Call for Applications: Lead Curator 2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 11th, 2022

Art in the Open is Charlottetown’s free public art festival, celebrating contemporary art in the public spaces of the city. Each year, over 30 projects are presented for eight hours, from 4pm to midnight, by contemporary artists from across Canada as well as local community organizations.

Art in the Open seeks a curator (or curatorial team) based in Canada to select and organize roughly 10-15 individual projects by contemporary artists, assisted by a locally-based coordinating curator, and the festival’s project manager. The curator will lead the direction, overall vision, theme and distribution/physical layout of this year’s edition of the festival, in collaboration with the coordinating curator and in dialogue with community-driven projects. Curators will provide some written and other content, participate through interviews and networking in promotion of the festival, be on-site on the festival day to support the curated projects, and participate in post-event assessment and reporting.

The selected curator (or team) will be available regularly (ideally full-time) during several weeks leading up to the festival, and on a periodic basis for conversations with artists, co-curator, and festival staff, providing regular updates on progress and planning during the 6 month term of the contract.

Project dates: April 1st, 2022 to October 1st, 2022

Festival date: August 27th, 2022

Compensation: The selected applicant will receive a fee of $10,000. Art in the Open does not have guaranteed funding for curatorial travel beyond the month of the festival itself, however all efforts will be made to secure funding for site visits and longer stay should an out-of-province curator be selected.

Please submit a one-page cover letter that indicates some of your curatorial interests, thoughts on your potential approach to curating Art in the Open, experience with festivals and other curatorial contexts, as well as a general sense of your knowledge and contacts within the broader landscape of contemporary art in Canada, a CV (maximum 5 pages), and a brief bio (max.200 words) and email to AITOapplications@creativepei.ca, with the subject heading AITO CURATOR POSITION by March 11th, 2022.
Art in the Open recognizes our participation and complicity with the historic barriers to accessing job opportunities in the arts. Applicants are welcomed to self-identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ2SIA+, disabled, femme, or any other community that is important to their identity. We are in an ongoing process of making our festival and programs as welcoming and available to all as possible. If you have specific needs that you would like us to address, or any concerns please reach out or mention them in your application.

For more information please contact outgoing curator Pan Wendt, pwendt@confederationcentre.com and AITO acting board chair Max Knechtel, AITOapplications@creativepei.ca. Past festival information can be seen on our website at: https://www.artintheopenpei.org/