



On behalf of the project's Advisory Group, Mass Culture is reaching out to the arts community with a **Call for Interest** to participate in our exciting new Research in Residence: Arts' Civic Impact initiative, which runs from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022. Researchers will work with an arts organization/ festival and their stakeholders to explore the civic impacts of the arts in the lives of Canadians. We invite you to meet each researcher and become acquainted with their various approaches to the project by visiting our website: bit.ly/rir-arts-impact

After speaking with many of you and your arts service organizations over the last couple of years, it has become clear to us that arts organizations and festivals are interested in better understanding and communicating the key role that their programming and other activities play in society. Mass Culture firmly believes that collaborative, community-based research shared through open access empowers the arts sector to better demonstrate its many contributions to society.

Does your **arts organization** or **arts festival** have an interest in working with a researcher to understand and articulate your civic impact? Do you have an interest in better understanding how your work intersects with one of the key areas listed below? Are you interested in contributing towards a sector-wide research initiative that will share findings and frameworks? If so, consider putting your organization's name forward.

The six researchers that we are working with are fully funded by Mitacs and the project's collaborators. They will focus on the following areas of interest:

- Climate and Sustainability
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Indigenous Cultural Knowledge
- Health and Wellbeing

Arts organizations and festivals will be paired with a researcher who will engage their staff and stakeholders in a participatory research process, resulting in the creation of a qualitative impact framework best suited to both the researcher's area of interest and your organization's needs. The qualitative impact frameworks arising out of the residency program will then be presented through a series of events that will seek to engage the arts sector as a whole, including other arts organizations and festivals, funders, and sponsors/donors. These events will provide the sector with tools to articulate and communicate the substantial impacts of the arts on communities

across Canada. Selected organizations and festivals are expected to share and promote the frameworks emerging from the residencies to ensure they are accessible to the sector.

Organizations supporting historically underserved and marginalized communities (Including Indigenous, Black, racialized, immigrant, refugee, Deaf and disability, and 2SLGBT2Q+ and gender diverse communities, women, and those at the intersections of these groups) are strongly encouraged to apply.

What will help us determine the right fit:

Selection of organizations and festivals will aim to balance geographic diversity, organizational size and artistic discipline amongst the cohort of organizations selected, along with ensuring inclusion of organizations who support historically under-served and marginalized communities.

There are three ways to apply to the Research in Residence: Arts' Civic Impact project. You may submit [a video](#), [a written form](#), or [request a one-on-one recorded meeting](#) with a member of the team. *Please only submit through **one** of these methods.* All modes are equally valued – whichever helps you tell your organization or festival's story!

1. VIDEO SUBMISSION

If you would like to apply by video (10 minutes max) please address the following questions in your video and upload it through this [Google form](#):

- Your organization's name
- Your mission statement/mandate and how it relates to civic impact
- What would you like to learn about your organization's civic impact?
- The area(s) of interest of your choice from the four listed above
- How your organization will support the Researcher
- How your organization supports equity, diversity and inclusion
- How participating in this initiative will benefit your organization and the arts sector

Please ensure the video's title includes the name of your arts organization/ festival.

If you are experiencing issues with the form, please email rir@massculture.ca with subject "Video Upload Issues" and an alternate method will be provided to you.

2. FORM SUBMISSION

To provide a written submission, please fill out the following [form](#).

If you are experiencing issues filling out the form, download this [Word Document file](#) and submit it to rir@massculture.ca.

3. ONE-ON-ONE MEETING

To request a one-on-one meeting, please book through Calendly [here](#).

In addition to your application, please submit a letter of support from your organization's governing body to rir@massculture.ca with the subject: 'Organization Name'- Research in Residence. Please ensure the letter includes the following:

- Acknowledgement that the organization is in a position to contribute towards the project from Fall 2021 to May 31, 2022
- Receptive to having the resulting framework shared with the sector
- Signatures from two members of the organization's governing body

Deadline for submissions: September 10, 2021 at 11:59pm Eastern, with successful organizations notified in early October

Length of commitment: October 2021 to May 31, 2022

Key dates:

- September 10: Deadline for submission of interest
- September 25, 2021: Organization submissions reviewed and prioritized by researchers and advisors
- October 15, 2021: Selected organizations notified
- November 1, 2021: Intensive research phase begins
- Summer 2022: Arts' Value Conference. Frameworks will be shared and discussed with those who attend.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Research in Residence initiative is designed for arts organizations and festivals who:

- Are interested in examining how their artistic programming and activities align with one of the researchers areas of interest (see above)
- Have staff time to dedicate to working with the researcher (honoraria may be available for organizations with: a budget of less than \$250,000 or; fewer than three full-time staff members)

- Are interested in taking part in research methodologies that are creative, ethnographic and align with [research that is participatory in its principles](#)
- Have stakeholders who are willing to work with a researcher to develop frameworks that will be shared widely

This project's guiding principles:

- Commitment to co-creating research questions, methods, approaches, analysis and final products
- Commitment to seeking ongoing consent for participation and use of knowledge
- Commitment to ensuring adequate review and oversight of ethics protocols

Inquiries can be sent to Robin Sokoloski, Director of Organizational Development, at robin@massculture.ca

Thank you for your interest,

Robin Sokoloski, Director of Organizational Development, Mass Culture

On behalf of Researchers in Residence: Arts' Civic Impact, a collaboration between Mass Culture, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Culture Statistics Working Group

(Federal-Provincial-Territorial Culture and Heritage Table), the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Toronto Arts Foundation.