



HOWARD COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Emerging Artist Studio Program Opportunity & Guidelines

Request for Applications

Deadline: April 30, 2024

Howard County Arts Council
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The Howard County Arts Council (HCAC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve the residents of Howard County by fostering the arts. In addition to grants and scholarships, outreach, and advocacy efforts, HCAC oversees operations of the Howard County Center for the Arts, a 32,000 square foot multi-disciplinary arts center located in Ellicott City, MD. The Center houses two galleries, 14 artist studios, three organizational offices, three classrooms, a meeting room, a dance studio, and a 98-seat black box theatre.



Howard County Arts Council receives major support from Howard County Government, Maryland State Arts Council, State of Maryland, Horizon Foundation, The Community Foundation of Howard County, Corporate Office Properties Trust, Ellen Flynn Giles & Ronald H. Giles, The Isadore & Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, The Howard Hughes Corporation, Elizabeth & Ken Lundeen, M&T Bank, SECU, and Sabina Taj & Kyle Reis.



HOWARD COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL EMERGING ARTIST STUDIO PROGRAM SELECTION

The Howard County Arts Council is seeking applications from emerging and mid-career artists, for whom a short-term artist studio may make a significant difference to their career development or completion of a project. The selected artist will fill one available artist studio space, approximately 216 square feet, sharing access with two other artists in adjoining studios, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Studio rent \$171/month for Howard County residents or \$207/month for out of county residents. **The deadline to apply is 11:59 PM, Saturday, April 30, 2024.**

HCAC provides accessible studio space for fourteen studio artists, as well as three arts organizations representing a variety of disciplines. Artists have 24-hour access, natural light, and easy access to water. This is a work studio; the program does not provide living space. Heat & utilities are included.

2024/25 Emerging Artist Studio Program Objectives

- To provide a short-term studio experience for an emerging artist.
- To provide individual artists with a space to create, produce, or present fine arts. The fine arts include traditional and emerging art forms within, but not limited to, the visual arts, multi-disciplinary arts, and literary arts.
- To support a diverse community of artists working in a variety of fine arts media and disciplines.
- To nurture emerging artists and encourage networking opportunities with established artists.
- To provide the public with opportunities to meet working artists.

Due to the infrastructure of this building, studios are not suited to performing artists nor for all visual art disciplines. For example, large scale artwork (sculpture, painting, carving, etc.) and certain disciplines (metal forging, welding, print making, stone carving, kiln work) will not be accepted. Any work that requires heavy equipment, bulky materials or a loading dock is not viable. In addition to visual artists, we do encourage writers, poets, and fine arts photographers to apply.

Benefits

General benefits include:

- Semi-private studio (shared entry access) with 24-hour access to workspace
- Physical mailing address and mailbox at HCCA
- Opportunity to become an active part of a vibrant community arts center
- Ability to network and engage with established community of HCCA artists
- Exhibition opportunity at culmination of program as part of annual Resident Artist Exhibit
- Rent payment may be subsidized in part or in full by serving as an instructor for youth and/or adult classes at HCCA, gallery prep, building attendant duties, etc. (as determined by the Deputy Director) (rent=\$167.76/month)

The 2023/24 Emerging Artist also receives a reduced rate and priority consideration for renting other spaces in the Center including the dance studio, black box theatre, conference room, and classrooms.

Eligibility

Who is an emerging artist?

For this program, HCAC defines "emerging artists" as those early in their artistic careers (regardless of age), who are gaining momentum, and may be at a critical point in their career- when such support may be most impactful. These artists are not yet considered established professionally by standard indicators such as gallery representation, awards and commissions, or significant exhibition history or art sales.

To be considered for the Emerging Artist Studio Program, an applicant must be a practicing emerging or mid-career artist who:

- Demonstrates a central commitment to the creation or production of fine arts
- Demonstrates that a short-term artist studio space will make a difference for their career or the development of their work
- Has limited to no exhibit, studio, or gallery experience
- Is interested in developing a new body of work
- Seeks to actively learn from and be a part of a community of artists

HCAC Board of Directors, HCAC full-time staff, HCAC Center Committee, and their immediate family are ineligible to apply.

Application

To be considered for 2024/25 Emerging Artist Studio Program, complete the online application for Howard County Arts Council's Emerging Artist Studio Program on Submittable at <https://hocoarts.submittable.com/submit/251697/emerging-artist-studio-program-2023-24>

Include the following attachments:

- **Letter of Intent**
In one page or less, provide a brief description of your work or project to be completed during the one-year program, your career direction, and why you should be awarded an artist studio at HCCA.
- **Up-to-date Resume**
Three pages or less that lists education, background, exhibitions, awards, and/or publications.
- **Artist Statement**
In one page or less, concisely describe your creative work, process, technique, and conceptual development.
- **Three Letters of Recommendation**
Include references with the ability to speak to your character, responsibility, and contribution to community.
- **Up to 20 Images Created within the Last Two Years that represent your work:**
 - Include at least one video recording if applying for video work.
 - Videos must not exceed five minutes in duration.
- **Image List**
This document should include title, media, dimension, and year completed. It should directly correspond with the uploaded images.

If available, include examples of printed materials such as articles, brochures, programs, and reviews.

Requirements

Artists accepted into the program will be considered "The Howard County Arts Council 2024/25 Emerging Studio Artist."

To be eligible and remain in the Emerging Artist Studio Program for the full term of the agreement, applicants must:

- Use their studio a minimum of eight hours per week. Those eight hours must be used for the creation, production, and/or presentation of their art and not for other unrelated employment or activities.
- Maintain annual membership with HCAC.
- Maintain a \$2,000,000 general liability insurance policy for their studio as well as coverage for the contents of their studio.

- Maintain a safe working environment in their studios and submit appropriate MSDS forms for hazardous materials in their studios. Furthermore, they are expected to practice a “good neighbor” policy, using the least harmful materials possible and keeping in mind not only their own health and safety, but also that of the Center community. Artists may be required, at their own expense, to install proper ventilation units or other safety features for the use of some mediums.
- Attend up to four Council-scheduled, Open Studio special events per year at which they must be present and open their studio for public viewing.
- Participate in the Residents' Exhibit at the HCCA, displaying recent work (created within the July- June residency), not previously shown in the gallery, for a six-week show.
- Artists offering public programs must be fully accessible.
- Any changes to the studio must be approved by the HCAC Center Committee and artists must return the studio, at the artist’s own expense, to its original condition when vacating.

Note: Monthly rent is \$171 for Howard County residents or \$207 for out of county residents. However, rent payment may be subsidized in part or in full by serving as an instructor for youth and/or adult classes at HCCA, gallery prep, building attendant duties, etc. (as determined by the Deputy Director)

Selection

Applicants will be evaluated based on their artistic discipline, artistic merit, experience (as it pertains to “emerging” status), and commitment, as well as the appropriateness of their activities for the available space. In cases where all other elements of candidates’ qualifications are deemed of equal value, Howard County artists or artists with an established history of living, working, and teaching in Howard County will be given priority.

Access

The following are policies regarding building access:

- 24-hour access is allowed for the studio artist only; guests and other members of the public are not permitted outside of building hours unless a request has been made for HCAC to secure a building attendant.
- No pets are allowed on the premises.
- This is not a live/workspace.

Lease

Emerging Artist status will be granted for a twelve-month term. At the end of the term, the program lease is not eligible for renewal. Upon the end of the artist’s July–June program term and participation in the culminating Resident Artist exhibit, a new Emerging Artist will be selected for this program.

Agreement

This request is intended to give a broad outline of the program. Final details will be negotiated after an artist is selected.

Selection decisions are final. HCAC reserves the right to extend the application deadline at its sole discretion.

Application

Only complete on-line applications via Submittable will be forwarded to the selection panel for consideration. Incomplete applications and materials received via mail, email, or hand-delivered will not be accepted.

By submitting an application, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the program opportunity and guidelines and are applying for the short-term studio program.

All application materials must be submitted online through Submittable at <https://hocoarts.submittable.com/submit/24cbf90f-dfbc-468b-b740-9fd3b6a47b45/emerging-artist-studio-program-2022-23> no later than 11:59PM, Saturday, April 30, 2024.

Late applications will not be accepted.

For a full list of HCAC opportunities visit:
<https://hocoarts.submittable.com/submit/>