



Warming Up the Act Guidelines

BCTC's Aspiring & Emerging Artists Touring & Training Program

The BC Touring Council is seeking proposals from non-profit, performing arts presenters for funding for **Warming Up the Act (WUTA)**. **Warming Up the Act** will provide financial assistance to presenters to engage aspiring and emerging BC artists as “openers” for main stage artists/acts presented as part of their series or season.

WUTA offers aspiring and emerging artists an opportunity to work with presenters and touring artists, to engage audiences, and to learn more about the business of presenting and touring in BC.

Warming Up the Act is a component of the **BC Arts Council's Creative Youth Initiatives**, developed as part of **BC Creative Futures**. BC Creative Futures is a comprehensive strategy to promote youth engagement with the arts to help prepare young British Columbians for rewarding careers in the creative industries, including music, theatre, visual arts, design, animation, film and arts administration.

Awards are based on the above, as well as the following:

- A qualitative assessment of the applicant's presenting history. Eligible applications will be reviewed by staff and evaluated by a peer adjudication committee on a case-by-case basis.
- Applications will be accepted on a **first-come, first-serve basis**.
- Requests may be **up to a maximum of \$3,750** per organization. Funding is limited.
- All proposals must be received and funds distributed by **March 31, 2016**.
- **Note that proposed activity may occur in your 2016-2017 series or season.**

Who can apply?

- **Applicants should contact the program coordinator to discuss your proposal prior to submitting an application.**
- This program is intended to serve clients of the **Community Presenters Assistance** and the **Community Presenter Youth Engagement Programs** administered by BCTC.
- Applicants must be a community-based performing arts presenter in BC that presents a series or season of performing arts events featuring professional artists (Producing companies that present their own works in a series or season are not eligible.)
- Applicants must be a registered not-for-profit society in BC with a minimum of one year of presenting activity prior to application.

Eligible Activity

- Demonstrates the engagement of BC based, aspiring and emerging artists as opening acts for professional main stage artists featured as part of a presenting season or series.
- While we encourage presenters to use the same performance space as main stage artists or acts, proposals may include the use alternate spaces i.e. lobby, public or other spaces in the vicinity of the main stage presentation.
- This program recognizes that the length of an opening performance may vary from the length of a main stage performance.
- We strongly encourage applications from those working to present culturally diverse cultures and/or First Nations artists.
- In order to distribute the program's limited funds throughout the regions of BC, we encourage applicants from rural and remote communities to apply.
- Applicants must compensate aspiring and emerging artists by paying fees at industry standards and adhere to international intellectual property rights.
- Awards should be used to pay fees and expenses associated with presenting aspiring and emerging artists as opening acts.
- We encourage applicants to be innovative and inventive.

Maximum Award – up to \$3,750

Support from this program may form up to 100% of the total budget. Awards may be less than the requested amount based on the assessment of the proposal.

The Adjudication Process

Applicants will be informed of the committee's decision by email approximately **three** weeks after receipt of an application. Funds will be paid out to successful applicants within **six** weeks of submission.

Assessment criteria

Merit-based, independent assessment is the primary means of evaluation. The engagement of aspiring and emerging artists is key to this success of this program. Committee members will consider the impact of the experience on participating artists, the number of artists engaged and feedback from main stage artists and audiences.

Accessibility of the project to aspiring and emerging artists, including those of Aboriginal, culturally diverse and/or regional communities.

Final Reports: Recipients must submit a final report within 60 days of completion. Final Report forms will be sent to successful applicants.

Recognition of Assistance

The support of the BC Arts Council and the Province of BC should be acknowledged in all promotional materials. Approved acknowledgement, logo and graphics standards are available at <http://www.bcartscouncil.ca>.

Changes to Awards: BCTC reserves the right to redistribute or suspend payment if the organization is unable to carry out the proposed program.

How to submit?

Applications must be emailed (as PDF digital files) to sheryl@bctouring.org. All applications received will be acknowledged by email.

Questions?

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