



ART SHANTY PROJECTS

2022 Open Call for Shanty Artists GUIDELINES + APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Deadline for proposals: Thursday, July 15, 2021 @11:59pm CST

For more information on the organization visit <https://artshantyprojects.org/about-us/>

For more info on our 2022 program, including a detailed timeline, please review the open call page on our website: www.artshantyprojects.org/2022-open-call-for-shanty-artists

REMINDER: PANDEMIC PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2022

Art Shanty Projects is a joyful expression of public art, and we have a commitment to prioritize public health in our operations. As the trajectory of the pandemic is still unknown, and in the spirit of abundant caution and love for our community, we are offering an EXTERIOR-ONLY EXPERIENCE for visitors in 2022.

We ask that all applicants remain covid-conscious with their building, staffing and audience engagement. At the time of this posting we plan to have all artists and audiences wear masks for the On-Ice Program. We will be in discussion collectively about any further decisions that impact the shanty community and the public programming as we approach the winter season.

For an expanded explanation of this requirement, visit our website www.artshantyprojects.org/2022-open-call-for-shanty-artists

2022 SHANTY DESIGN GUIDELINES, CONSIDERATIONS, REQUIREMENTS

Artists should take the following guidelines into consideration when designing or developing an idea to submit a successful proposal. All selected artists will receive consultation and resources for best practices from staff and past shanty artists to ensure a successful project.

1. Environment

- The design of the project should take the environment and variable winter weather conditions into consideration, including wind, snow, extreme cold, rain, etc.
- Generators are not allowed at any time. We recommend using the principle of “low tech, high impact” to creatively make your project ‘work’, which may involve employing people power (think: bike-generated contraptions, manual levers or cranks, etc.). If the project requires other types of power, options include solar power, deep cycle batteries, and renewable methods for charging. Note that these options may not work perfectly in extremely cold weather conditions.
- Prioritize, whenever possible, using repurposed materials (which are more sustainable, and also less expensive - FYI lumber prices are currently VERY high!). Also consider the future life of your materials (can they be repurposed again or recycled?)

- Consider the environmental impact of any heating sources you choose to use. For (artist-only) interior spaces we highly recommend passive solar (like a greenhouse!) as a no-fuel option. For both outdoors and indoors, physical activity is also a great option! Interior propane heaters that are UL or CE rated (“Little Buddy” or similar) are allowed. We cannot guarantee at time of application that wood burning stoves, outdoor propane heaters, or fire pits will be allowed. Staff are working on redefining our guidelines around this with respect to air quality and city regulations. It’s OK to propose these, but do not submit a proposal that relies on them.

2. Structure

- Elaborate set-up is not recommended. It’s not a simple task to assemble things on a windy, cold, frozen lake while wearing mittens!
- The lake sees intense winds which places incredible strain and wear on structures. Design your project to minimize the chance of materials falling off, blowing away, and being scattered as litter and/or frozen into the ice.
- The project should be designed to be physically accessible to people interacting at different heights (adults, children, people in wheelchairs, etc), which may include designing interactive elements at various levels, having a ramp incorporated into your structure, etc. We will review specific requirements with selected artists.

3. Safety

- The Minnesota DNR requires two things of shanty artists: a Dark House Permit, and reflective material must be placed on all sides of the shanty for nighttime safety (when the village is not active). This can be silver paint or tape, reflectors, or other highly shiny objects. There are nominal costs associated with these items (see budget section below).
- There are certain things that are not allowed for safety reasons, including ice carousels, holes cut into the ice for swimming, tents or fabric shelters that need to be staked into the ice and/or that can easily catch wind and blow away, etc. If you are unsure about your proposed activity, please contact us with questions before submitting it.

4. Movability

NEW REQUIREMENTS IN RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE: This year we challenge our community to make shanties easier to move as we face the increasing risk of melting ice due to climate change!

While ASP will provide a skidloader during installation and deinstallation weekends to move shanties across the ice, please propose a structure that can be adjusted quickly in melting and refreezing conditions and that can be moved easily on and off the ice (300’ or more, and up a boat ramp), intact, at short notice, should the ice become unsafe. **When assessing movability, consider these requirements:**

- Incorporating wooden skis into the design (usually made of 2x6 or 2x10 lumber)
- The ability to be quickly moved by people power, at short notice, in unsafe conditions (i.e. just the people in your own team/pod)

- Weight (nothing more than 1500 lbs, less is probably better). For reference, the average car weighs 4000 lbs, a grand piano weighs 1000 lbs, a snowmobile weighs 500 lbs.
- Size/shape (nothing too unwieldy)

5. Community

- Our festival is open to all ages and abilities. Elements should be appealing to and appropriate for adults, some of whom might be looking after children.
- Collaboration is key! When building, installing, and de-installing, there are many physical and logistical challenges that are much easier when working with others. We recommend teams of 4 or more. We do not accept proposals from ‘teams’ of 1.
- All artists, staff, board members and volunteers will sign a community agreement, which is intended to support an inclusive space. It includes a commitment to respecting pronouns, using gender neutral language with strangers, getting consent to take photos, holding ourselves accountable to one another when we cause or witness harm, etc.

SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals will be reviewed by a small panel of professional artists, curators, arts administrators and a representative from the Art Shanty Projects Board of Directors based on the following criteria:

- Vision: An exciting idea with adherence to Art Shanty Projects artistic goals and with a sound plan for audience engagement.
- Design and Feasibility: Clear understanding of design/building requirements and evidence of capacity to successfully build the structure, staff the project during public hours, and engage with the community of participants (including artists, visitors, volunteers, staff and board members).

TIPS FOR A STRONG PROPOSAL

- Jurors read a lot of proposals. Help them out by answering each question directly and plainly.
- Do not assume jury members know you or are familiar with your work. Make sure if you reference past projects (even if they're Art Shanty projects), you include them in your work samples.
- Do not assume that just because you have done your project before, it will get chosen again. Make a strong case for it! Also, adapt it to the new guidelines!
- Share a draft of your written proposal with someone else to read. Ask them to verbally describe your project back to you. This might help identify what is clear, and what needs more definition.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Part I: Basic Information

Proposed shanty name (short answer)

Brief shanty concept (short answer, 1-2 sentence synopsis)

Primary Contact Name (short answer)

Primary Contact Cell Phone (short answer)

Primary Contact Email (short answer)

Who else is on your team? (short answer, list individual or group names)

Part II: Artistic Goals

Tell us all about the shanty you would like to create!

REMINDER: design a project where visitors do not go inside! See above details and suggestions on this new requirement.

Artistic Goals:

1. Projects should contribute to creating a vibrant village, with a balance of both bold and intimate structures and activities. Shanties should be visually appealing, collectively enough to draw participants across the ice from the shore to our village. Performances and art actions should add to the atmosphere of the village and encourage people to linger.
2. We are intentionally creating a temporary village and social community. Projects should encourage active co-creation with a wide array of participants, including other artists, visitors, volunteers, staff, or the occasional non-human animal.
3. Projects should engage multiple senses to maximize participation in an effort to creatively remove barriers due to language, mobility, hearing, sight or otherwise.
4. We are operating on Indigenous water and have a responsibility to help protect it. Projects should respect and engage with the natural environment of the frozen lake and engage in sustainable practices and choices, whenever possible. We have a 'leave no trace' philosophy, only footsteps should be left behind.
5. The festival aims to engage with a wide array of artistic and cultural perspectives, being mindful of intersections of race, class, gender, age, ability, etc. Artists should not appropriate other cultures in their work, but instead focus on creating projects that invite exchange with their own personal culture, practices, process, perspective, etc.

Describe what your shanty looks like! Include things like size, shape, colors, textures, materials, other attractive features, etc. (limit 1000 characters)

Describe how your project contributes to the social community of the village. What interaction or activities will take place? What will a visitor to the shanty do, experience, or learn? What is your interest in engaging with the public? (limit 1000 characters)

*How will your project engage many ways of experiencing the world, beyond visual? (sound, touch, smell, etc). What elements of your project will be especially engaging for people of various ages, who speak a different language, and/or have limited mobility, hearing, or sight? **(limit 800 characters)***

*Describe how your project relates to, interacts with, and/or respects the frozen lake. This might be in relation to thematic content, connection to place or context, material choices, etc. **(limit 600 characters)***

*What personal cultures, practices, movements or perspectives is your project rooted in? (Examples: street art; cycling; DIY makers; Afrofuturism; eco-feminism; team sports; meditation; citizen science; etc). What excites you about sharing this with other people who may or may not be familiar with this? **(limit 600 characters)***

Part III: Feasibility

Address your ability to build your shanty and your capacity to staff the project. With the potential of thousands of visitors per day, how will the interactive aspect of your shanty accommodate the potential flow of traffic and handle lines and crowds, in a covid-conscious way? How will you respond to the new climate change requirements?

*What skills do the members of your group have (or are eager to learn) that will contribute to the team's ability to build and staff your project? This could relate to generating conceptual ideas, designing and/or building activities and structures, enthusiasm for engaging with strangers, etc. Reminder: this year we do not accept proposals from shanty 'teams' of one. **(Limit 1000 characters)***

*Describe how your project is covid-conscious. Will activities work wearing masks and at an appropriate physical distance if necessary? Did you intentionally build anything into your design to keep audiences or artists warm and happy? **(Limit 1000 characters)***

*In accordance to our new climate change requirements, your project may need to be shifted due to minor melting + refreezing and/or unexpectedly moved to shore due to unsafe ice conditions. What is your plan to address this? (Does it have wooden skis? Can your team, and your team alone, move it by people power at short notice? Does it weigh less than 1500 lbs?) **(limit 800 characters)***

*What is still unresolved for you at this time? What resources do you have in place to resolve those things? What help or expertise do you need? **(Limit 800 characters)***

Budget

Please think about what it might take to create your project and list potential costs per category. It's OK if this budget breakdown changes later; this is just an estimate so jurors can help assess whether your plan is reasonable. If you are accepted, you do not need to report actual costs post-program.

Consider in-kind goods or services when making your budget (i.e. what are you getting for free?!). We recommend reserving a small portion of your money for 'contingency' (i.e. unexpected expenses that may come up). Your total budget should add up to \$2400, the stipend Art Shanty Projects is offering, unless you have funding from another source (and in that case, please list it). It's OK to list "\$0" if you don't plan to spend money in any particular category.

*List the expense for each of the following categories: **(short answer):***

- Materials (building materials, costumes, props, etc)
- Equipment (anything you need to rent or purchase)
- Transportation (rental trucks, gas, etc)
- Stipends (for artists or collaborators)
- Space Rental (if you are renting a space in which to build your project)
- Dark House Permit (currently the DNR lists this at \$15)
- Other (please define)
- Contingency (money held for unexpected expenses)

If your budget totals more than \$2400, please list where you intend to get the additional funds for your project, and whether those sources are confirmed or pending.”

Supporting Materials

Give us a visual idea of your plans!

Upload relevant supporting materials (renderings of proposed shanty or activities and/or past work samples that are related to this proposal). Include anything that will help the jury understand your concept. (up to five samples -- photos, illustrations, short videos that document or explain your project, audio, etc.). Please keep images under 2MB and audio/video clips 45 seconds or less.

List title, date, medium and description for each sample provided.

APPLY TODAY!

We look forward to reading your proposal.