

Creative Spaces Mentoring Network



Program Overview | 2021-22

The Creative Spaces Mentoring Network (CSMN) is provided to cultural leaders in Ontario's arts and cultural sectors. Arts professionals who are responsible for some or all aspects of their facilities, who plan on acquiring creative space, and/or who manage capital-related issues are encouraged to apply to develop a creative space project further. If selected, mentees will have the opportunity to access one-to-one learning with an experienced professional who will provide knowledge and expertise related to their space projects. The program focuses on strengthening business and management skills needed to successfully oversee, renew and develop creative spaces across Ontario. The 2021-22 program will be the seventh iteration of CSMN.

Through the Creative Spaces Mentoring Network, ArtsBuild Ontario (ABO) matches arts and cultural leaders with experienced mentors from the arts, heritage, or other relevant sectors. Once mentoring teams are confirmed, they will meet at the Kick-Off Webinar and afterwards begin meeting; mentors and mentees will meet for up to three hours monthly over 12 months to focus on developing skills and knowledge related to the mentee's focus areas for their creative space project.

Such focus areas include, but are not limited to:

- Creating accessible spaces
- Property management and or leasing
- Community relationships, strategic partnerships, and community engagement strategies
- Marketing, digital literacy, communications and promotions
- Human resources
- Asset management
- Finances, fundraising and capital campaigns
- Municipal and government relations

Participants and their organizations can benefit in many ways from this program. Participants will gain:

- Improved business strategies
- Management and leadership skills
- Confidence
- Decision-making skills
- Communication strategies
- Networking opportunities and contacts



Creative Spaces Mentoring Network

ABO will train and support the mentoring teams so that they get the most out of the program by developing and providing:

- A Kick-Off Webinar, Mid-Program Webinar, and a Wrap-Up Webinar
- Resources & learning opportunities
- Mentoring support
- Networking opportunities

How to Apply to be a Mentee for the Creative Spaces Mentoring Network

Staff of Ontario-based arts organizations who are interested in applying should first review the [FAQ sheet](#) available on the [Creative Spaces Mentoring Network web page](#).

How to Apply:

1. Complete the [Application Form](#).
2. Provide a letter of support for your mentee application (eg. from someone you work or volunteer within your community).
3. Record a 1 – 2 minute video on your smartphone or web camera telling us: about you and your organization, your facilities plans and/or projects, and how this opportunity would benefit you. Email your video with your application. You can also upload the video to Google Drive or Dropbox, and send us the link.
4. Submit the application online and email the letter of support and video file or link to Amy Poole, Program Manager at amy@artsbuildontario.ca by Friday, February 19, 2021.

If you are selected by ArtsBuild Ontario, will work diligently to match you with a suitable mentor based on the skills outlined in your application. We will contact applicants to arrange meetings with prospective mentors in March – April 2021 when the mentor-mentee matching process is underway. Once you have been matched with a mentor, ArtsBuild Ontario will provide details on how to submit the \$50 + HST program fee.

Interested in Becoming a Mentor?

If you have been part of a capital project, strategic plan, or have knowledge to share in arts management, the Creative Spaces Mentoring Network provides an opportunity for you to support fellow arts managers and foster strong arts and heritage sectors.

Creative Spaces Mentoring Network



If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please complete this [Mentor Interest Form](#). If you have any questions, please contact Amy Poole, Program Manager, at amy@artsbuildontario.ca or 519-880-3670 ext. 102.

Important Dates

Deadline for Mentee Applications	Friday, February 19, 2021
Mentee Application Selection	March 2021
Partner Matching	March 2021 – April 2021
First Training Webinar	Tuesday, May 4, 2021
Program Begins	Tuesday, June 1, 2021
Mid-Program Webinar	Tuesday, December 7, 2021
Wrap-Up Webinar	Tuesday, April 26, 2022
Program Ends	Tuesday, May 31, 2022

If you have any other inquiries related to the Creative Spaces Mentoring Network please contact Amy Poole, Program Manager at 519-880-3670 ext. 102 or amy@artsbuildontario.ca.