

Artist Preference

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you have to be an artist to live in an Artspace live/ work project?

Anyone may apply for affordable housing in an Artspace project, but we give a preference for occupancy to those applicants who participate in and are committed to the arts. Applicants do not need to derive their income from their art. It is not uncommon for artists to work in another field to support themselves, their dependents, and their art form.

How do you get an artist preference?

The Artist Preference may be granted to housing applicants who present a written record and examples of their artistic endeavors by completing an Artist Preference Form.

How does Artspace determine who is an artist?

We define the term “artist” broadly to encompass a wide variety of creative pursuits. The application and qualification process does not include judgment of quality of work. An 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.
- A person involved in all culturally significant practices, including a culture bearer or practitioner, designer, technician, tattoo artist, hairdresser, chef/culinary artist, craftsperson, journalist, 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.

Are all art forms allowed in Artspace residences?

Artistic processes that are extremely noisy, do not comply with local zoning regulations or involve hazardous materials are typically not allowed to be practiced in your unit. All uses must comply with applicable code. For example, welding, woodworking using power tools, amplified band practice or glass blowing would not be allowed.

Artspace is the nation's leading nonprofit developer of affordable, sustainable housing and workspaces for artists and entrepreneurs. With over 50 projects nationwide, we revitalize communities, preserve historic architecture, and build environments where creativity can thrive.

In addition to development, our consulting services and programs provide essential services and support to arts and cultural organizations. Through initiatives like Artspace Immersion and Pathways, we offer technical assistance and resources that help artists and organizations create and sustain affordable spaces, ensuring long-term, vibrant creative communities.

For more information, please visit www.artspace.org



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