

2024 CRAFT AWARDS

BRINGING YOU THE CONTEMPORARY EDGE ON CRAFT PRACTICE

The annual selection of Craft Award recipients presents accomplished and dedicated practitioners in the field of craft and design.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MONDAY, JUNE 3 2024, 11:59 PM EST

Craft Ontario is pleased to announce that the 2024 Craft Awards Program has 18 awards open for application. Below you will find a list of awards, along with descriptions outlining conditions and requirements.

Each award has its own parameters for submission. Please read the eligibility and application requirements carefully before choosing which awards to apply for. Some awards are media-specific, while others are delineated according to career level:

EMERGING: This category is for emerging makers and is reserved for those in the early years of their professional careers who may still be undertaking undergraduate or graduate studies and have a small exhibition record.

- You must have less than 8 years of professional practice to apply for awards in this category.

MID-CAREER: This category is for crafts professionals in mid-career and includes those past the early stages of their career who have produced a reasonable body of work and may have a fair degree of public exposure.

- You must have 8 to 15 years of professional practice to apply to this category.

ESTABLISHED: This category is for established craft professionals and includes those with an extensive body of work and with a history of national and international exhibitions and/or those who have achieved a wide degree of recognition.

- You must have at least 15 years of professional practice in order to apply to this category.



Chan Fraser Design Jewellery Award \$500

Eligibility: Jewellery, All Career Levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by Chan Fraser Design and JJStudio, this award recognizes excellence in jewellery practice, with an emphasis on one-of-a-kind creations, and is open to all career levels. The Award acknowledges the important role that Mo Ying Chan and Greg Fraser have in the international jewellery industry, where their work over the course of two decades has established Canadian practitioners as key contributors through networking, mentorship and exhibitions. Their generosity in fostering emerging artists through helping them learn both the craft and the business of jewellery has had an immeasurable impact in showing what is possible, and in creating new opportunities. The Award is intended to provide community recognition and support for those who need encouragement and inspiration to persist and to continue developing their practice within a competitive field.

Dorothy Elaine McPherson Memorial Award in Mixed Media \$1,000

Eligibility: Mixed Media, Emerging

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by the McPherson family in memory of Dorothy Elaine (Woodman) McPherson, this award recognizes excellence in mixed media and is open to emerging craft artists. The award celebrates the life of Dorothy McPherson, whose life was defined by a constant curiosity in the world of arts and crafts, and extensive artistic exploration in the areas of quilting, doll-making, embroidery, leatherwork, basketry, writing and cartooning. Her own artistic practice was equally matched by her generous patronage of artists and arts communities, which included education, volunteer support, and the founding two guilds in the areas of quilting and writing.



FUSION Ontario Clay and Glass Design Award \$400 (Membership and Conference Registration)

Eligibility: Ceramics, Glass, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

The FUSION Design Award was established in 2002, and recognizes excellence in design. The Design Award is a 1-year FUSION Membership plus admission to a conference event within the next three years. FUSION grew out of the Ontario Potters' Association, which was incorporated in 1975, and evolved into the Ontario Clay and Glass Association (1985). "The mission of the association shall be to encourage and promote excellence and quality in clay and glass, provide opportunities for fellowship and a sense of community involvement, provide continuing education resources for members and people interested in clay and glass and to reach out, demonstrating tolerance, caring, and acceptance for the diverse aspects of expression in clay and glass."

Gladstone House Award \$1,000, plus a year long display at the Gladstone House

Eligibility: 2D wall-mounted work, all career levels, must not currently have work at Gladstone House.

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

An annual award offered by Gladstone House, Toronto's oldest operating hotel and hub for creativity, this award recognizes excellence in 2D form. The award includes \$1000 cash and a selection of the artist's work installed in one of the Gladstone House's guest rooms for one year, dates to be confirmed with award winner. The award also includes a complimentary one-night stay at the hotel. Media can include textiles, metal, wood, or framed work. Work must be low relief and wall mountable. Two to 5 medium to large works will be required for the guest rooms. Multiple small items presented as an installation are not suitable. The award is ideally suited to an artist working in the GTHA/York region, as the artist must deliver and pick up work – the award does not include shipping.



Helen Copeland Memorial Award in Ceramics \$1,000

Eligibility: Ceramics, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.
- A 100 – 200 word description of community involvement.

Description:

Established by family and friends in memory of Toronto potter Helen Copeland, this award recognizes excellence in ceramics and is open to artists at all career levels. In reflection of Helen's exceptional contributions to the community through her work as an organizer, preference will be given to those candidates who demonstrate a high level of involvement in the crafts community.

Helen Frances Gregor Award \$1,000

Eligibility: Textiles, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.
- A study plan of 100 - 200 words.

Description:

Established by family, friends and colleagues, this scholarship celebrates the life of Helen Frances Gregor, an internationally renowned textile artist and teacher. It is awarded annually to provide funds for a fibre artist to pursue further study or further development of their body of work.



**James H. McPherson Award in Woodworking
\$1,000**

Eligibility: Woodworking, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by family, this award is in memory of woodworker James H. McPherson (St. Thomas, ON). The award recognizes excellence in woodworking, especially in lathe and inlay work.

**JJStudio Award for Emerging Jewellery Artists
\$300**

Eligibility: Jewellery, Emerging

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by JJStudio, this award recognizes excellence in jewellery and is open to emerging artists that are within 1-3 years of graduating from a postsecondary jewellery studio program. The award recognizes that the first years of transition after education into a professional career are some of the most difficult, and seek to recognize and support accomplished artists as they work to establish their practice.



**Lacy West Supplies. Ltd. Jewellery Supply Grant, \$200
Gift Certificate to Lacy West Supplies Ltd.**

Eligibility: Jewellery, all career levels.

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Lacy West Supplies. Ltd. Supply provides funds for students or emerging craft professionals to purchase equipment and/or materials to establish their studios.

**Lily Yung Memorial Award
\$1,000**

Eligibility: All Media, Established

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established in 2011 by family, fans and friends, this award honours the memory of Lily Yung, whose unflagging energy and creativity as a mentor, innovator and advocate was so influential in shaping a contemporary craft discourse. Open to artists in any craft discipline, this award acknowledges excellence and innovation in craft as demonstrated by an established professional.



**Leisa Rich Fibre Arts Residency Award,
4-month Residency at the Contemporary Textile Studio Co-op,
\$1500 value, 3 available for applications each year**

Eligibility: Textiles, Emerging and Mid-Career

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.
- Statement of Intent - What will the focus of work be during the 4-month residency period? (200 words)
- Statement of Co-operative Values - The CTSC values self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. What does it mean for the applicant to be part of a co-operative shared space, and how do they see themselves operating within that structure? (200 words)

Description:

Established by Leisa Rich and the Contemporary Textile Studio Co-op, this award supports emerging and mid-career textile artists who are seeking community, peer-to-peer mentorship, and to explore and develop new artistic directions. The award encourages and supports those that have faced financial, social, and professional barriers in the development of their career, and makes space for creating work that opens doors and advances contemporary textile practices.

Recipients will be granted 24/7 access to the studio during their residency, with the exception of when workshops are taking place, and the start date is flexible. The recipients will also be expected to provide 3 hours (entirely flexible) per month towards the co-op in an area of their choice, including facilities, programming, communications, and community outreach. Teaching workshops is also a possibility.

More information about the Contemporary Textile Studio Co-op can be found here:

Facilities & Equipment <https://www.textilestudio.ca/studio>

About & FAQ <https://www.textilestudio.ca/about>



Melinda Mayhall Memorial Award in Indigenous Craft \$2,100

Eligibility: Indigenous Craft Artists (First Nations, Metis, Inuit), all media and all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

This award celebrates excellence in craft by Indigenous artists (First Nations, Metis, Inuit), and is open to those working at any stage in their career. The Mayhall family sees supporting Indigenous Craftspeople as a key priority in craft.

Pattie Walker Memorial Award in Architectural Glass \$1,000

Eligibility: Glass: appliqué, stained glass, sandblasting, glass painting, acid etching, leaded work and/or dalle de verre, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by friends and family in memory of glass artist Pattie Walker (1948 – 2012), this award recognizes excellence in glass and is open to artists at all career levels. The award seeks to support those that work in architectural glass, reflecting Pattie's commitment to the medium: *"Making art is about making contact. I strive to create art pieces and environments that will animate and energize space. And connect viewers to the radiant force of light."*



Rich Foundation Residency 1 week Residency on Howe Island, Aug, 24-31, 2024

Eligibility: Textiles, Emerging or Mid-Career

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.
- Statement of intention for the focus of work during the residency (200 words)
- Signed [Code of Conduct Agreement](#)

Description:

Enjoy a 1-week artist residency on Howe Island, Ontario, made possible by The Rich Foundation. This is an amazing opportunity for textile/fibre artists to make space for their practice, and explore new artistic directions in a natural environment. The artist will stay in a private cottage on the island, with indoor and outdoor studio spaces, a sewing machine, and other basic supplies and materials. If desired, the artist can participate in a mentorship with textile artist and educator, Leisa Rich.

The Rich Foundation is a charitable trust funded by Leisa and John Rich to support fibre arts and environmental initiatives. The fiber arts directive is on supporting emerging and mid-career visual artists working with fibres and textiles, who are exploring experimental concepts, methods and/or materials, and who inspire others to try new things. The environmental directive focuses on new and emerging technologies, and transformative approaches, that increase biodiversity for the purpose of mitigating climate change. It is their goal to support others to make a significant impact on the world by utilizing creative and innovative thinking.

The Rich Foundation Residency Award includes the following:

- 1-week accommodation and studio space at 1632 Howe Island Dr., Gananoque, ON, K7G 2V6.
- Complimentary use of a guest house with queen bed, desk, a private half bathroom, air conditioning, small fridge/microwave, coffee and tea maker, kitchen dishes and utensils, outdoor shower, indoor and outdoor studio spaces. In inclement weather, indoor shower.
- Use of an outdoor studio in a 180-year-old large building with electricity, table and chairs for eating, working and relaxing, as well as equipment including a sewing machine, scissors, iron, ironing board, heat press, photocopier, and basic supplies for sketching, drawing and watercolour.

The Residency does not include:

- Transportation to and from Howe Island. Please note that the residency is on a remote island accessed by ferry (5 minutes to cross), with no retail stores or gas station. The nearest town is Gananoque, which is 5 minutes away from the ferry dock. Kingston is a 15-minute drive from the mainland dock side.
- Meals other than 3 dinners. The award recipient must be able to shop for groceries in town.
- Materials and equipment other than what is specified above. The artist should bring a variety of materials they would like to explore or incorporate in their work while participating in the residency.



Shanks Memorial Award in Textiles \$1,000

Eligibility: Textiles, all career levels

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Established by family, this award is in memory of Helen Jeanette Shanks. The award recognizes excellence in textiles, and supports further self-directed study.

Tuckers Pottery Supplies Ltd. Clay Supply Grant \$500

Eligibility: Ceramics, Emerging

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Tuckers Pottery Supplies Ltd. provides funds for students or emerging craft professionals to purchase equipment and/or materials to establish their studios.



The Pottery Supply House Clay or Glass Supply Grant \$500

Eligibility: Ceramics or Glass, Emerging

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

PSH The Pottery Supply House provides funds for students or emerging craft professionals to purchase equipment and/or materials to establish their studios.

William and Mary Corcoran Award for Excellence in Functional Craft \$1,000

Eligibility: Mid-career, Functional work

Application requirements:

- Completed application form.

Description:

Craft Ontario patrons William and Mary Corcoran established this award in 2023 to support the practices of mid-career craft artists who focus on creating functional work for everyday use. The education and support Mary Corcoran received as a student at Sheridan College made a great impact on her life, and it is fitting that William and Mary are providing ongoing support to craft as an area of the arts that has greatly enriched their lives.