



Creative Catalyst Program Guide

Welcome to the Creative Catalyst Program. In August 2023, Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) Council voted unanimously in favor of a proposal spearheaded by local arts professionals. The proposal outlined a program to support the creation and presentation of artistic works within the CBRM, with small awards acting as a catalyst for artist development in the community.

This program is administered by CBRM Recreation. Application form and information is available at www.cbrm.ns.ca/creativecatalyst. Deadline for applications is March 27, 2026 at 4:00PM. Late applications will not be accepted.

About this Program

The program will administer **non-repayable awards of \$500-\$2500**. Artists will receive their award following their attestation of the terms and conditions, and be expected to complete a final report upon completion of the project. Projects will be assessed by a panel of arts professionals based on a series of criteria set by the program administrator. Successful applications will demonstrate a combination of artistic merit, quality of work, feasibility, and artistic growth of the applicant.

Artistic Merit: Is there a clear artistic vision?

Quality of Support Material: Does previous work demonstrate quality?

Feasibility of the Project: Does the timeline, budget, and project description demonstrate ability to complete the project.

Artistic Growth of the Artist: Will the artist grow and expand artistic capabilities by completing this project.

Artists of all skill levels and all mediums who meet eligibility criteria are welcome to apply. Consideration will be made to projects created or presented in rural communities, projects created by marginalized or under-represented populations, new or emerging artists, and artists living with self-defined barriers.

Project Eligibility

To be eligible for this program, an individual must:

- **Be 16 years of age or older**
- **Be a current resident of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality**
- **Be creating and presenting NEW artistic work**
- **Present the project within the Cape Breton Regional Municipality**
- **Projects must be completed by February 28, 2027**

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Development and performance of a one act play
- Writing short stories and presenting a reading
- Painting of a new public mural

Examples of ineligible projects include:



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- Applications from organizations, businesses, etc
- Applications from individuals residing outside of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality
- Applications for projects that are primarily commercially focused
- Presentation of an already existing artistic work

Eligible Expenses

Awards from the Creative Catalyst Program may be utilized for anything that assists you in the creation and presentation of your project. This includes, but is not limited to, physical media, equipment and tools, artist fees, and venue rentals.

Ineligible expenses include anything that is not directly related to the creation and presentation of your project.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this program or the application process, please email recreation@cbrm.ns.ca.