

ARTS IN THE GARDEN

MUSICIANS' GUIDE



Musician: Clara MacLeod
Photo: Tamar Kozlov

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR INTEREST IN BEING PART OF ARTS IN THE GARDEN

We are so glad that you are interested in applying to be part of Arts in the Garden! We are grateful for people like you whose energy, passion and creativity makes this valuable community event possible.

Arts in the Garden is a celebration of the intersection between artistic practices and the natural world. Each year, musicians, visual artists and performers fill outdoor spaces with their imagination and creativity, with the aim of inspiring visitors to reflect on their relationships to place, land, and each other.

We're excited to gather again this year, and hope you will be there with us!



WHAT IS ARTS IN THE GARDEN?

Arts in the Garden is an annual event in which visitors are invited into garden spaces across the North Shore to reflect on our relationship to place and to land, and to be part of a creative interaction between nature and various art forms. During the event weekend, visual artists, musicians and performers are hosted in garden spaces across the North Shore, allowing visitors to appreciate the intersection of nature, land and the arts.

Each garden usually hosts two or three visual artists, two bands/musicians (who each perform about a two hour set) and potentially one performer or performance group. The aim is for the different art forms to be in conversation with each other and with the garden space.

Visitors are charged an entry fee of a couple dollars (cash) at the entrance to private gardens. This helps cover the cost of the event, including the payments made to participants.

This is a rain or shine event.



WORKING WITH NORTH VAN ARTS

Among other things, North Van Arts is responsible for assigning artists, musicians and performers to a garden space. Once the group of artists, musicians and performers has been confirmed, we will send an introductory email to the gardener and to these participants, so that everyone has each other's contact information. We will also distribute promotional materials to participants, so that they can spread word about the event with their networks.



We are available to support participants throughout this event and the preparation, by phone (604-988-6844), email (katherine@northvanarts.ca), and in-person (335 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver).

This is a paid opportunity. The exact amount depends on grants and sponsorships that are yet to be confirmed. We will post an update as soon as we are able; in the meantime, please don't hesitate to be in touch with questions or concerns.

WORKING WITH THE GARDENER

Most gardens in Arts in the Garden are private, although we do have a few public spaces that participate. North Van Arts will assign the musicians to each garden space. The musicians will then be put in touch with the gardener so that they can arrange a time to see the space in advance of the event. We recommend setting up this meeting no later than two weeks prior to the event, as seeing the space will help musicians decide which instruments or equipment to bring (as applicable), and how to set up. The garden will also be shared with at least two visual artists and a performance group, so the musicians, gardener and other participants will need to work together to ensure space is distributed well.

It is the responsibility of the gardener to find a covered, flat area for the musician(s) to set up. The gardener is also responsible for providing access to power, as needed.



MUSICIANS' ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES



The musicians take turns performing: one band/artist is usually scheduled for the first few hours of the event, and the next for the last few hours. Both groups take a fifteen-minute break mid-set.

Either during the musicians' fifteen-minute break or during the break between bands/musicians, there may be a performance scheduled. If this is the case, the musicians will need to be flexible and to communicate clearly and work closely with the performance group and others in the garden to ensure all runs smoothly and as on-schedule as possible.

Some people choose to sit and listen to the music, while others appreciate it as background music while enjoying the garden space and the art. Music that can blend easily into a background is therefore best for this event!

WHO SHOULD APPLY



Arts in the Garden is a reflection on and celebration of land and nature, taking place on the traditional and unceded territories of the sə̓lilwə̓tał (Tseil-Waututh) Nation and the 'Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), whose people have cared for and stewarded this land since time immemorial, as they continue to do so today. We learn from them that this land is living, and therefore cannot be owned, but rather that we are in relationship with it; we strive for this to be a relationship of respect and understanding. We aim for Arts in the Garden to be a space of connection, conversation, and sharing; sharing of place, of art, of music, of knowledge. If spaces of collaboration and community are valuable to you, we would love for you to join us!

WHAT TO CONSIDER



Before filling out an application, please consider the following:

- Will you be available to perform on May 25 and 26, 2024?
- Will you be around and available in the weeks prior to the event to connect with your host gardener and tour their garden space?
- Are you within commuting distance from the North Shore, or able to be here during the event weekend?
- Are you able to transport your instruments and equipment, and set up in an outdoor space?
- Is your music appropriate for background music, and wouldn't interfere with conversations and activities? (If not, perhaps consider filling out a performer application!)
- Is your set-up and group small enough to fit in a garden space, or under limited shelter space?
- Is your work suitable and engaging for a multi-generational / all-ages setting?

If the answers to the above questions are 'yes!', please proceed to fill out an application!

HOW TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION



You will need a computer with internet connection to fill out the musician application form; if this is a barrier for you, please call 604-988-6844 or visit CityScape Community ArtSpace at 335 Lonsdale Avenue for assistance.

We highly recommend that when the form asks you to type a few sentences, you draft your answers in a separate document, such as Word, so that your work is saved in case the form crashes or your internet connection becomes unstable. The form is broken into four sections: Contact information, application, promotion information, and concluding notes. Each section is a page, with a few questions on it. As part of the application, you will need to submit the following, which we recommend you prepare or gather prior to beginning to fill out the application form:

- A bio / description of your group and music (short and longer)
- Links or files to samples of your music
- Links or files to samples of your performance

(continued on the following page)

HOW TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION CONT



- A description of your set-up/take down
- An image you would like us to use in promo materials

Please reach out to katherine@northvanarts.ca with any questions.

The application form is available online until February 12. You can receive updates regarding Arts in the Garden by subscribing to North Van Arts' newsletter at the bottom of our website (northvanarts.ca), or by following North Van Arts on social media (we will be posting updates on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)).

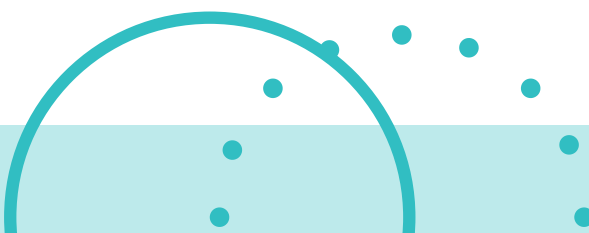
TIMELINE



After our call for musicians closes, we will review all submissions and begin to pair musicians and gardens. Here is a sense of the timeline:

- February 12: Applications close.
- Mid February: We review all artist, musician and performer submissions.
- By end of March: We contact applicants to let them know our decision regarding their application.

If, at any point during this time frame, you realize that you are no longer interested or able to participate Arts in the Garden 2023, please email katherine@northvanarts.ca to let us know as soon as you are able! This will save us a great deal of time when processing applications and aiming to meet confirmation deadlines.



TIMELINE CON'T



If we are interested in working with you for Arts in the Garden, we will be in touch by email. Therefore, please actively check both your inbox and junk mail (for the email address you provided us) during the time frame in which we will be contacting applicants (early and mid March).

If we offer you the opportunity to participate in the event but do not hear back from you within ten days of emailing you your acceptance and contract, we will offer your place to someone else. If you are hesitating to get back to us because you have questions or need to confirm your availability, please just send a quick email to katherine@northvanarts.ca to update us. We will aim to contact all applicants to let them know our decision, so if you have not heard from us yet, it may simply be because we are behind our timeline; feel free to send an email to check in, and thank you for your patience!

If you have any questions along the way, please don't hesitate to contact us by email at katherine@northvanarts.ca or by phone at 604-988-6844.

We look forward to hearing from you!