



Illuminate the Night 2026

Four Opportunities @ \$2500



**WINNIPEG
ARTS COUNCIL**

ELIGIBILITY

- You are an individual artist or you are submitting on behalf of an artists' collective. If you are submitting on behalf of a collective you must list the entire personnel involved in your project.
- You agree to install your own work and attend to any matters concerning its continued functioning.
- You have a project that will work in an outdoor space in the Exchange District. (Nuit Blanche Winnipeg staff will work with artists and venue managers to find the best location for each project selected.)
- You agree to allow images of you and your work to be used by and publicized as part of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg and Culture Days Manitoba.
- Incorporated organizations including galleries and artist-run centres are NOT eligible to submit.
- Applicants must accept the Nuit Blanche Winnipeg code of conduct in order submit their application

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA & SELECTION

For Visual & Media Artists

The artistic advisory committee of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg will consider the following criteria when selecting *Illuminate the Night* proposals at Nuit Blanche Winnipeg 2026:

- Artistic merit of proposed project.
- Potential to enhance the programming and public experience of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg.
- Strength of supporting material and/or past projects.
- Feasibility of the project, given time, location, and budget restraints.

(please see next page for continued criteria)

- Proposals for new work will be considered, pre-existing or in-process projects are also welcome due to budget restraints.
- All installations/exhibits must be in operation from 6pm to midnight on Saturday, September 26th/26.
- A unique and engaging interpretation of the theme of *"Illuminate the Night"*. Projects that utilize audience interaction, spectacle, light and/or illumination are preferred.

For Performing Artists

- Artistic merit of proposed project.
- Applicants are encouraged to explain how their performance will activate their venue(s) for the duration of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg (6pm- Midnight). Whether performance artists use multiple performances, teams of performers or mixed media, this information should be included in each performance-based application.
- Potential to enhance the programming and public experience of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg.
- Strength of supporting material and/or past projects.
- Feasibility of the project, given time, location, and budget restraints.
- Work is accessible to audiences as they view/interact with it outdoors.
- All performances must be in operation from 6pm to midnight on Saturday, September 26th/26.
- Proposals for new work will be considered, pre-existing or in-process projects are also welcome due to budget restraints
- A unique and engaging interpretation of the theme of *"Illuminate the Night"*. Projects that utilize audience interaction, light and/or illumination are preferred.

BUDGET

In 2026 a total of four projects will be funded with a \$2,500 contribution for each. Half of the honorarium will be paid once the project is chosen and an agreement is signed. The other half will be paid after the project is presented. Honorariums for *Illuminate the Night* are made possible through the support of our producing partner the Winnipeg Arts Council. Culture Days Manitoba reserves the right to award fewer projects based on recommendation of our artistic advisory committee. If the \$2,500 honorarium is not enough to cover the cost of the project, applicants should indicate where the remainder of the funding will come from.

LOCATION

Illuminate the Night projects will combine with other NBW projects to create a pathway between the east and west sides of the Exchange District with Old Market Square as a hub. NBW encourages applicants to be creative while also considering the feasibility of their proposal prior to submission. Nuit Blanche Winnipeg staff will work with artists and venue managers to find the best fit for each project selected, but artists are encouraged to submit their own ideas regarding preferred location.

HOW TO SUBMIT

Click [HERE](#) to access the online submission form for *Illuminate the Night*.

- Once you create an account please select which Open Call you are applying for.
 - Artists/Collectives can apply to both open calls. Each proposal should be unique and adhere to the theme, guidelines and budget for each individual program.
 - Carefully review all sections of the online submission form before beginning. The form is a combination of fields that must be filled in online and images/audio/video you can upload. See “Required Application Materials” below.
 - Once you have created an account you can save and edit the proposal as much as you like.
 - Attach up to eight supporting image attachments (jpeg files, 1MB each max).
 - Attach up to two audio/video links (5 min max). If your audio/video submission is part of a longer file, indicate start and end times.
- Proposals are due, June 5th/26, 11:59 CST, late applications will not be accepted.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

In addition to answering all questions required in the online submission form, a complete submission includes the following:

- Artist bio(s). If you are a collective you will need to identify everyone that will be part of your project and their bio.
- CVs for all artists.
- Acceptance of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg’s Code of Conduct. Applicants that do not accept this, will not be reviewed. (please see last page for our 2026 Code of Conduct)

NOTES

- Any costs over and above the honorarium are the responsibility of the artist/collective. Applicants requiring additional funds should demonstrate how they can carry out the project as proposed if such funds are not realized.
- Nuit Blanche Winnipeg will provide security around the projects in the Exchange District neighborhood for the evening of September 26th, 2026, but all other costs (including transportation, set up, insurance, etc.) must be covered by the artist(s).

(see notes continued next page)

- Alternative application formats (such as voice recordings, videos, etc.) may be arranged upon request (email projects@nuitblanchewinnipeg.ca or phone/text 204-942-8221).
- Projects must be free of charge; cover charges and entry fees are not permitted.
- Projects must be located in the Exchange District. See this [MAP](#) for approximate locations.
- By submitting an application, you agree that you have read and agree to all guidelines.
- Selected artists'/collectives' information including bios, images, and event details will be included in Nuit Blanche Winnipeg promotional materials and distributed to media. Artists are expected to participate in press events and/or interviews.

- *Nuit Blanche Winnipeg is a featured project of Culture Days Manitoba* -

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NUIT BLANCHE

Nuit Blanche Winnipeg Code of Conduct 2026

At Nuit Blanche Winnipeg we appreciate the vibrant diversity of our community and invite everyone to enjoy the events and installations and offer a welcoming, inclusive, safe and respectful environment.

We ask that everyone—artists, event organizers, audiences, volunteers, press, industry, staff, board members, and beyond—maintain an environment that is welcoming to all by being:

- Inclusive and respectful of people of every race, ethnicity, gender identity/expression, ability, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, age, physical appearance and body size, language spoken, and immigration or economic status
- Intentional with your words and abstaining from any kind of abusive or offensive language
Mindful of the personal space and boundaries of others
- Respectful by refraining from disruption of art installations or events
considerate of the health and safety of others.
- This Code of Conduct covers all Nuit Blanche Winnipeg events and venues including digital spaces.

We ask that any person who witnesses or experiences a violation of this Code of Conduct should immediately contact a Nuit Blanche Winnipeg volunteer, staff member, or safety personnel.

Nuit Blanche Winnipeg requires that all artists/volunteers sign this agreement to indicate they agree to abide by these policies of the Code of Conduct prior to being eligible to participate in Nuit Blanche Winnipeg.

Nuit Blanche Winnipeg is a project of Culture Days Manitoba
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