Ignite Rural Artist Residency Call for Artists

A 6-month "at-home" residency program for rural arts and cultural workers in the Upper Midwest.

Ignite Rural is an “at-home” artist residency focused on uplifting and supporting emerging, rural artists that engage in social/civic work. To be considered for the program, artists must reside in rural communities with a population of 20,000 or less within the colonial state borders of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the 23 Native Nations that share that geography. Priority will be given to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and Native artists and culture bearers.

Ignite Rural 2023 will operate as a 6-month cohort model (April–September 2023) to connect rural artists with each other, provide digital learning exchange opportunities, and support rural artists in their social and civic work within their communities. Ignite Rural uplifts rural arts and cultural workers as invaluable contributors to increasing community connection, therefore Ignite Rural artists will receive a $4,000 creative fund, an additional $6,000 living stipend, and access to an $800 artistic development/wellness fund. 8 artists will be selected for the 2023 cohort.

This program is a great fit for individuals who are ready to step further into their identity as an artist and are able to balance their time, energy, and commitment to the Ignite Rural cohort for 6 months.

*Curious if this program is a good fit for you? Check out our website which has additional details and an FAQ section that may answer additional questions.*
Program Details

Selected artists will receive:

- $10,000 (a $4,000 creative fund and a $6,000 living stipend)
- Up to $800 in artistic development/wellness reimbursements
- 6-months of cohort learning exchanges, including an in-person retreat and virtual workshops
- Project support from Ignite Rural Program Director through monthly check-ins

Selected artists will be expected to:

- Commit 2-3 hours minimum per month for cohort gatherings and ongoing communication
- Travel to and attend an in-person retreat on April 29-30, 2023, and a final showcase on September 23, 2023. Travel reimbursements and lodging will be provided for both in-person gatherings.

Residency Timeline (April–October 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2023</td>
<td>Residency month 1 including virtual orientation (actual date TBD the week of April 3, 2023)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 29–30, 2023</td>
<td>In-person cohort retreat (location TBD)</td>
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<td>May–Sep 2023</td>
<td>Residency months 2–6 including monthly virtual cohort gatherings and/or workshops (1–2 hours per month); regular check-ins with Ignite Rural Program Director; virtual cohort feedback session with the support of Ignite Rural Advisory Committee; Artist Showcase planning</td>
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<td>Sep 23, 2023</td>
<td>Artist Showcase in Granite Falls, MN</td>
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<td>Oct 2–6, 2023</td>
<td>Program feedback and cohort wrap-up</td>
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Program Eligibility

Eligible artists:

- reside in rural communities with a population of 20,000 or less within the colonial state borders of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the 23 Native Nations that share that geography.
- identify as an early-stage or emerging artist or culture bearer, or as an artist transitioning from solo practice to community-engaged practice. (See FAQ for descriptions.)
- interested in community engagement as a part of their creative process.

Program Selection Criteria

Ideal building activation projects will meet the following selection criteria:

- **Community Connection**: The applicant shows a strong connection to and/or interest in working in and with their local geographic community.
- **Capacity**: The applicant demonstrates the availability and commitment to participate in ongoing cohort activities.
- **Artistic Growth**: The applicant can articulate potential for their artistic growth through participation in the Ignite Rural cohort.
- **Cohort and Applicant Diversity**: The selection process will prioritize diversity of geographic locations. Priority will be given to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and Native artists and culture bearers.
Virtual Informational Session

Friday, February 17, 2023
2–3 PM CST
Virtual session on Zoom; registration required
REGISTER HERE: DoPT.rsvp/20231RARinfoSession

The Ignite Rural Call for Artists virtual informational session will provide an overview of the Ignite Rural Artist Residency program and the Call for Artists application process.

→ A recording of the virtual information session will be available on our website after February 17, 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions

It is highly recommended that you review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) before submitting an application or reaching out to program staff. You may find the answers you seek! To access the FAQ, visit publictransformation.org/igniterural and scroll down in your browser.

Selection Timeline

Feb 8, 2023 Call for Artists Application Form Opens
Feb 17, 2023 Virtual Informational Session (2-3pm)
Mar 8, 2023 Applications due at 11:59 pm CST
Mar 2023 Selection process
Mar 20–31, 2023 Applicant notifications

To Apply

To apply, complete the simple online application form. To access the online application, visit publictransformation.org/igniterural and click the “Apply Here” button. (If you would prefer to submit a video application instead of filling out the application form, see instructions on the website.)

Application due date is March 8, 2023 at 11:59 pm CST.
Late applications will not be reviewed.

Questions or Comments
Please contact Holly Doll, Ignite Rural Program Director, at holly@publictransformation.org

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