GRANTS AT A GLANCE

Maneli Jamal,
Musician
photo by Sean Howard

2021 Program
Deadlines
Toronto Arts Council (TAC) is the City of Toronto’s funding body for artists and arts organizations. TAC grants lead to exhibitions, performances, readings and workshops seen annually by over 9.5 million people throughout the City of Toronto and beyond. Through its ongoing funding, TAC cultivates a rich engagement between artists and audiences.

Our grants support a broad range of artistic activity, and are available to Toronto-based arts organizations, arts collectives and professional artists.

TAC offers two types of grants:

1. Project grants: one-time grants for arts organizations, collectives or individuals
2. Operating grants: sustained funding for arts organizations and collectives

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

To be eligible for a TAC grant, an individual artist must:

▲ Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident (landed immigrant), have an application pending for Permanent Resident Status, or be a Protected Person (approved refugee claimant),

▲ Have been a resident of Toronto for at least one year prior to the deadline, and live and work in Toronto for at least eight months of the year (unless when applying to the Newcomer/Refugee Artist Mentorship program),

▲ Be a “professional artist,” which TAC defines as someone who has developed their skills through training and/or practice; is recognized as such by artists working in the same artistic tradition; actively practices their art; seeks payment for their work; and has a history of public presentation,

▲ Not have any overdue final reports for any grant programs or final reports due in the grant program in which the grant application is being submitted,

▲ May only receive one discipline-stream project grant and one strategic initiative grant per calendar year,

▲ must be 18 years of age or older.
Organizations and collectives must:

▲ Be located and operating in the City of Toronto,

▲ Be an incorporated non-profit organization or a non-profit collective (two or more artists working together under a group name with a bank account held in that name),

▲ Have a track record of arts activity,

▲ Have a viable administrative and financial plan for meeting the proposed activities,

▲ Have received two project grants in addition to other eligibility requirements in order to be eligible for operating funding,

▲ Not have any overdue final reports for any grant programs or final reports due in the grant program in which the grant application is being submitted,

▲ May only receive one discipline-stream operating or project grant and one strategic initiative grant per calendar year.

For additional eligibility requirements, please read the guidelines for the program to which you are applying. Program Guidelines can be found at www.torontoartsCouncil.org.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications to all TAC programs are submitted through TAC’s online grants management system, TAC Grants Online, at tac.smartsimple.ca. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on the deadline day. Applications will not be accepted by any other means of delivery.

PEER ASSESSMENT

TAC grants are awarded through the peer assessment process, meaning that all grants are evaluated by a committee or grant review panel of professional artists and arts administrators with relevant arts and culture expertise.

YOUR GRANT PROGRAM MANAGERS

TAC Grant Program Managers help support the application process. This includes advising organizations, collectives and individuals about how to apply, ensuring that applications meet the funding criteria, and facilitating the assessment process. Decisions on whether or not an application is funded are made by peer assessors, not by Grant Program Managers.

Applicants may contact their Grant Program Manager with their questions throughout the application process.

Canada’s Ballet Jörgen Dances Through Toronto choreographed by Bengt Jörgen. Photo by Canada’s Ballet Jörgen.
EQUITY FRAMEWORK

In 2017, TAC adopted the Toronto Arts Council Equity Framework and identified Equity Priority Groups, which include Persons of Colour, Deaf Persons, Persons with Disabilities and Persons Living with Mental Illness, Indigenous Artists and 2SLGBTQIAP Artists. In addition to the Equity Priority Groups, TAC is committed to increase access and participation by artists working outside of the downtown core, newcomer and refugee artists and young and emerging artists.

ACCESSIBILITY

TAC is committed to ensuring that our services remain equitable and accessible. TAC offers two opportunities to aid Deaf artists and artists with disabilities who may need additional assistance or funds to produce their work:

▲ **TAC Accessibility Grants** for projects involving Deaf artists and artists with disabilities. Available to all applicants applying to TAC Project Grant Programs.

▲ **Application Accessibility Support** for applicants who are Deaf or have a disability and need support to complete their grant applications. Up to $500 is available per eligible applicant per year to cover the costs of assistance from Service Providers.

AWARDS

TAC’s affiliate, Toronto Arts Foundation, celebrates artistic excellence, cultural leadership and contribution to the arts by artists and arts supporters in Toronto through its annual awards program. Awards with upcoming deadlines in 2021 include:

▲ **Community Arts Award**

▲ **RBC Arts Access Award**

Anyone may submit a nomination, including arts supporters, artists, arts managers and board directors. All nominations must be submitted online through the Toronto Arts Foundation Nomination Portal.

For more information about the awards and nomination deadlines, visit [torontoartsfoundation.org/initiatives/awards](http://torontoartsfoundation.org/initiatives/awards).
2021 TAC PROGRAM DEADLINES

ARTS DISCIPLINE FUNDING

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES
Formerly Community Arts

Grant Program Manager:
Kevin Reigh
kevin@torontoartscouncil.org | 416.392.6802 x227

TAC's Creative Communities programs are for those who engage communities through the arts. Creative Communities can involve one or more art practices, such as music, dance, theatre, visual arts, storytelling and more.

Annual Operating
Open to: community arts organizations
Deadline: March 1, 2021

Creative Communities Projects
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadlines: February 1 and August 3, 2021

Multi-Year Operating
Open to: community arts organizations
Deadline: March 8, 2021

DANCE
Grant Program Manager:
Catalina Fellay-Dunbar
catalina@torontoartscouncil.org | 416.392.6802 x224

TAC’s Dance programs support the creation, production and presentation of dance works, and other projects that advance the development of professional dance in Toronto.

Annual Operating
Open to: dance organizations
Deadline: February 1, 2021

Multi-year Mid-Cycle Report
Open to: dance organizations
Deadline: April 1, 2021

Long-Term Dance Projects
A three-year funding period
Open to: organizations, collectives and individuals
Deadline: March 15, 2021

Dance Projects
Open to: organizations, collectives and individuals
Deadlines: February 16 and August 3, 2021

INDIGENOUS ARTS PROJECTS

Grant Program Manager:
Tash Naveau
tash@torontoartscouncil.org | 416.392.6802 x223

Indigenous Arts Projects increases the creation and presentation of high-quality Indigenous art in the City. Indigenous organizations, collectives and individuals may apply to other TAC programs.

Open to: Indigenous organizations, collectives and individuals working in any discipline.
Rolling deadline: Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until November 1, 2021, with notification results released approximately 4 months after the submission date.
LITERARY ARTS
Grant Program Manager:
Catalina Fellay-Dunbar
catalina@torontoartscouncil.org  |  416.392.6802 x224

TAC’s Literary Arts programs support the development of writing, reading series, festivals, performances and other literary activities in Toronto.

Annual Operating
Open to: literary organizations
Deadline: March 1, 2021

Literary Arts Projects
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadlines: March 1 and August 3, 2021

Writers Program
Open to: individuals
Deadline: June 15, 2021

MUSIC
Grant Program Manager:
Christy DiFelice
christy@torontoartscouncil.org  |  416.392.6802 x202

TAC’s Music programs support all musical forms including folk, hiphop, contemporary, classical, rock and more.

Annual Operating
Open to: music organizations
Deadline: March 1, 2021

Multi-Year Operating
Open to: orchestras, ensembles, presenters/producers and festivals
Deadline: March 8, 2021

Community Music Making
Open to: community choirs, opera, orchestras, and ensembles
Deadline: February 16, 2021

Multi-Year Mid-Cycle Report
Open to: choir and opera organizations, service organizations
Deadline: April 1, 2021

Music Projects
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadlines: February 8 and August 3, 2021

Music Creation & Audio Recording
Open to: individuals
Deadline: September 6, 2021

THEATRE
Grant Program Manager:
Elahe Marjovi
elahe@torontoartscouncil.org  |  416.392.6802 x220

TAC’s Theatre programs support the development of theatre in Toronto.

Annual Operating
Open to: theatre organizations
Deadline: March 1, 2021

Multi-Year Operating
Open to: theatre organizations and theatre service organizations
Deadline: March 8, 2021

Long-Term Theatre Projects
A three-year funding period
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadline: March 15, 2021

Theatre Projects
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadlines: February 1 and August 3, 2021

Playwrights Program
Open to: individual artists
Deadline: June 15, 2021
STRATEGIC FUNDING

ANIMATING HISTORIC SITES

Grant Program Manager:
Erika Hennebury
erika@torontoartscouncil.org  |  416.392.6802 x219

Animating Historic Sites provides funding for artists to re-imagine and animate selected Toronto historic sites, community museums and Evergreen Brick Works through engagement with their histories, local contexts and communities.

Open to: organizations, collectives and individuals working in any discipline
Deadline: TBA

ANIMATING TORONTO PARKS

Grant Program Manager:
Erika Hennebury
erika@torontoartscouncil.org  |  416.392.6802 x219

Animating Toronto Parks supports free arts programming in selected Toronto parks, including the creation and presentation of dance, music, theatre, visual arts and media arts, community-engaged arts and more.

Open to: organizations, collectives and individuals working in any discipline
Deadline: December 20, 2020. The deadline for the 2022 Animating Toronto Parks program will be in December 2021.

VISUAL/MEDIA ARTS

TAC’s Visual and Media Arts programs support the development of visual/media arts in Toronto, including film, video and videogame art, performance art, painting, ceramics, sculpture and more.

Annual Operating
Open to: visual/media arts organizations
Deadline: March 1, 2021

Multi-Year Operating
Open to: artist-run centres and media arts festivals
Deadline: March 8, 2021

Multi-Year Mid-Cycle Report
Open to: arts service organizations, public galleries
Deadline: April 1, 2021

Visual/Media Arts Projects
Open to: organizations and collectives
Deadlines: March 1 and August 3, 2021

Visual Artists Program
Open to: individuals
Rolling deadline: Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until October 1, 2021, with notification results released approximately 4 months after the submission date.

Media Artists Program
Open to: individuals
Deadline: October 14, 2021
**ARTISTS IN THE LIBRARY**

Grant Program Manager:  
Erika Hennebury  
erika@torontoartscouncil.org   |   416.392.6802 x219

Artists in the Library supports community-engaged creation residencies in selected Toronto Public Library branches.

**Open to:** organizations, collectives and individuals working in any discipline  
**Deadline:** September 15, 2021

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**NEWCOMER AND REFUGEE ARTS ENGAGEMENT**

Grant Program Manager:  
Liza Mattimore  
liza@torontoartscouncil.org   |   416.392.6802 x231

Newcomer and Refugee Arts Engagement provides support to organizations and collectives that engage newcomers and refugees through the arts.

**Open to:** organizations and collectives working in any discipline  
**Deadline:** June 15, 2021

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**ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOL**

Grant Program Manager:  
Liza Mattimore  
liza@torontoartscouncil.org   |   416.392.6802 x231

Toronto Arts Council has partnered with Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and Prologue to the Performing Arts on tdsbCREATES; for a four-week spring festival that includes artist residencies, mentorships and special arts presentations events.

**Open to:** individual and organizations participating in the festival  
**Deadline:** TBA

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**NEWCOMER AND REFUGEE ARTIST MENTORSHIP**

Grant Program Manager:  
Liza Mattimore  
liza@torontoartscouncil.org   |   416.392.6802 x231

Newcomer and Refugee Artist Mentorship provides support to newcomer and refugee artists to develop their artistic practice.

**Open to:** individuals working in any discipline  
**Deadline:** June 15, 2021

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**ARTREACH TORONTO**

ArtReach is a funding program designed to support youth arts initiatives in Toronto that foster youth engagement and provide high quality arts opportunities.

**Open to:** individual artists under 30 or groups/organizations led by youth under 30 in Toronto  
**Deadline:** February 1, 2021

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**OPEN DOOR**

Grant Program Manager:  
Liza Mattimore  
liza@torontoartscouncil.org   |   416.392.6802 x231

Open Door is a funding opportunity designed to respond to timely and ambitious arts sector initiatives outside of discipline-specific funding programs.

**Open to:** organizations and collectives working in any discipline  
**Deadlines:** July 15, 2021
TAC-FCAD Digital Solutions Incubator provides funding to address organizational challenges using digital technology.

Open to: organizations and collectives working in any discipline
Deadline: April 15, 2021

DID YOU KNOW?
TAC has two funding envelopes: Arts Discipline funding and Strategic funding. Applicants are eligible to receive one grant from each funding envelope per calendar year.