



RIVER VALLEY RIPPLE

ARTIST RESIDENCY

Call for Artists

A new residency program at The YES! House for artists in Southwest Minnesota.

Department of Public Transformation and The YES! House announce the launch of River Valley Ripple (RVR), a Southwest Minnesota (SWMN) Artist Residency program focused on uplifting and supporting emerging and established rural artists with time, space, and resources to further develop and/or expand their artistic practice. To be considered for the program, artists must reside in the 18 counties of Southwestern Minnesota (map of the region [here](#)). The River Valley Ripple Artist Residency application is open to all artists and all disciplines. In the selection process, priority will be given to Native, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color), and LGBTQ2IA+ artists and culture bearers. **Application due date: ~~October 8, 2023~~ October 15, 2023 at 11:59pm CST.**

The RVR Artist Residency program will provide a unique, close-to-home opportunity for up to 6 emerging and/or established artists to dedicate time to their practice, connect with a regional network of creative people and programs, and share their work with friends, family, and neighbors in a casual “artist salon” public showcase. Each participating artist will spend 1 to 4 weeks at [The YES! House](#) in Granite Falls, MN, where they will be provided with a living space, studio space, a welcome-to-town meal at a local establishment, a downtown walking tour, introductions to other artists, community partners, and local residents, and support in promoting and hosting an ‘artist salon’ public event. Residencies will be scheduled in collaboration with selected artists between the months of December 2023–May 2024. In addition, each participating artist will receive a \$500 weekly stipend to support their cost of living during their residency and up to \$150 for supplies and materials.

*For more information on eligibility and support provided,
visit the FAQ section at www.publictransformation.org/RVR*



Who can apply?

DoPT intentionally defines the term “artist” broadly. An artist is anyone who is creative, resourceful, inspired, and driven to collaborate across all sectors of public, private, and civic life. This includes mediums such as visual, performance, multimedia, literary, social/civic, culinary, land, traditional, folk, textile, and more. We mean culture bearers, craftspeople, artisans, hobbyists, contractors, and handy people.

This is a self-directed residency program, and it is a great fit for individuals who are ready to step further into their identity as an artist and are looking for space to balance their time, energy, and commitment to their artistic practice.

Selected artists will receive:

- 1 to 4 weeks of dedicated space and time at The YES! House to work on their artistic practice, skill development, or creative project(s) of their choice;
- \$500 weekly stipend during the duration of the residency (for 1, 2, 3, or 4 weeks);
- A living space for the duration of the residency (one-bedroom apartment at The YES! House located at 726 Prentice St., Granite Falls, MN);
- Space for working on projects: small office/studio area in the one-bedroom apartment, small shared space with laundry and utility sink, access to other areas in The YES! House, if/when available;
 - Please note: Some sections of The YES! House are still active construction areas, and there may need to be some restrictions to certain spaces to accommodate construction work/timelines and/or safety. The main floor of The YES! House is a public gathering and event space, which will also be in use on occasion, specifically during open hours and community events. See [FAQ](#) for more information.
- A welcome-to-town meal at a local establishment and a downtown walking tour;
- Introductions to other artists, community partners, and local residents;
- Staff support in promoting and hosting an ‘artist salon’ public event.

Selected artists will be expected to:

- Be present for 1 to 4 weeks (as agreed upon by artist and DoPT upon offer) of onsite, self-directed residency time at The YES! House (with the understanding that offsite obligations and other work/family/life responsibilities may arise);
- Provide their own travel to and from Granite Falls for the residency and during the time of the residency;
- Participate in the planning and implementation of one public ‘artist salon’ event supported by DoPT staff. This can be in the form of an artist talk, meet and greet, works in progress, exhibition, performance, or other ideas agreed upon by the artist and DoPT staff.



Eligible artists:

- Reside within the 18 counties of Southwest Minnesota (regional map [here](#)), which includes Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine counties and the tribal nations that share that geography: Upper Sioux Community Pezihutazizi Oyate and Lower Sioux Indian Community.
- Are over the age of 18;
- Identify as an emerging or established artist (see DoPT’s broad definition of artist in the [FAQ](#) section);
- Are interested in sharing their work and/or creative process with the public.

Curious if this program is a good fit for you? Check out our website, which has more details and an FAQ section that may answer additional questions: www.publictransformation.org/RVR

Selection Criteria:

- **Artistic Growth:** The applicant articulates a personal or artistic goal and/or potential for their artistic growth through participation in the RVR Artist Residency program.
- **Readiness:** The applicant shows how and why this residency is a good fit for their artistic growth at this time in their life/career/work.
- **Capacity:** The applicant demonstrates the availability and commitment to participate in the residency program fully.
- **Applicant Diversity:** The selection process will prioritize diversity of geographic locations across the region, artistic mediums, and range of experience (emerging to established artists). Priority will be given to Native, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color), and LGBTQ2IA+ artists and culture bearers.

Program Timeline:

Aug 25, 2023	Call for Artists Application Form Opens
Sep 6, 2023	Virtual Informational Session (12-1pm CST)
Oct 8, 2023	
Oct 15, 2023	Applications are due at 11:59 PM CST
Oct 9–31, 2023	Artist selection process + applicant notifications
Nov 2023	Public announcement of selected artists
Dec 2023–May 2024	Residencies—each selected artist provided 1 to 4 weeks
May–Jun 2024	Artist feedback call + program wrap-up





Virtual Informational Session

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

12–1 PM CST

Virtual session on Zoom; registration required

REGISTER HERE: [DoPT.rsvp/2023RVRinfosession](https://dopt.rsvp/2023RVRinfosession)

This virtual informational session will provide an overview of the River Valley Ripple (RVR) Artist Residency program and the Call for Artists application process.

→ A recording of the virtual information session will be available on our website after September 6, 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions

It is highly recommended that you review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) before submitting an application or reaching out to program staff. You may find the answers you seek! To access the FAQ, visit publictransformation.org/RVR and scroll down in your browser.

TO APPLY

To apply, complete the simple online application form. To access the online application, visit www.publictransformation.org/RVR and click the “Apply Here” button. (If you would prefer to submit a video application instead of filling out the application form, see instructions on the website.)

Application due date is ~~October 8, 2023~~ October 15, 2023 at 11:59pm CST.
Late applications will not be reviewed.

Questions or Comments

Please contact Luwaina Al-Otaibi, Community Engagement and Events Coordinator
(The YES! House) at luwaina@publictransformation.org

This RVR Artist Residency is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

