Artist in Residence Program—Erie County Public Library
Overview

Mission
Recognizing that active engagement in the arts is vital to the expansion of culture, the Erie County Public Library along with the Friends of the Erie County Public Library as its sponsor is undertaking a leadership role in creating an environment that nurtures and helps grow the artistic spirit in Erie County through our Artist in Residence Program.

In accordance with advancing in this role, the Erie County Public Library is committed to the following principles:

- Encouraging interactive, artistic curiosity among young adults and adults within the community
- Providing free, high-quality, hands-on programming in a variety of artistic mediums that is accessible to all young adults and adults and is available at all library outlets
- Increasing public awareness and involvement in the arts
- Giving artists an opportunity to share their passions with the wider community

To these ends, we begin our Artist in Residence Program to serve Erie’s 15-year-old-and-up community to both encourage art and artists and to make art as accessible as possible to our patrons.

Though as a general rule the Library believes in the rights of artists to express themselves, we would ask you to remember that our audience at the public library is wide and varied and includes children, teens, and adults of all backgrounds and walks of life. We do not wish to censor any artist who applies, but we would ask applicants to keep in mind the population whom we serve.

Structure
The Artist in Residence Program will take place in the Winter/Spring of the year for the months of February and March. Programs will take place at Erie County Library outlets. The artist will set the schedule but must be willing to go to all Erie County Public Library outlets (Edinboro, Lincoln, Iroquois, Millcreek, and Blasco)

The chosen candidate will be required to do the following:

1. Facilitate a minimum of 8 programs during the two month period that focus primarily on hands-on, experiential learning about the Artist’s area of expertise
2. Display her or his own work at the Blasco Library during the duration of the two month period
3. Help in the promotion of the programs

In return, the chosen candidate will receive the following:
1. A stipend of $1200 paid by the Friends of the Library in two $600 allotments at the completion of each month of the residency
2. A materials budget for programs not to exceed $500

Erie County Public Library
Artist in Residence
Application
(artist must be a resident of Erie County to apply)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

A. Preliminary Information

Category in which artist is applying (please select one):
  o Visual Arts (painter, filmmaker, sculptor, photographer, fabric/ textile artist, etc)
  o Literature (writer, poet, etc)
  o Performing Arts (dancer, musician, actor, etc)
  o Architecture
  o Other (please specify) ____________________________________________

B. Artistic Information (feel free to use the back of the page or separate pages)

1. Describe the style of your work.
2. Describe your interest in working with the community and what you would hope your impact on the community would/ will be.
3. Tell us what one of your programs might look like from beginning to end.
4. Do you have past experience teaching classes or running workshops? If so, please describe.
5. What else would you like to tell us about yourself as to why you are a good choice to be our Artist in Residence for Spring 2015?

C. Required attachments
1. References: please supply 2 letters of recommendation from people qualified to speak about your artistic endeavors and/or your experience in programming/teaching/running workshops.
2. Enclose a current resume or artist statement.
3. Enclose 3 pictures, one writing sample, or any relevant samples of your work.

D. Application Procedure
1. Submit a completed application including references and work samples to the Artist in Residence Committee at the following address:
   Artist in Residence Committee
   c/o Outreach Services/Marcy Hall
   Blasco Library
   160 East Front Street
   Erie, PA 16507
2. Artist applications will be reviewed by the Committee and selected artists will be interviewed by the Committee after review.
3. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014. Any applications postmarked after that date will be disregarded.

Questions about the Artist in Residence Program can be sent by email to mhall@eriecountygov.org