Call for Proposals: DEMOCRACY

Fall 2021 + Winter 2022 + Spring 2022

DEADLINE: August 10, 2021
OVERVIEW

2021-22 CURATORIAL THEME: DEMOCRACY

As we enter a post-pandemic period of reemergence and continue to contend with ongoing social, political, and economic injustices, how can art help us move towards a more inclusive and equitable society? How can art encourage social action to develop a democracy that benefits and empowers us all?

Urbano Project is inviting applications for our Artists-in-Residence (AiR) program from artists working in a range of media whose creative practices resonate with our 2021-2022 curatorial theme, Democracy. This year, we’re exploring how we understand democracy and equality individually, collectively, as well as through a lens of intersectionality. Topics of exploration include representation, inclusion, participation, accessibility, human rights advocacy, mutual aid, capitalism, and other social structures and civic dialogues.

Artists’ practices may include (but are not limited to) community organizing, placemaking, public art, activism, social practice, institutional critique, and participatory artmaking. Projects that bring art into public spaces (in-person or digital) and provide opportunities for community participation are preferred.

OPPORTUNITY

We’re seeking Artists-in-Residence (AiRs) for Fall 2021 (September-December), Winter 2022 (January-March), and Spring 2022 (April-June). Responsibilities of the residency include:

1) Lead a Youth Artist Project (YAP) or Community Art Project (CAP): a 10-week program for either Boston Public School teen artists (ages 14-19) or a specific community based in Boston. Develop a curriculum, lead virtual/in-person sessions (dependent on session type and artist’s location), and mentor participants. The project culminates in a celebratory event in a format of your choice.

2) Develop a solo project (new or in-progress). Present it and your practice through an engaging program of your choice: a community event, conversation, pop-up installation in public and/or virtual space, etc.
Call for Artists-in-Residence

Eligibility Criteria

- Experience as a professional, practicing artist
- Demonstrated commitment to social practice, social justice, and/or community
- Experience working collaboratively with youth or communities of varying backgrounds. Formal art education experience is a plus.
- Enthusiastic about building relationships with potential partners and participants (community organizations, youth groups, small businesses, other artists, etc.)
- Strong sense of concept and artistic foundation, with willingness to experiment and work across disciplines
- Ability to commit to 4-6 hours per week; 40-60 hours over 10 weeks
- YAP/CAP:
  - Engages participants in high-quality, challenging, and supportive arts learning experiences
  - Involves participants in conceptually developing and shaping the project
  - Helps participants develop critique and reflection skills to think deeply about the creative process
  - Crosses boundaries between artistic disciplines and employs diverse media tools for productive and collaborative virtual engagement
  - Process and place-based, with strong ambitions and feasible outcomes
  - Potential for long-term impact, ideally with social, racial, and/or economic justice emphasis
  - Guided by principles of equitable community engagement

Compensation

Artists-in-Residence will receive a $5,000 stipend to complete the residency’s contracted responsibilities:
- $4,000 for their work on the YAP/CAP ($75/hour)
- $1,000 Project Budget to be used toward their solo project

Please note that a team of two or more artists sharing the residency will also share the stipend.
**Call for Artists-in-Residence**

**Resources**

- $1,000 Project Budget (included in the $5,000 stipend) to be used toward a solo project
- Art supply kits for YAP/CAP participants (please inquire in advance before assuming access to specialized equipment)
- Support from Urbano staff with enrollment and curriculum development for the YAP/CAP
- Support from Urbano staff with communications, marketing, and outreach
- Access to various classroom, event and installation spaces in Boston's Egleston Square area
- Connection to a deep-knit community of artists, organizers, and activists across Greater Boston

**Application**

1) Proposal Form
   - Proposals should reflect an authentic connection to the Democracy theme and a clear articulation of the artistic vision and aesthetic direction of the project.

2) CV (1 per applying artist)

3) Portfolio: 10 images OR a 5 min video (max) sharing samples of your current art, media, design, or performance work. Please attach as files via email or share a link.

4) Work sample list with information on each portfolio sample

**Deadline:** August 10, 2021, 11:59PM EDT

Submit your PROPOSAL using the Google form linked above.

EMAIL the remaining materials to Stella Aguirre McGregor, Founder & Artistic Director:

stella@urbanoproject.org

Please also Cc:

info@urbanoproject.org

**Apply Here**
Call for Artists-in-Residence

**TIMELINE**

- **Open Call**: June - August
- **Applications Due**: August 10, 2021, 11:59 PM
- **Finalist Interviews and notification**: late August
- **Residencies**:
  - **Fall AiR**: late Sep - Nov 2021
  - **Winter AiR**: January - March 2022
  - **Spring AiR**: April - June 2022

**ABOUT US**

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

Urbano’s community, most of whom are women, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+, includes socially engaged practitioners, youth artists, and a diverse audience.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact us at info@urbanoproject.org