

Project Summary:

This research project was recommended by staff after engaging with the community on the development of Durham Region's Public Art and Creative Placemaking program and policy. To establish a framework for an effective Artist-in-Residence (AiR) student program, Nataliya Juddi conducted a literature review, jurisdictional scan, and interviews to recommend a program design. Through this research, Durham Region hopes to engage student artists to enliven public spaces that may have previously been overlooked while supporting the Region's creative industries.

Project Goal:

To recommend the program design for the Artist-in-Residence program including:

- Program description
- Eligibility information
- Student application guidelines and forms
- Artist selection process and criteria
- Compensation

Methods:

- Literature review and jurisdictional scan of municipal programs from across Canada
- Interviews with select municipalities and previous participants of AiR programs to understand unique program features, identify best practices, and develop recommendations to inform Durham's program

Outcomes:

This research will allow Durham Region to move forward with a recommended program design for its Artist-in-Residence program.

Importance:

The AiR program will support emerging student artists by providing them with the opportunity to gain practical public art experience and showcase their creative practices while developing their professional portfolios. The program will allow for the creation of enriching artistic work that enlivens public spaces and provide the Region with the opportunity to work with the community in unique ways.

