

Application to Receive Funds

The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic has raised over \$1 million to date and has financially assisted several community organizations to provide much needed services to residents living in the Town of Aurora. Recipient selection is conducted annually by the application review and disbursement committee of the Town of Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic and is based on the information provided in this application.

Funding Criteria and guidelines;

- Individual applicants and community groups must demonstrate financial hardship or a limited means to retain funds in another manner. Individual applications demonstrating financial hardship will be kept confidential.
- Individuals and organizations may not receive funding for more than two consecutive years.
- Funding requests for more than \$5,000 in a calendar year will not be accepted.
- Funding requests for more than 50% of an initiative will not be considered and applicants must demonstrate how the remaining funds will be or have been obtained
- Applications should demonstrate a benefit to the residents of the Town of Aurora that receiving the funding will provide
- Successful applicants will be required to report back in any way they deem appropriate regarding the utilization of funds within six (6) months of receiving funds

Name of Individual or Community Group *

Shadowpath Theatre Productions

What percentage of your organization's clients reside in Aurora? *

50

Address

Street Number and Name *

24 Hill Drive

City/ Town *

Aurora

Province *

Ontario

Postal Code *

L4G 3A6

Contact Information

Email Address *

alex@shadowpaththeatre.ca

Phone Number *

(905) 955-2299

On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.

Initiative Outline

Project Name

Aurora Apprenticeship Plus: Revitalizing Community Spaces through Art & Technology

Purpose

To expand our existing apprenticeship program by engaging Aurora-based apprentices in a community revitalization project focused on under-utilized properties, using arts, environmental practices and innovative projection mapping technology.

Goals

- Provide hands-on training and professional development to local apprentices.
- Address the issue of abandoned or underused spaces including municipal spaces in Aurora by transforming them into dynamic sites of community engagement.
- Employ projection mapping to create immersive visualizations of potential future uses of these spaces, fostering public imagination, support and community vibrancy.
- Build stronger community connections in Aurora through partnerships with the Town of Aurora and local organizations.

Activities

1. Recruit Aurora-based apprentices with a focus on diversity and inclusion.
2. Host workshops on community-engaged arts, environmental sustainability in the arts and projection mapping techniques.
3. Collaborate with local stakeholders and municipal departments to identify target properties.
4. Develop and present site-specific projection mapping installations that illustrate reimagined uses of abandoned or under-utilized spaces.
5. Organize public engagement events showcasing apprentice work and inviting community feedback.
6. Document the project through video, photography and written reports.

Timeline

- Month 1–2: Recruitment and onboarding of apprentices; partnership formalization.

- Month 3–4: Training workshops and site assessments.
- Month 5–6: Development and installation of projection mapping works.
- Month 7: Public presentation and community engagement events.
- Month 8: Project evaluation and reporting.

Budget

- Total Project Budget: \$20,000 (including \$10,000 TD grant *confirmed* + \$5,000 request from Town of Aurora + other funds TBA)
- Major Expenses: Apprentice stipends, materials & equipment (projection mapping tech rental/purchase), workshop facilitation, marketing & public events, documentation.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased skill sets and employment readiness for Aurora apprentices.
- Enhanced public awareness and dialogue about local revitalization opportunities via innovative creation.
- Positive activation of underused properties, contributing to community pride and well-being.
- A replicable model of arts + technology-based community engagement.

Supporting Documentation

BUDGET DETAILS

Apprentice Stipends – \$6,000

Three Aurora-based apprentices will receive \$500/month for 4 months.

Projection Mapping Technology – \$3,500

Rental or purchase of projectors, software and tech support.

Materials & Supplies – \$1,000

Art supplies, environmental elements and safety materials.

Workshop Facilitation – \$3,500

Fees for guest artists and tech experts leading trainings.

Space Use / Site Activation – \$2,500

Permits, insurance, rentals and basic equipment for temporary use of municipal spaces.

Marketing & Community Engagement – \$1,000

Flyers, website/socials, signage and public event materials.

Documentation – \$1,000

Photography, videography, and final reporting.

Administration – \$1,500

Project coordination, logistics, and communications.

Total = \$20,000

Notes:

- Apprentice stipends provide support recognizing time commitment.
- Equipment rental is prioritized over purchase for budget efficiency but can be revisited if funds allow.
- Workshops include mentorship and will combine in-person and virtual formats.
- Marketing includes outreach to Aurora residents to maximize local engagement.

TESTIMONIALS FROM PAST APPRENTICES

Being able to perform in unconventional places and environments has been the most refreshing approach to theatre that I have worked on so far in my career. As an actor, it transforms how you adapt and interact with the space, the audience and my fellow cast mates. It has been such a privilege to perform in heritage spaces, and most importantly in my home of York Region.

-Jona V 2024 Apprentice

It's been about 3 years since my first audition with Shadowpath, and it's been a pleasure to work with such a vibrant and driven company and mentor ever since. As an

actor in York Region, one is often made to feel as if one has to figure things out on their own, so I can't thank Alex and the team enough for creating a space where I felt included. The mentorship I've had over the summer has opened my eyes to how an independent theatre company works from the inside, which has given me ideas of branching out into other areas in the future. I don't take any opportunity to support Shadowpath for granted, so hopefully as the years go by, we'll continue to push the envelope on what's possible with the live event together, especially after experiencing the biggest worldwide disaster in our lifetime. Thank you Shadowpath!

-Andile W 2023 Apprentice

This summer I served as an Apprentice with Alex Karolyi at Shadowpath Theatre. In the course of my posting, I had the chance to learn about the grant writing process, budgeting, and other producing responsibilities. It was also educational to see how Alex executed Shadowpath's Theatre out of the Shadows Festival in two distinct spaces.

-Brady M 2023 Apprentice

My first experience in directing happened with Shadowpath this past Spring/Summer. I learned so much about text, design and character development that will help build my professional theatre profile moving forward. I never considered directing before but now I see I have a unique perspective to offer the theatre community and I like it too! Thank you to Shadowpath for the opportunity to explore new ways of working as a female, women of colour, youth in York Region. I will never forget this experience.

-Amber D 2023 Apprentice

Before this apprenticeship, I was seriously considering leaving the arts world altogether. I was a little stuck because I didn't know where my place was and if there even was one. This apprenticeship had a massive impact on my creative future. It opened my eyes to the many possibilities and roles in arts administration and that the world needs more female leaders!

-Alene D, 2016-2017 Apprentice

Awards & Recognition

Town of Aurora Arts and Culture Award	2025
Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation	2024
Most Impactful Theatre Company, Southern Ontario, Canadian Business Awards	2024
Most Outstanding Impact finalist, Charity Village	2022
Community Engagement Award, York Region Arts Council	2022
Leading Women Recognition Award, MPP Chris Ballard, Newmarket	2017
Nominated for Best Not-For-Profit, Vaughan Board of Trade	2016
Best Creative Innovation, Creativity Connected Awards, Richmond Hill	2016
Business of Excellence in Innovation, Newmarket Chamber of Commerce	2016

Images of Most Recent Aurora projects 2023 - 2024

(Top Left: MuralMotions at Town Park Aurora, Top Right: Film Festival Shorts by Seniors at Delmanor, Bottom Left: Aurora in Love at The Royal Rose Art Gallery, Bottom Right: Aurora's Haunted at The Historic Hillary House.)



How residents of Aurora, especially underprivileged residents, will benefit from this project.

1. Access to Paid Skill-Building Opportunities for Underrepresented Youth

Underprivileged residents, particularly youth from marginalized communities, will have access to hands-on training in arts, environmental sustainability, and projection mapping—a rare and innovative tech-art intersection. This can lead to future employment or entrepreneurial opportunities in creative and tech industries.

2. Revitalized Public Spaces for Community Use

The program that the apprentices create will be for the direct benefit of Aurora’s residents. Transformation of abandoned or underused spaces into vibrant, artistic community hubs provides welcoming, accessible spaces where residents can gather, feel safe, and participate in cultural life—especially meaningful for those who lack access to recreational or artistic amenities.

3. Free and Inclusive Community Events

The public showcases and installations will be free, inclusive, and accessible, offering underprivileged families a rare opportunity to engage in cultural experiences without financial barriers—reducing isolation and fostering joy and inspiration.

4. Strengthened Community Connections and Support Networks

Partnerships with local organizations will be leveraged to connect residents with local resources, services, and networks. The project acts as a catalyst for collaboration between artists, municipal services, and social support groups—helping underserved residents become more integrated and supported in their community.