2024 Media Art Micro Grant Program Guidelines

# Program Overview

Are you an emerging BIPOC artist or arts worker? Do you have lived experience of disability, or are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing, neurodivergent, and/or Mad? Are you interested in media art or exploring the use of digital media in your work?

Cinevolution is giving out five $1,250 grants to individual artists and arts workers who have limited access to traditional funding. The goal of this program is to provide financial assistance to artists and arts workers for self-directed learning, research, and creative experimentation. You do not need formal arts training to apply. You do not need to produce a complete work by the end of the project.

# Eligibility

## Applicant Eligibility

This grant is for you if you are an emerging artist and/or arts worker who:

* Identifies as Black, Indigenous, and/or a Person of Colour; and
* Has lived experience of disability, or is Deaf or Hard of Hearing, neurodivergent, and/or Mad; and
* Is over the age of 18; and
* Lives in BC

For this grant, we define an emerging artist as someone who is developing an artistic practice or exploring art as a means of communicating ideas and stories.

Formal training and previous exhibition experience are not required. Priority will be given to individuals who have not previously received arts funding.

## Project Eligibility

The project/research should:

* Take place between April 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025.
* Be an exploration of media art\* or the use of digital media in your creative work

\*For this grant, we use the National Endowment for the Arts' definition of media arts as “a spectrum of media arts genres and practices, such as traditional or expanded forms of storytelling, visual expression, and performance using film, cinema, audio, broadcast, new media, creative code, and related formats at the intersection of arts and technology.”

Projects could include a number of activities. Examples include, but are not limited to:

* Taking a course or workshop to learn a new media arts skill
* Researching and exploring an idea you have with no finished product
* Completing a project you have already been working on with the help of a mentor

While a project may consist of multiple related activities, your application should focus on a single project, rather than proposing multiple potential projects.

Funds from the grant can be used for a number of items, including, but not limited to:

* Paid time to work on your project
* Professional development expenses (e.g. workshops, training, books, or other materials)
* Paying for equipment, software, or subscriptions (e.g. Zoom, Adobe Creative Cloud)
* Professional fees for mentors, collaborators and technicians
* Accessibility expenses (e.g. ASL interpretation, childcare, an assistant for aiding in creation)
* Cost of refreshments or appreciation gifts
* Transportation costs

If you are new to media art or applying for any arts grant for the first time, we encourage you to contact us to discuss your project.

## Ineligible Activities

The micro grant is not intended for business development activities or the development of commercial products. For business funding opportunities, check out the following opportunities and resources:

* Opportunities Fund: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/opportunity-fund-disability.html>
* Entrepreneurial Development Programs for People with Disabilities: <https://edp.communityfutures.ca/>
* Canada Digital Adoption Program Grow Your Business Online Grant: <https://smallbusinessbc.ca/grow-your-business-online-program/>
* Workplace Accessibility Grant: <https://smallbusinessbc.ca/workplace-accessibility-grant/>
* Futurpreneur Canada Start-Up Program: <https://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/get-started/financing-and-mentoring>

# Application Instructions

To apply for a micro grant, please review the application form and submit your response by **Friday, November 29, 2024 at 11:59pm Pacific Time**.

You can apply in the following ways:

1. In writing:
   1. Using the online Google form, OR
   2. As a single Word or PDF file. Please email the document to ​submissions@cinevolutionmedia.com​.
2. Video or audio recording, through Google Drive, WeTransfer, YouTube, or Vimeo. No more than 10-minutes and file size must be less than 200MB. Please send the file to ​submissions@cinevolutionmedia.com​.
3. Phone or Zoom call. To schedule a call, please contact us by email at submissions@cinevolutionmedia.com or call 778-803-7150 and press 5, by November 15, 2024. We may not be able to accommodate requests received after November 15.

## Application Support

A key goal of this program is to help emerging artists gain grant writing skills and experience. We encourage you to contact us for feedback or support at any point in the application process. We are happy to discuss your project and review draft applications.

If you would like to discuss individualized application support (e.g. ASL interpretation, other submission options, etc.), please contact us by November 29, 2024:

Email: submissions@cinevolutionmedia.com

Phone: 778-803-7150, extension 5

Once an application is submitted, it will be reviewed by the project coordinator. We may contact you with further questions to help you refine your responses.

## Application Questions

1. Please describe the activities and/or research you would do with the grant. Suggested length: 300-400 words.
2. What are your artistic and/or personal goals, and how will this grant support them? If applicable, include information about your current artistic practice. Suggested length: 300-400 words

## Support Materials (optional)

If you think support materials will help us to better understand your project, you can submit up to 4 examples of your work with your application. For example, photos, sketches, text, audio or video clips. Please include no more than 5-minutes of audiovisual materials.

You may include a brief explanation of how the support materials relate to your proposed activities.

# Selection Process

Applications will be assessed by a selection committee including representation from the BIPOC community and the disability community. Priority will be given to individuals who have not previously received other arts funding. The selection criteria used by the committee to score applications can be found at the end of this document.

Results will be announced to all applicants in March 2025.

# Conditions

Successful applicants must participate in 3 virtual meetings:

* An orientation during the week of March 31, 2025 (1.5 hours)
* A midpoint check-in during the week of May 12, 2025
* A closing celebration to share your project and learnings during the week of June 30, 2025 (2 hours)

# Questions

Have questions? Please contact us at submissions@cinevolutionmedia.com or by phone at 778-803-7150, ext 5.

# Appendix A. Cinevolution Micro Grant Selection Criteria

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Please describe the activities and/or research you would do with the grant. | |
| Project Direction:   * It is clear what the applicant wants to do * There is a strong sense of purpose * The applicant outlines a clear plan or approach * The applicant addresses potential ethical concerns regarding intellectual property rights and cultural protocols | 3 points |
| Personal Development:   * Extent to which the applicant is engaging in self-directed learning, research, and/or creative experimentation | 5 points |
| Feasibility:   * Applicant has a plan for how they will spend the micro grant * Activities can be done with the amount of time (April 1 to Jun 30, 2025) and money available ($1250) | 2 points |
| SUBTOTAL | 10 points |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What are your artistic and/or personal goals, and how will this grant support them? If applicable, include information about your current artistic practice. | |
| Personal Impact:   * Clearly stated artistic and/or personal goals * It is clear how the grant and planned activities will help the applicant to move towards their goals | 10 points |
| SUBTOTAL | 10 points |

TOTAL:          / 20 points