Urbano Project

Artist-in-Residence Request for Proposals

Fall 2020 + Spring 2021
Deadline: October 25, 2020
Urbano Project is excited to invite applications for Artists-in-Residence (AiR) from artists working in a range of media whose creative practice resonates with our FY21 theme: RADICAL CARE. We are seeking two AiR, for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021.

Artists-in-Residence responsibilities include:

Lead a Youth Artist Project (YAP): a 10-week program for Boston Public School youth artists.

Develop a curriculum, lead virtual class meetings, mentor youth artists, and give an artist talk, with the YAP culminating in a celebratory event.

Present their own work and practice in an event, presentation, pop-up, exhibition in public and/or virtual space. We are interested in engaging, innovative programs that showcase and promote the Artist-in-Residence’s work.
Imagine art which is capable of rekindling values of care, kindness, compassion, action-taking, social justice, and cooperation. -Carmen Salas

How do we share practices that foster community care and participation, and how to make this line of human-centered work public through art? Urbano Project seeks Artists-in-Residence that use the process of making as healing, and cultivate radical acts of kindness. Particularly in our COVID-19 reality, we look at how we heal, to process grief, and survive a public health crisis together. We recognize the labor that is crucial to sustaining our collective social fabric, look at who is doing this labor, and work to support them.

We seek Artists-in-Residence to lead us in exploring and creating forms of care for themselves and their communities, and to reimagine technological and non-technological forms of togetherness, resulting in virtual and hybrid meetings and events.

Urbano’s community, most of whom are BIPOC and LGBTQ, includes socially engaged practitioners, youth artists, and diverse audiences. Projects that bring art into public and/or digital spaces and include possibilities for safe participatory community components are preferred.

Projects on this theme to date include Summer 2020 AiR Sheila Novak, who led our Summer Youth Artist Project called CoVictory Gardens. Also, we partnered with artist Nora Valdez for her We Heal project, which includes workshops with youth artists, artmaking, and documenting the stories of cancer patients and survivors.

Urbano is a community art non-profit that fosters public and participatory art as a vehicle for personal transformation, community cohesion, and social and environmental change.

All programs offer youth high-quality contemporary arts education experiences, facilitate creative youth development, and nurture a corps of positively engaged young leaders who believe in the power of public participatory art to promote dialogue, civic engagement and address significant social justice issues.

Urbano’s youth artists are Boston Public School (BPS) high school students between the ages of 14–19. Most Urbano teens have had little or no prior quality arts experiences before coming to Urbano. At Urbano, youth artists take their work beyond, experimenting with artistic interventions that can spark and reshape public discourse and engage our community. Youth artists are paid a stipend.
Eligibility Criteria

- Clear articulation of the artistic vision and aesthetic direction of the project
- Proposals reflect an authentic connection to the Radical Care theme
- Experience as a professional practicing artist
- Demonstrate a commitment to social practice and community-based work
- Experience working collaboratively with youth from a wide variety of backgrounds
- Involves youth in conceptually developing and shaping the YAP
- Commitment to helping students develop critique and reflection skills and thinking deeply about the creative process
- Builds relationships with potential partners and participants (for example: community organizations, youth groups, businesses, and artists)
- Engages participants in high-quality, challenging, and supportive arts learning experiences
- Crosses boundaries between artistic disciplines and employs diverse media and tools for productive and collaborative virtual engagement
- Strong sense of concept and artistic foundation, with willingness to work across disciplines
- Project activities are realistic and feasible
- Process and place-based
- For YAP: Specific, culminating collaborative and public installation, virtual event or performance that demonstrates youth artist growth while championing safety
- Stated potential for long term impact, ideally with social, racial, and/or economic justice emphasis
- Guided by principles for equitable community engagement: Shared power, Partnership, Open dialogue, Individual and community transformation, Aesthetics of transparent process
- Availability for all project meetings and events

Additional Information

Financial Information

Artists-in-Residence are paid $5,000 for completion of contracted responsibilities. Please note that two or more artists co-teaching a single project share the stipend. Urbano staff will support the Artist-in-Residence during the Youth Artist Project.

Project Budget: Urbano provides access to resources such as technology and supplies. Youth artists receive a kit of materials, developed with AiR, to be able to work from home. Please inquire in advance before assuming access to specialized equipment.

Timeline

Call for Artists: Oct 2020
Proposals Due: October 25, 2020, 11:59 PM EST
Finalist Interviews and notification: November 9, 2020
Implementation: Fall AiR: Nov 2020-Jan 2021, Spring AiR: March-May 2021

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Submission Requirements
Please submit the following materials:

• One completed Proposal Form
• One CV for each artist (AiR applicants should have art practice and teaching experience)
• 10 images OR a maximum of 5 minutes of video documenting samples of your current art, media, design, or performance work (-as jpgs or a link)
• A work sample list with information about each of your work samples.

DEADLINE
October 25, 2020 11:59 PM EST.

Submit the Proposal Form directly on the provided link and send the remaining materials to Stella Aguirre McGregor, Founder + Artistic Director stella@urbanoproject.org & cc info@urbanoproject.org

AiR

Additional Information

Radical Care

Resources

• Families for Justice As Healing
• Black and Pink, Boston
• Maintenance and Care: A Working Guide
• Festival of Maintenance
• What should expect from art in the next few years? And what is Art, anyway?
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• How Mierle Laderman Ukeles Turned Maintenance Work into Art

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