicate and document the process and work created during the artist project.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- to engage an artist/artist team with an interest in working with natural materials and the unique ecological features of the Park;
- to support artistic projects which foster a sense of environmental awareness, heritage and advocacy through creativity and self-expression;
- to use socially-engaged art as a catalyst to connect with a culturally diverse and multigenerational community; and
- to create opportunities for individual creative expression and to build a shared sense of community.

call to artists

LOCATION

The commissioned artist or artist team will be based at the Richmond Nature Park, 11851 Westminster Hwy.

Please refer to Figures 1 to 7 for additional photos of activity spaces and locations available to the artist for indoor/outdoor project activation.

BUDGET

The project budget for this opportunity is \$12,000 CAD and is inclusive of community engagement work, art materials for engagement activities, administration, artist fees, photography documentation, artist insurance and applicable taxes, excluding GST.

Subject to the nature of the artist project and availability, additional in-kind materials and resources for implementation, installation or presentation of the project may be available and contributed by the Richmond Nature Park Society and/or City of Richmond Parks Services.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Richmond Nature Park Society | <https://www.richmond.ca/parks-recreation/parks/aboutrnp.htm>
- City of Richmond Public Art Program | www.richmond.ca/culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew/EngageArtists
- Richmond Nature Park Society Facebook | <https://www.facebook.com/RichmondNatureParkSociety>

PROJECT TIMELINE

The selected artist must complete all work by fall 2024

Deadline to Apply:	September 14, 2023
Finalist Notifications:	September 2023
Stage 2 Interview:	October 19, 2023, 5:00-7:00 p.m.*
Project Start:	Winter 2024
Completion:	Fall 2024

*Artists applying for this opportunity are kindly asked to ensure they are available to attend the second stage interview date and time.

call to artists



Figure 2. Boardwalk trails in the park



Figure 3. Richmond Nature Park children's play area



Figure 4. Information Kiosk



Figure 5. Picnic Shelter in the Wildlife Garden



Figure 6. Trail in the winter



Figure 7. Boardwalk breakout spaces and seating areas

call to artists



PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND

Attach one (1) copy of this form as the first page of the submission.

Please indicate which opportunity you are applying for:

Richmond Public Library / Aspire Dixon Elementary Richmond Nature Park

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Website: _____
(One website or blog only)

Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Emailed submissions over 5 MB will not be accepted. Information beyond what is listed in the checklist will not be reviewed.

Optional: Do you self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking and/or underrepresented community?
(examples: Indigenous, person of colour, LGBTQ2S+, mixed ability, newcomer, Deaf, hard of hearing, living with a disability, etc.) If so, please specify:

If applicable, please indicate additional members of your artist team:

Please let us know how you found out about this opportunity:

Would you like to receive direct e-mails from the Richmond Public Art Program? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit applications by email to: PublicArt@richmond.ca

Additional Information

Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the EOI as required. All submissions to this EOI become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright of the submitted documents. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.

2024 Project Proposals

Aspire Richmond / Richmond Public Library Public Art Project

by artist Keely O'Brien

This community-engaged project will provide opportunities for neurodiverse and neurotypical youth, age 13-19 years to explore topics of self-identity and self-awareness.

Keely O'Brien is an interdisciplinary artist based in Richmond. As a community-engaged artist and arts educator, Keely creates and facilitates participatory and collaborative artwork with community members and organizations. The artist's work is site-responsive and is engaged with questions of place, home and belonging. As the Co-Artistic Director of the experimental theatre company, Popcorn Galaxies, her practice also includes puppetry, immersive installations, imaginative ephemera and interactive experiences.

The artist's proposed project will focus on *Creation, Collaboration and Exchange* as an approach and method of celebrating differences and similarities among youth (ages 13-19) who self-identify as neurodiverse or neurotypical. The artist will use a variety of arts-based activities, including drawing, zine-making, mixed-media textile printing and storytelling to engage youth in topics of self-identity and self-awareness.

Examples of proposed art activities:



From left to right: zine-making, painting, printmaking, mixed-media printmaking, textile printmaking and drawing.

***Hidden Stories of the Bioverse* | Richmond School District No. 38 | Dixon Elementary School in collaboration with the City's Flood Protection and Sustainability Programs**

by artist **Andrea Hoff**

This project will engage young learners in the topic of flood protection through the creation of a multi-authored graphic novel.

Andrea Hoff is a Vancouver-based artist, writer and graphic novelist whose work is interdisciplinary, involving the use of multiple media and a variety of methodological approaches. As a disabled artist with an invisible disability, her art is also understood as a sense-making practice to organize thoughts and to understand experiences. Andrea has a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia (2015) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Art (Honours with Distinction) from the University of Victoria (1999).

Hidden Stories of the Bioverse will involve a range of art activities to engage young learners in the topics of flood protection and environmental awareness. The project will include artist-led field trips to the West Dyke Trail and Williams Road Pump Station in collaboration with Richmond Engineering. The art activities will include drawing, painting, cyanotype photography, storytelling, poetry and animation. Through a process of working collaboratively with the students, a final legacy art work in the form of a multi-authored graphic novel and celebratory gathering will be completed and engage the larger neighbourhood and community.

Examples of proposed art activities:



From left to right: cyanotype photography and poetry, examples of graphic novel illustrations and layouts, mixed media digital collage, example drawing/painting illustration with storytelling

Visions of Biophilia | Richmond Nature Park

by artist Desirée Patterson

This community-engaged project will provide opportunities to learn about the life-cycle of the peat bog and the seasonal changes of the park's flora/fauna through guided walks, photography and printmaking activities.

Desirée Patterson is a Vancouver-based visual artist with a practice in lens-based and traditional media whose community engaged projects aim to foster place-based experiences with nature and promote environmental stewardship and conservation. Desirée has facilitated several community-engaged projects over the past five years, including a three-month elementary school art project with 52 students with the Vancouver School Board (2019) and a series of programs working with artists with developmental disabilities at the Alternatives Gallery & Studio in East Vancouver (2021).

Visions of Biophilia is a multifaceted socially engaged artist project that will involve photography and photo-based printmaking techniques, guided walks and hands-on art activities to provide visitors and project participants with opportunities to connect and learn about the park's unique ecosystem. In consultation with City staff and the Richmond Nature Park Society, a legacy artwork will be produced and installed in the park. A final celebratory exhibition and gathering will be scheduled in fall 2024.

Examples of proposed art activities:



From left to right: anotype printmaking, photography using creative aperture control, chlorophyll leaf prints, cyanotype printmaking and digital collage.