

Call for Artists – Live Painting at Convergence

The City of Oshawa is excited to offer a live painting opportunity for artists at The Convergence Music and Art Festival 2025.

The Convergence Music and Art Festival, presented by Oshawa Tourism, is taking place in downtown Oshawa on September 20, 2025. This festival celebrates Oshawa's rich history of music and art by showcasing contemporary talents in our community.

This call for artists is seeking proposals from local artists to live paint plastic Muskoka chairs during the event, using acrylic paint, that celebrate **Creating Community Connections**. The completed Muskoka chairs will be exhibited at up to three City events during 2025.

Applications are due on or before Monday, May 30, 2025 at 12 p.m. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Context and Project Objectives

The City of Oshawa is situated on lands and waters within the Williams Treaties Territory, home to seven First Nation communities of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Anishinaabeg, who have cared for and maintained these lands from time immemorial and continue to do so to present day. [Learn more.](#)

Each year the City of Oshawa is proud to offer arts, culture and heritage programming in alignment with Oshawa's Cultural Strategic Plan, *Culture Counts: Oshawa's Arts, Culture & Heritage Plan*.

This call provides increased support for local artists by providing an opportunity to create artwork live during Convergence that will be exhibited throughout the remainder of 2025.

Application Process

Artists will be asked to submit the following:

- Artist's contact information
- Artist statement and biography that includes your connection to the city of Oshawa (max. 300 words)
- Letter of intent (which may include very rough sketches, though these are optional and are not required with submission, included in one document)
- Three examples of past work (included in one document)
- CV (optional)

Interested artists should visit oshawa.ca/ArtistCalls to learn more and to submit their application.

If you experience difficulties with the submission form please email your submission to culturecounts@oshawa.ca.

Selection Process and Criteria

A selection committee will review the submissions. The selection committee may consist of representatives from the City's Cultural Leadership Council, Public Art Task Force, and/or City staff.

The applicants selected will be chosen based on specific Selection Considerations outlined in the Public Art Policy and select Guiding Principles as outlined in the Public Art Master Plan:

- Quality of art
 - Craftsmanship
 - Creativity
 - Innovation
- Overall quality
 - Originality of design
 - Intrigues viewers and stimulates imagination
 - Artist reputation (demonstrated and related experience)
 - Condition of the artwork
- Community relevance and impact
 - Suitability for display in a public space
 - Reflects the city's heritage and/or history, culture and diversity, and/or natural elements and landscapes
- Submission
 - Compliance with guidelines outlined in the Call for Artists
 - Ability to meet deadlines
 - Submission is complete

Compensation

The selected artists will be paid an artist fee of \$700.00.

Eligibility

The City of Oshawa invites applications from artists at all stages of their careers, including emerging, mid-career, and established individual artists. Artists do not need to be working professionally full time in the arts and culture field.

This call is open to local artists. Local is defined as someone who was born in, resides in, or has a significant connection to Oshawa, or an Indigenous person with a connection to the traditional territory that Oshawa now occupies.

The applicant must be 18 years of age or older.

Employees of the City of Oshawa are not eligible.

Anticipated Timeline*

Submission deadline: May 30, 2025

Artists notified: July 7 to July 11, 2025

Supply list due to City staff: August 4, 2025

Artist Bio/Artist Statement due to City staff: August 18, 2025

Event Day: September 20, 2025 (artists should be available for the entire event day, arrival and departure times will be confirmed in the artist agreement)

*The timeline may be subject to changes.

How to Apply

Complete the online application form, available at oshawa.ca/ArtistCalls.

If the files exceed 14 MB (4 MB artist statement/artist biography, 4 MB letter of intent, 4 MB examples of past work and 2 MB for CV), artists are asked to email culturecounts@oshawa.ca and use an external file share program.

Terms and Conditions

The artists selected will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Oshawa to exhibit their works. If the City and a selected artist cannot agree on the terms of the contract, the selection committee may, at the City of Oshawa's sole discretion, choose another artist to exhibit their works.

No artist shall have any rights against the City arising from participation in this Call for Artists or submitting an application for the City of Oshawa's consideration.

By submitting an application for the City of Oshawa's consideration, artists hereby release and hold harmless the City of Oshawa from any and all actions, charges, claims, costs, damages, demands, liabilities, losses, suits, proceedings, costs and expenses pertaining to the artist's participation in the Call for Artists.

By submitting an application for the City of Oshawa's consideration, artists agree that all decisions of the City and its employees in relation to the Living Painting at Convergence

activation are final and binding. Artists also agree that the selection of the winners by the selection committee is final and not subject to any right of appeal or review.

By submitting an application for the City of Oshawa's consideration, artists represent and warrant that they have read and understood and agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions.

The City of Oshawa and its partners/agents will not be responsible for insurance coverage of the works of art while they are on display.

The City of Oshawa will not facilitate sales of the artwork. The artwork may not be sold during 2025.

Equity Statement

The City of Oshawa is committed to fostering an equitable and inclusive community that celebrates the diverse lived-experiences of our residents. We encourage submissions from artists from equity-deserving groups that have been historically underrepresented in the arts, including BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour), 2SLGBTQIA+ identifying individuals, people who are Deaf, and persons with disabilities, and strive to eliminate barriers to the meaningful inclusion of members of these communities.

Application Questions

If you have questions about applying, or require accommodations to participate in this process, please contact culturecounts@oshawa.ca.

We are happy to provide support and advice related to the application to make this call as accessible as possible to applicants.

Content Policy

All projects must meet certain requirements. The following content guidelines must be adhered to for Artwork:

1. The content is not in conflict with any laws, City by-laws or policies;
2. The content does not conflict with the City's values, vision or strategic goals;
3. The content does not conflict with goals as outlined in key strategic plans, including the Diversity and Inclusion Plan and the Culture Counts: Oshawa Arts, Culture & Heritage Plan;
4. The content does not contain material which could be considered inappropriate, discriminatory, hateful, violent, abusive, insensitive, culturally appropriate or otherwise offensive; and

5. The content should be suitable for audiences of all ages, and should not include content involving references to drugs, injury, obscene gestures, and/or crude content.

Personal information on this form is collected pursuant to Section 11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and will be used to administer the Call for Artists. Questions about this collection should be directed to the City's Freedom of Information Coordinator at 50 Centre Street South, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 3Z7, by phone at 905-436-3311 or by email at clerks@oshawa.ca.