

GEAMP Frequently Asked Questions

How much time will the program take?

The project will be implemented from October – December, 2024. Participation in the project requires a commitment during this period of a minimum of 4 hours of mentorship sessions and 2-6 hours of collaborative planning for the group exhibition project. To get the most out of the program we recommend planning for a 10-15 hour commitment over the course of the program.

How do you pair Mentees with Mentors?

- Mentees are paired with mentors based on the professional development that the mentee is seeking, with special consideration going into their common interests, goals and experiences, as well as commonalities in artistic practices and endeavors.

Will this program help me to develop my art practice?

- It is virtually impossible to separate the business of art from the art itself and many mentee's will seek feedback from their mentors on their work. There have often been great musical and artistic collaborations that take place between the pairings. Some years mentee's have organized group critiques to help provide a critical dialogue for their work. Please be specific on what you are hoping to take away from the program as it will help guide us in your mentor pairing. Do not be surprised if your mentor does not work in the same medium/style as you - we often make pairings based on the lived experiences and guidance artists can provide you rather than what you can learn from their artwork.

What things could your mentor help you with?

- Finding balance in living a creative life
- Recording Music
- Writing Contracts
- Pricing artwork
- Selling artwork
- Marketing/Online presence
- Grant writing
- Applying for shows/opportunities
- Help accessing resources
- Building community
- GEAMP exhibition/event preparation
- Artistic or cultural management collaboration
- Studio/Gallery visits
- Artwork critiques

What do the mentorship sessions look like?

- These one-on-one mentorship meetings can look different for everybody! In the past participants have met for coffee, gone to exhibitions together, visited a studio space, or maintained a group chat where work and ideas are shared back and forth. Find what works for you and your mentor!

How do I know if I am the right fit for this program?

- This program is for emerging artists that are ready to take the next step professionally, **this does not mean you need to be a recent art school graduate**. This program offers critical support during your transition into a professional practice and a great opportunity to connect into the Guelph arts community.

What does this program offer other than mentorship?

- This program provides a community and many opportunities to connect and collaborate - what your cohort of mentee's choose to do with that community and the support from GAC is up to you. Past collaborations have included: artist interviews, zines, group critiques, art market pop-ups, community performances and grant writing clinics.
- Mentee's will be invited to take part in 2 or more artist professional development workshops this fall and GAC's annual Opportunity Knocks panel discussion.
- All the mentees work together throughout the program to organize, curate and promote a group exhibition/show to bring together the culminating efforts of your time spent in the program. Many members of the Guelph arts community will be present at the reception providing another opportunity to network.

How is the group show organized?

The group show is YOUR show. It is whatever you want it to be! We understand that you may have limited or no experience participating in a group exhibition but we are here to support your learning and growth in this area.

Skills/experiences you can gain in the process:

- Curation, following a theme and creating a visually appealing collection of work and ideas
- Visual and Audio set up
- Proper installation of artwork
- Event planning
- Working collaboratively as a team
- Creating and distributing promotional materials

Guelph Arts Council will offer our support and expertise where/when needed, treat us as a resource/support tool to help you organize your exhibition, this means it will be your responsibility as a team to complete the above mentioned tasks

If you have more questions about taking part in the Guelph Emerging Artist Mentorship Project please contact GEAMP Coordinator, Paige Bromby at GEAMP@guelpharts.ca.