

BULLETIN Covid-19

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR VISUAL ARTISTS

Montreal, March 7, 2020 - RAAV is pleased to announce the immediate establishment of a special assistance fund for visual artists whose contracts have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In agreement with the Fonds Serge-Lemoyne Committee (le "FSL"), and parallel to the FSL's existing Emergency Financial Aid programme, we are establishing a special fund in the event of cancellation of contract(s) due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Any professional visual artist in Quebec whose exhibition or professional services related to an exhibition have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic is eligible to apply. This measure is retroactive to March 15, 2020. In certain cases, this special assistance can be combined with FSL's existing Emergency Financial Aid.

As of now, this special assistance is available, and it will remain available either until the day when the state of emergency declared by the Quebec government regarding the Covid-19 pandemic is lifted, or until the funds are exhausted, whichever comes first.

In concrete terms, a maximum of 20 grants will be given for an amount equivalent to the loss actually suffered, up to a maximum of \$500 per request. The requests will be processed and the financial assistance granted on a first come, first served basis. We have added a special section in the existing FSL request form for aid. Completed forms should be sent to the following address: reception@raav.org

We would like to point out that the Fonds Serge-Lemoyne's Emergency Financial Aid programme still operates as usual. It might occur that a professional visual artist is eligible for both emergency financial aid and the special assistance announced today, or is eligible for only one or the other, depending on his/her circumstances.

As a reminder, the Emergency Financial Aid Fund, active throughout the year, is designed to help professional visual artists needing one-time emergency funding in order to give them the respite necessary to resume their creative activities.

In creating this special assistance fund, the FSL Committee was inspired by the aid fund set up by Netflix that allows the Fondation des artistes and the Actors' Fund of Canada to help audiovisual artists.

Please note that RAAV's entire staff is available through email to answer questions from visual artists, its members and cultural organizations. We keep informed about changes and decisions taken by government bodies in order to be able to best serve our community of visual artists.

We wish everyone courage and determination to face this crisis!

The RAAV team.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the deadline for renewing your membership fee for 2020-2021 has been extended. Please refer to the member space on our website to view your invoice.

Informations Covid-19 :

[Gouvernement du Canada](#)

[Gouvernement du Québec](#)

[FAQ Ministère de la Culture et des Communications](#)

[FAQ Conseil des arts du Canada](#)

[FAQ Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec](#)

About RAAV

Since 1993, the Regroupement des artistes en arts visuels du Québec (RAAV) has been recognized as the only association representing artists working in the field of visual arts residing in Quebec, in virtue of Act S-32.01, the Act respecting the professional status of artists in the visual arts, arts and crafts and literature, and their contracts with promoters) for the purposes of defending their socio-economic interests. In addition, RAAV is recognized federally under the Status of the Artist Act (L.C. 1992, c 33) for purpose of negotiating with promoters under federal jurisdiction.

In short, RAAV works to defend and promote the socio-economic rights and to improve the conditions of practice of visual artists.

Source: Regroupement des artistes en arts visuels du Québec

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