

artspace

Artist Selection Process

Artspace is committed to attracting creative individuals and families from diverse artistic and cultural backgrounds. We encourage all people in the creative arts to apply regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, occupation or status with regard to public assistance, or physical, mental, or emotional disability. We are especially interested in individuals who are committed to building community and will give some of their time and energy toward this goal.

Artist Selection Committee

Anyone who qualifies for affordable housing may apply for residency in an Artspace project, but we give a preference for occupancy to those applicants who participate in and are committed to the arts. Applicants need not derive their income from their art. It is customary for artists to work in another field to support themselves, their dependents, and their art form. The Artist Selection Committee (ASC) screens applicants to determine their participation in, and commitment to, the arts; they do not judge the content of an applicant's artistic work.

What does the ASC do?

The ASC meets with pre-qualified prospective residents and their families, to determine their level of commitment to the arts, community and their art form. The selection committee does not judge the artist's work. An interview is conducted, scored by interviewers and average scores are ranked for selection.

Who makes up the ASC?

Initially the committee members will come from a pool of artists, representing a range of disciplines, who are members of the arts community in which the project is located. Subsequent vacancies in the pool will be filled with the Artist Selection Committee made up of residents in good standing, other members from the broader arts community, and an owner representative.

What determines an artist?

An artist, for the purpose of this committee, is a person who has a commitment to and/or participation in the arts and not simply as a hobby. This does not mean that the art the artist creates generates any or all of the artist's source of income. Artist shall be defined as:

- > A person who works in or is skilled in any of the fine arts, including but not limited to painting, drawing, sculpture, book art, mixed-media and print-making.
- > A person who creates imaginative works of aesthetic value, including but not limited to film, video, digital media works, literature, costume design, photography, architecture and music composition.
- > A person who creates functional art, including but not limited to jewelry, rugs, decorative screens and grates, furniture, pottery, toys and quilts.
- > A performer, including but not limited to singers, musicians, dancers, actors and performance artists.
- > In all culturally significant practices, including a designer, technician, tattoo artist, hairdresser, chef/culinary artist, craftsperson, teacher or administrator who is dedicated to using their expertise within the community to support, promote, present, and/or teach and propagate their art form through events, activities, performances and classes.

PLEASE NOTE:

Artistic processes that are extremely noisy, require incompatible zoning or involve hazardous materials are typically not permitted. All uses must comply with applicable code.

Does the ASC judge the artists' work?

No. The ASC interviews applicants and reviews their Artistic Questionnaires to determine their level of participation in, and commitment to, the arts; they do not judge the content or quality of an applicant's artistic work.

How are the meetings conducted?

The owner representative or designated moderator coordinates the interview, runs the meeting and acts as the liaison to the property manager. Prior to the meeting, committee members are provided an artist questionnaire and or personal statement, if completed by the applicant. Committee members are also provided a scoring sheet with specific questions that prospective residents are to be asked. Prospective residents are given an opportunity to answer the questions, share their artwork and ask any questions that they may have.

INTERVIEW GUIDELINES

- > Each interview committee is comprised of 3-5 persons
- > Each interview committee may include an owner representative
- > Residents serving on the selection committee must be in good standing (no violations of lease or operating policies) management will confirm good standing
- > Selection committee interviews are run by the owner representative or by the person designated by the owner representative
- > If any member of the committee does not adhere to the process or guidelines of the Artist Selection Committee, that member will be removed from the committee pool
- > All interviews are confidential
- > Representatives of the Owner/Property Manager may participate from time to time to ensure objective evaluation of all processes vis a vis fair housing and other public program guidelines.

SCORING

- > Each question must be scored; all sheets are collected and aggregated.
- > Applicants are assigned to the artist preference list if their average score is 3 or greater. Those scoring less than 3 are placed on the non-artist list. All lists are kept in order of lottery priority.
- > Each adult applicant is scored separately, but the household is given preference (or not) in whole. Only one member of a household needs to demonstrate a commitment as a practicing artist, in order to qualify for the artist preference.



Fair Housing

Our selection process does not violate fair housing rules and we are very mindful of this issue. Members of the ASC undergo customized training prior to participating. In general, members of the selection committee are required to limit questions to those listed on the scoring sheet. Clarification questions can be asked to help a member of the committee to better understand an answer that has been given. The scoring sheet questions have been specifically chosen because they prompt answers that help committee members ascertain the artists and their family's commitment to their art form and their commitment to the community, without violating provisions of the fair housing act.

Prospective residents may have questions for committee members. Please be advised that questions pertaining to any of the protected classes of fair housing may not be addressed. Feel free to refer interviewees to the property manager for further questions that they may have about the project or their application status.

Although this process may seem formal, it is extremely important. We want to be sure that every applicant that comes before the artist selection committee be treated consistently and fairly.



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America's Leader in Artist-Led Community Transformation

Artspace is the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation, with more than 35 projects in operation across the country and another dozen in development, representing a unique, \$600 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. Through its Consulting division, Artspace has brought its hard-earned expertise to hundreds of cultural planning efforts from coast-to-coast. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington D.C., Artspace is America's leading developer of arts facilities. To date we have completed nearly 2,000 affordable live/work units for artists and their families as well as more than a million square feet of non-residential space for artists and arts organizations. Additional information is available at www.artspace.org.