Okanagan Artists Alternative Association PROGRAMMING POLICY
Date: August 20, 2010

Program Description:

The Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art in Kelowna, B.C., is an artist-run centre founded in 1989. We are a welcoming space for radical art-making and community-building and find work that challenges prevailing cultural standards to be especially compelling.

• EXHIBITIONS
The Alternator presents year-round exhibitions in all media by emerging and mid-career Canadian and international artists.

• PROGRAMMING
Artist talks, exchanges, panel discussions, fundraising events, publications, workshops and other events promote an awareness of contemporary art practices.

• MEDIA ARTS
The Alternator Media Arts Centre offers members access to a video production facility and strives to organize an annual masters level workshop, commissioning projects and a media festival.

• ARTIST RESIDENCIES
Visiting artist-in-residency projects are based out of Studio 111 and include access to media arts equipment.

Assessment and Eligibility Criteria:

Submissions from both individual artists and groups will be considered. The Alternator also accepts exhibition and programming proposals from curators.

Selections are based on:

- Compatibility with the Alternator's mandate, vision and values
- Quality of the proposal
- Quality of work submitted by the artist
- Availability of space and financial resources

Submission Requirements

Please include all of the following when submitting your proposal:

   • A brief description (maximum 300 words) clearly outlining the exhibition you are proposing
   • Artist statement - maximum 500 words
   • Curriculum vitae
   • 15-20 images with name and title. Video artists may submit a video no longer than 5 minutes
   • Image list detailing medium and size
   • Self addressed, sufficiently stamped envelope (for return only)

Please submit images in jpeg format. Label jpg images with number and title, for example: 01_title.jpg, 02_title.jpg etc. Jpg images must be 72 dpi, maximum 1024 x 768 pixels. 500 KB (0.5MB). Applications submitted by e-mail are not accepted.

Fees

CAR/FAC rates or higher are paid in all three exhibition spaces including the main space, the window and the lounge as well as any other programming.

Role of the Committee

The programming committee, composed of the Artistic Director and individuals appointed by the Board of Directors, is responsible for OAAA programming decisions.

The committee will ensure that programs are dedicated to advancing the Alternators' mandate, vision and values.

The committee reviews submissions on an ongoing basis and is responsible for ensuring programming decisions are made in time to meet funding deadlines. The committee is responsible for providing progress reports to the BOD.

Committee members review each submission without discrimination and make an assessment based on assessment criteria and eligibility. Committee members may also solicit exhibition proposals from individual artists or curators.

All programming decisions must be approved at a meeting of the board of directors prior to any grant submissions or signing of contracts. The committee is also responsible for suggesting programming policy updates to the BOD and providing the AD with input on assessment and eligibility criteria.

• Support the Alternators' mandate, vision and values
• Select committee roles
• Review assessment and eligibility criteria

• Review submissions
• Seek board approval for final decisions
• Recommend policy and related procedure updates

Role of the Artistic Director

The AD is responsible for organizing and attending selection committee meetings, providing the committee with access to all submissions, reviewing artist proposals and for organizing one committee meeting per year to review eligibility and assessment criteria with special attention to the Alternators' mandate.

The AD is responsible for ensuring the call for submissions is up to date and reflects new directions provided by the committee and/or the BOD. The AD ensures the call for submissions is widely circulated within BC and Canada annually. International circulation is also recommended. The AD is responsible for researching opportunities and partnerships with other centres, organizations and sponsors.

The AD will provide information on requirements and directives provided by major funding agencies including critical feedback from recent peer assessments. The AD is also responsible for reviewing programming policy with any new committee members prior to providing access to submissions.

The AD will develop a programming schedule and present this to the Board of Directors for approval.

• Circulate information
• Share relevant information
• Build partnership, sponsor and exchange opportunities
• Participate in the selection process
• Develop and seek approval for schedule

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

The content of all submissions is understood to be confidential and the intellectual property of the person or group submitting. Information about the artists and the content of proposals is protected with utmost care and respect and in full confidentiality unless permission to make this information public is given in writing by the applicant.

All means necessary will be taken to protect the content of any submissions sent to the committee with the understanding that the ideas proposed will not be copied or used by members of the committee under any circumstance.

Only members of the committee are to be given access to the proposals and all members must sign a programming confidentiality and conflict of interest form prior to viewing submissions.

Committee members with personal or familial relationships with applicants are responsible to tell the rest of the committee. Any other benefits that a committee member or their friends and family stand to receive should also be disclosed. The committee is responsible for assessing any conflict and determining how to proceed. Any significant conflicts must be reported to the BOD and noted in the OAAA minutes along with the decision of the committee regarding the conflict.