

Chelsea Wakefield Studio Tour Call for Artists 2025

The Chelsea Wakefield Studio Tour invites applications for the 2025 Studio Tour. Studio Tour Members must have an established studio located within Chelsea or La Pêche. Participation in the Studio Tour is juried, and all applicants will undergo a selection process, including an interview and visit to your studio. Don't miss this fantastic chance to highlight your artistic creations and give visitors a behind-the-scenes look at your creative process! After celebrating its 37th anniversary last year, the Chelsea Wakefield Studio Tour has grown into a cherished tradition, drawing hundreds of art enthusiasts annually to discover the talent in our region.

2025 Studio Tour Dates:

September 27-28 and October 4-5

Submission Deadline:

January 31, 2025

How to Apply:

Submissions must include a complete application form along with the required files (see below) and be sent to: arttourcw@gmail.com.

Please ensure that you are sending all documentation in ONE email, including images, as requested, and have responded fully to the questionnaire.

Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Files Required as Part of Your Submission:

- 10 images of your work labeled as follows: name_title in jpeg format, maximum of 1MB each
- List of images including title, year, medium, size, and price
- Resume (maximum 2 pages)
- Artist statement (summary of your philosophical approach to your art/craft)
- The Application Form duly filled out

Requirements:

Identify as a professional artist or artisan as per these criteria:

- The artist demonstrates a commitment to their artistic practice.
- The artist creates original works on their own behalf, reflecting their unique vision and style.
- The artist has exhibited, produced, published, or publicly presented their work. This can include gallery exhibitions, craft shows, online sales platforms, or collaborations with promoters.
- Have an established studio located within Chelsea or La Pêche.
- The Studio Tour is a collaborative, artist-run effort. The artist agrees to participate in some volunteer capacity to make the tour work.
- The artist will pay \$300 to participate in the tour. This amount funds the tour brochure and signage/advertising in local publications.
- Participate in meetings and help promote the Studio Tour.

FAQs:

How are new artists/artisans for the tour selected?

Your submission is reviewed by the selection committee. If you meet the criteria, you will be interviewed in your home/studio by one or two Tour members in late January or early February. Tour Members then meet to review the information collected, and the selection is made. We aim to have a

mix of both fine craft and fine art participants to meet our funder's requirements.

When can I expect a response regarding my submission?

We are hoping to confirm successful candidates by mid-February.

What is a probationary year?

This is the first year that an applicant participates. At the end of the Tour, the other members decide whether an applicant will be invited to become a full member. Quality presentation of their work and their contribution to the effort of producing the tour is important.

I have been juried into the tour; may I switch to showing in another medium?

Your acceptance into the tour is based on the medium in which you have been juried. If at any time you switch to another medium, you are required to re-apply to the tour.

How much time will I be expected to contribute to help run the tour?

On average, 40 hours. In some cases, this takes place over several days at a particular time during the year, depending on the requirements of the job. Other jobs can be year-round.

Is there an annual fee for participating in the tour?

Yes, it is currently \$300. If there is a surplus, it is refunded to members. We use the funds mainly for advertising and publicity.

How many artists/artisans are included in the tour annually?

We like to keep the number of participants at approximately 20-26. Artists/artisans are permitted to take a sabbatical year after two years. This creates spaces for new participants to join the tour. We typically have 4-6 new artists/artisans every year.

Who can be a guest artist/artisan?

A guest artist/artisan is someone residing in Quebec who is invited to join the tour for one year. We give priority to those who come from regions that are not well-served by galleries and art tours in their region. Guest artists/artisans are expected to complete and submit the standard application form. They are reviewed at the same time as other applicants.

In the criteria for selecting successful applicants, is the choice of medium considered?

Yes, it most definitely is. We want to offer a variety of media on the tour.

How are decisions that affect tour members made?

We have a President and Vice-President to oversee the Tour. Everyone takes on a role in ensuring that the tour is well-run. Many committees are made up of several members; some are run solo. Group meetings are held to a minimum (about 4), and everyone votes on issues that arise. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory.

We also make time for fun! Between the two weekends of the tour, we host "The Tour of Tours," where artists travel together caravan-style, visiting each other's studios and admiring the work on display. We also get together during the summer for an annual BBQ. One of the tour's greatest benefits is fostering connections among artists and sharing insights about our creative practices. To keep the spirit alive year-round, we also organize occasional gatherings to strengthen our artistic community.