

PHOENIX ARTIST STOREFRONT PROGRAM

MISSION

The purpose of the Phoenix Artist Storefront Program is to facilitate the renovation of eligible commercial real property for art-related projects within a designated area of greater downtown Phoenix to achieve the following goals:

- Eliminate slum and blight, and promote redevelopment and neighborhood revitalization
- Increase artist owned and occupied gallery, live-work and/or studio space
- Increase the number of downtown arts-related venues open to the public
- Improve aesthetics of the area and enhance the overall quality of life for Phoenix residents
- Foster the creation of an arts and culture district as a downtown destination
- Stimulate and attract art and arts-related activities open to the general public in downtown Phoenix

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- Applicants must be the current owner of record.
- Awards will range from a minimum of \$5,000 to a maximum of \$100,000 and will be subject to fund availability.
- Program participants must match City funds on a dollar for dollar basis.
- City funds will be awarded upon project completion as a reimbursement.
- 30% of building space must be maintained for art or arts-related business purposes for five (5) years after the completion of the work.
- Award amount along with 6% annual simple interest from date of award, must be repaid if ownership of the property is transferred or if the participant fails to comply with the use requirement for a period of five (5) years from the completion of the project.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- The building shall be open to the public at least four (4) hours per month for arts and arts-related business uses.
- Proof of applicant's ability to provide the funds needed to complete the entire project with either cash or loan will be required.
- Awards may be used only for exterior improvements or, in limited circumstances, for related interior improvements only to the extent necessary to remedy building safety/code issues or if required in order to complete significant exterior improvements.
- Applicant must obtain a minimum of three bids by licensed contractors.
- All projects are required to obtain necessary permits and approvals.
- Awards will be limited to eligible storefront improvement costs including architectural fees, building permits, actual construction cost, and other costs as specifically referenced in the award agreement.
- The City will place a lien against the property to secure repayment of City funds in the event that compliance with the ongoing program requirements are not met.
- The City may subordinate to the first loan in its sole discretion.
- Design guideline adherence will be required.
- Awards will be distributed at the time of project completion.
- Awards are subject to funds availability.

PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Program participation is open to projects which will include the renovation of commercial properties located in greater downtown Phoenix within the area generally bounded by 19th Avenue, 16th Street, McDowell Road, and Buckeye Road (See attached map). Eligible projects must either (a) be within the boundaries of an established redevelopment area (RDA) or neighborhood initiative area (NIA) or (b) be within the boundaries of the Phoenix Enterprise Community and also include the renovation of a commercial structure which is either vacant or over fifteen (15) years old. Please note that properties on the City's Register of Historic Properties may be eligible for City funding from the Historic Preservation Office.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The evaluation committee appointed by the Downtown Development Office will review all applications. The committee will contain five members and include, at a minimum, two members who are artists or from an arts-related business, one member from the general business community within the program boundaries, one member from the Phoenix Arts and Culture Commission, and one member from the Downtown Development Office. Three members will constitute a quorum. The committee will provide recommendations to the Downtown Development Office for application selection. City of Phoenix employees directly involved with program administration and members of the evaluation committee and immediate family members are ineligible for program participation.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation committee will analyze applications and recommend projects that best meet the following criteria:

- Percentage of space within the project to be dedicated to arts and arts-related business uses and availability to general public
- Establishment of arts-related activities, programs and opportunities for public participation
- Elimination of slum and blight within the designated program area
- Creation of an arts-related destination for the general public
- Contribution to improved exterior aesthetics or enhancement of the overall quality of life within the designated program area

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Project Description:** Identify applicant, project location, and describe project property, including site map, legal description and evidence of ownership information. Provide a brief description of: 1) mission and goals of the artist or arts-related business; 2) arts project or activity; and 3) public involvement and/or benefit. Include the estimated project timeline including dates, and occupant(s), if known. Attach brief resumes of participating artist(s) and occupants, if known.
- **Scope of Work and Budget:** Describe the proposed scope of work, estimated project costs, provide photographs showing current conditions, and describe exactly how the City of Phoenix funds will be used.
- Describe what percentage of space will be used for art and arts-related business and how remaining space will be used.
- Describe your medium and length of time as a practicing artist. Provide an artist resume.

- Provide proof of project financing commitments and source of funds required to complete the project such as bank statements, loan documents, letters of credit, or other similar documentation as determined by the Downtown Development Office.