

About The ACT *Excellence in Arts Awards*

The annual ACT Arts Centre *Excellence in Arts Awards* support the artistic achievements, aspirations and professional development of young people who have demonstrated exemplary achievement in the Arts. The merit-based awards provide scholarship funds for study at an accredited post-secondary university or college.

Scholarship amounts are a minimum of \$1,500 per student. Scholarships are intended to support post-secondary school education tuition and fee expenses. Students will have two (2) years following the date of issue to redeem an award.

Eligibility

Currently enrolled Secondary School seniors (Grade 12) who live or study in Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows and who plan to attend an accredited post-secondary institution may apply for a scholarship.

Students may apply in the following areas:

- **Visual & Media Arts:** Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Photography (Digital or Analog), Ceramics, Textile Arts, Metal Working, Videos, Animations, Illustrations, Digital Paintings
- **Performing Arts:** Music, Theatre, Dance, Musical Theatre, Opera, Spoken Word, Technical Theatre
- **Literary Arts:** Short story, Novella, Poetry, Non-fiction, Scripts

Application

Each applicant is required to submit the following digitally:

- A. An ACT Arts Centre Award Application Form found online at:
<https://theactmapleridge.org/scholarships-and-awards>
- B. An artistic statement which speaks to applicant's experience and future goals in the artistic field of their choice. (Max.500 words)
- C. A statement on how receipt of funding would allow the applicant to pursue future education.
- D. Artistic Resume (Curriculum Vitae) that specifies projects and accomplishments in the applicant's field of study.
- E. Statement of school marks from grades 11 and 12 (interim).
- F. A minimum of two letters of reference addressing the artistic and technical achievements of the applicant.
- G. **Examples of your work:**
 - o **Visual/Media Arts:** submission of portfolio via a digital platform such as Dropbox/ WeTransfer/Google Drive. Images must be saved as .jpeg or .png please.
 - o **Literary Arts:** written submission saved in PDF format.
 - o **Dance/Theatre/Music:** applicants must record themselves and upload the video to platform such as YouTube or Vimeo. Please send us a link and/or password to access the footage. For your privacy, we advise you not to make these videos public.

Each applicant must agree to the following:

- H. Must be available Wednesday April 17th 2024 for interviews. Schedule will be released by April 10th 2024.
- I. Winners will be required to submit a thank you letter highlighting their talent & how this scholarship will help them in their future by **August 23rd, 2024**.

Timeline for Applicants

March 29th 5:00pm – Deadline for completed applications. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Please submit digitally via email to learning@mract.org

April 17th 2024 approximate times 9am-5pm – Auditions and Interviews. Select applicants will be interviewed by a panel of adjudicators for approximately 10 minutes. Interviews will be held in person unless previously arranged due to illness. There will be up to 5 adjudicators and one member of ACT staff to facilitate.

June 2024 - Applicants will be contacted with results.

Application details – portfolios and submissions

1) Visual & Media Arts

Visual Arts Applicants must submit a digital portfolio of work including:

- 10 examples of applicant's best original work in any or a combination of types of media (i.e. drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, etc.), completed within the last 12 months.
- Works to be submitted in digital form, with 10 digital high quality photos **saved as jpeg or png**.
- All works must be clearly labeled and media identified

Submission of portfolio may be made by a digital platform such as Dropbox/We Transfer/Google Drive and sent to learning@mract.org

Media Arts Applicants must submit a digital portfolio including:

- 10 examples of applicant's best original video, film or digital art work, completed within the last 12 months.
- Works can include graphics, audio creations, animations, videos, and text (that is part of a digital work).
- Works to be submitted in digital form
- All works must be clearly labeled and media identified
- Digital artwork - up to 10 digital high quality images **saved as jpeg or png**.
- Film/video content should be no less than 5 minutes in length and no more than 15 minutes (total).

Submission of portfolio may be made by a digital platform such as Dropbox/We Transfer/Google Drive and sent to learning@mract.org

2) Music

Vocal Applicants must prepare:

- Two contrasting songs from the standard classical, jazz, Broadway or popular repertoire.
- Audition repertoire should showcase the applicant's overall technical and expressive abilities.
- Memorization is recommended.
- Accompaniment is required where applicable and is the responsibility of the applicant.
- Each piece should be no more than seven minutes in duration.

Instrumental Applicants must prepare:

- Two contrasting pieces from the standard classical, jazz, Broadway or popular repertoire that demonstrate their highest level of technical and lyrical development.
- Memorization is recommended.
- Accompaniment is required where applicable and is the responsibility of the applicant.
- Each piece should be no more than seven minutes in duration.

A copy of the score for each musical selection must be provided.

Percussionists may include:

- Tuned and non-tuned percussion in their programs.
- Percussionists may include **UP TO TWO** other accompanists (e.g. piano and double bass) at their own expense but percussion must be the dominant solo instrument.
- Percussionists must provide their own equipment/instruments.

3) Theatre

Acting Applicants are required to perform:

- 2 contrasting monologues up to 90 seconds each OR 1 monologue and 1 other performance piece, each up to 90 seconds.
- These should be memorized, well-rehearsed and representative of the applicant's best acting skills.
- Please provide a copy of each monologue for the adjudicators.
- If you chose to do a performance piece, please include a brief introduction explaining the piece. This can either be spoken to the audience before you perform or submitted as a separate written document.

Musical Theatre Applicants are required to perform:

- 1 monologue and 1 contrasting song OR 2 contrasting songs. Maximum 2 minutes for each song.
- These should be memorized, well-rehearsed and representative of your best acting and singing skills.
- Please provide a copy of your monologue for adjudicators.
- The songs should be contrasting from your monologue.
- You may include your own accompanist.

Technical Theatre Applicants must submit a portfolio of work:

- Including photographs, sketches of sets, renderings, samples of props or costumes design, etc.
- Works to be submitted in digital form, with 10 digital high quality photos **saved as jpeg or png**.
- All works must be clearly labeled and media identified

Submission of portfolio may be made by a digital platform such as Dropbox/We Transfer/Google Drive and sent to learning@mract.org

4) Dance

Dance applicants are required to perform:

- Two contrasting dance pieces, no more than **10 minutes** combined in length, demonstrating technique and versatility of style in ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, world folk, or other dance forms.

5) Literary Arts

Applicants may apply in the categories of:

- Short story, literary non-fiction essay (personal essays, memoir, travel writing, biography, narrative journalism, fiction, screenplay, or poetry).
- Submissions must meet the following criteria:
 - Any work submitted must be original and written solely by the applicant.
 - Any applicant who submits a work that is not original, commits plagiarism, or violates the Copyright Act of Canada will be considered ineligible.
 - Applicants must submit work between 1,000 and 5,000 words in length. Works under or over this amount will be considered ineligible.

Poetry applicants should submit:

- Six poems, in differing styles or contrasting meters.

Fiction Applicants are required to submit:

- A short story work of narrative fiction, or screenplay.

Nonfiction Applicants are required to submit:

- A literary, non-fiction essay which is an original work that uses narrative or literary techniques to produce work factually true and artistically elegant. Examples of literary non-fiction forms include essay, travel writing, memoir, biography and narrative journalism.

All work must be submitted single-sided, double-spaced, in 12-pt. font in electronic PDF and submitted to learning@mract.org

Recipients will be notified of the results in June 2024

Adjudication

Only applicants whose applications fit the scholarship criteria as listed above will be moved forward to the Audition, interview and adjudication process.

Each successful applicant will be interviewed by a panel of up to 5 arts professionals. Interviews will be facilitated by members of ACT staff. Interviews will take approximately 10 minutes. They will take place in person or via Zoom if arranged due to illness.

The panel will have reviewed the applicant’s submissions before the interview and will ask the applicant questions to learn more about them, their work, and their future plans.

The adjudicators will use a standardized voting system. They **will score the applicant’s interview and submission based on presentation, artistic merit, technique, and/or craftsmanship.**

All applicants may receive adjudication notes on their performance/submission by request.

At the discretion of the adjudication panel, no award may be declared in any given category.

The decision of the panel is final.

Privacy Policy

The Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council will only use personal details of any applicant for the purposes of administering the awards, and will not publish them or provide them to anyone not connected with this event without advance permission.

How to Apply:

Email completed applications to:

Janet Comer, Artistic Administrator (janetc@mract.org)

RE: ACT Awards Application – including category applying for

Applications must be received no later than 5:00pm, April 17th, 2024

Please direct any questions about this application to learning@mract.org

