



Crow River Players Little Theatre

24 Central Avenue East
New London, MN 56273
320-557-5584
www.newlondonlittletheatre.org

Send applications to:
info@nlartsalliance.org

New London Little Theatre Small Stages Residency Overview

New London Little Theatre invites place-based performance artists who are residents or returning residents of the State of Minnesota to apply to New London's inaugural Small Stages Artist Residency. This program is an opportunity for one performance artist to develop, expand or adapt their practice in place-based performance-making to interactive art experiences, or performance installations designed for small audiences (1 to 12). We hope this program will create new approaches for how our citizens engage with each other and with shared spaces, especially in this time of isolation, divisiveness and uncertainty. Applications for this 4-week residency in August 2021 are due at 4:59 p.m. CST on Sunday, April 11, 2021.

What would you do as a selected artist?

We are looking for performance artists to generate new and original work that is informed by place and community. You would begin this residency with a series of introductions to New London's community organizations, networks, parks, government and historical centers. From there, points of inquiry will be met by your request. You will be given full use of the theatre as your primary work space. You will be able to schedule time to work with our house technician. Your housing will be a 3 bedroom single-family home 3 blocks from the theatre. You will be provided a bicycle for in town transportation. If you need a vehicle rides can be arranged. During the 4 weeks you will hold one open studio session or workshop, one informal showing of your work in progress and 1-3 final showings / performances. Throughout the residency we will be available to help you plan, develop, and document the process; though the main responsibility for documentation of your work will be yours.

Eligibility, Time Commitment, & Compensation

The residency runs from August 6, 2021 through September 5, 2021. The Selected Artist will receive a stipend of \$4000 and a \$3000 budget for production and engagement, documentation support, travel and groceries. Lodging and studio space will be provided. Artists will be expected to be present and engaged for approximately 30+ hours per week.

Eligibility: To be eligible to apply:

- You must be a US Citizen at least one year prior to applying. MN residents will be given preference.
- Applicants from any demographic or geography are welcome to apply, however, preference will be given to BIPOC and

Native artists, LGBTQIA+ artists, womxn artists, immigrant artists, artists from rural communities, and artists with disabilities.

- You must be 18+ years of age and complete a background check (Note: past felonies are not an automatic dismissal).
- You must be at a Mid-Career or beyond stage in your artistic career. *What is a Mid-Career Artist? Mid-career artists are recognized by their peers and arts professionals, have produced an independent body of work and have a record of commissions, projects, or exhibitions. (as defined by Forecast Public Art)*
- Collaborative groups are welcome to apply but the stipend and housing is the same

Selection Criteria

Our criteria for selecting a Small Stages artist is based on a combination of experience as a practicing artist:

- who has a focus on community engagement
- who has an interest in, connections to, and / or experience working in and with community members from a diverse range of social, cultural, economic, and political backgrounds
- with an interest in, connections to, and / or experience working in a rural context and, professional capacity, and
- how the residency fits into the artist's life and practice.

How to apply:

Please submit applications via email to info@nlartsalliance.org by April 11, 2021 at 4:59 pm CST. No hard copies will be accepted. Please title and format each attachment as indicated below.

Part 1: Questions (5-minute video/audio file or a written PDF document, 500 word limit per question)

Respond to the following questions:

1. Tell us about your artistic practice and process. Have you ever created performances or performance installations for small audiences?
2. Tell us a story about how your art has meaningfully engaged your community.
3. Why are you interested in this residency?
4. Tell us what your experience has been living or working in a rural community.

Part 2: Proposal (2-minute video/audio file or written PDF document, 750 word limit)

Outline your creative proposal. Describe the performance, installation or experience you have in mind.

We acknowledge that 4 weeks is a short period of time, that your familiarity with the New London community is limited, and that your practice may not yet include experiences creating for small audiences or audiences of 1. With this in mind it is acceptable to adapt your process to meet the requirements of this residency. You may expand your current practice, adapt a project in progress or create an entirely new piece.

Part 3: Resume

Flexible in style and length, but no more than a 3 page PDF. Please include your contact information and 3 references familiar with your work in your resume.

Part 4: Work Samples

Submit 3 to 5 relevant examples of your artistic work. Formats are listed below - any or all can be used.

Images - .jpegs

Written - .pdfs

Videos - Link to YouTube or Vimeo

Audio - .mp3 or .wav file

Part 5: Work Sample Descriptions

Please provide context to your process and show the relevancy of your past works to this residency for up to 5 work samples in a single .pdf document. These work sample descriptions should be numbered, clearly-labeled to correspond to the work sample files, and should have a maximum of 250 characters.

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Partners:

New London Little Theatre (<https://www.newlondonlittletheatre.org/>)

Since its construction in 1921, Little Theatre has been used as city hall, an auction house for livestock, a gymnasium, movie theater and community playhouse. In 1978 until 2017, non-profit Crow River Players formed to maintain the building and administer its use as the local High School's drama department facility. With a change in leadership and community need our mission expanded in 2018 to offer the theater as a public platform for cultural exchange via the arts. We support the presentation, development and experimentation associated with the creation of artistic works, and endeavor to ensure that Little Theatre is a safe, equitable, inclusive, independent art space.

New London Arts Alliance (<https://www.nlartsalliance.org/>)

The New London Arts Alliance was formed to provide a local identity and structure for our resident arts community. This entity is intended to serve our artists, writers, performers and historians in putting

together community-building activities, projects and events. We are especially interested in partnering with our area's seniors to engage our residents in multi-generational activities and support arts education for all ages. We involve and train community members to be project leaders of public art projects and engage local residents in the transformation of our community's underutilized public spaces.

City of New London (<https://www.newlondonmn.net/>)

New London became an official city in 1889. Resting on the stolen ancestral land of the Dakotah People, the New London is located in Kandiyohi County on the shores of the Middle Fork of the Crow River. With a population of 1400, this "City on the Pond" or the "Gateway to the Glacial Lakes", is the oldest town in Kandiyohi County. Connected by three ponds in the heart of New London you can canoe, kayak or cruise upriver nearly five miles.

Local Resources:

- Outdoor stage
- Public Library
- Neer Park
- Sibley State Park
- Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center
- Bike trails
- Water access points

Timetable

Feb 21-28	Post Call
Mar 1	Application is open
Apr 02	Webinar
Apr 11	Application Closes
Apr 18-25	Artist Interviews
Apr 26	Artist Selected
May 1	Contract in place

-- The following dates are flexible --

Aug 6	Receive Artist / Orientation
Aug 9	Community Meet & Greet
Aug 20	Open Studio/Workshop
Aug 27	Informal Showing
Sep 3,4,5	Final Showing

Budget

- Artist = \$7,000
- \$4,000 Artist honorarium 4 weeks
 - \$3,000 - production and engagement, documentation support, travel and groceries