



HCL Sponsored Artist Program Application

HELPFUL HINTS

Overview

If you are accepted into the Sponsored Artist Program, you have four months to develop your project. As a result, we encourage you to put significant thought into your project proposals: what you plan to accomplish, how you plan to accomplish these things, and why is this important to you. As listed in the program summary, projects can be at any phase of development (from ideation, to in-progress, to near completion), and projects do not have to be completed during the Sponsorship. However, if your proposal is in the ideation phase, it is essential that you highlight your past successes and accomplishments, as well as outline explicit next steps, to show that you could legitimately develop the project during your Sponsorship.

Key Dates

Your attendance and participation is expected at these following events.

Welcome Dinner: Thursday, August 1st, 2018 (6-8pm)

Open House: TBA October 2018, (7-9pm)

Send-Off: TBA November 2018 (7-9:30pm)

Considerations

The HCL Studio is a shared space between all Sponsored Artists, staff, and collaborators: you would book time in advance, use it, then leave it as you found it for the next artist(s). Given the shared nature of the studio, we generally are not able to support artists requiring static space for long periods of time. Under special circumstances, we may be able to provide a different location for static, longer-term (up to a few weeks) use. However, if you require this type of assistance and space, you also need to outline how you would develop your projects if we cannot help you secure this space. Generally artists receive 8-10 hours of studio time per week.

We are able to provide storage for artists, but this space is fairly limited (i.e. a shelf or two on a bookshelf or a 3x3 square foot floor space in the storage locker). If you require significant storage space, you will need to find other alternatives for storing your project materials.

Artists accepted into the program will be expected to attend an orientation meeting prior to their sponsorship, and provide a \$125 fully refundable deposit in the event damages occur to the HCL studio during their sponsorship.

Project Proposal

Here are some thoughts to guide you with writing your project proposal. You do not need to answer all of these questions:

Please tell us about the project you would like to develop during Sponsorship at High Concept Labs. Outline the ideas, motivations, and aspirations behind it. Highlight if and how you have already experimented with and developed the idea(s). Talk about whether or not it ties in with your current practice. Outline if and how you would continue to develop the project beyond the four months of your Sponsorship. If it is something you would like to continue developing, how would it look several years from now? Finally, feel free to write about upcoming projects, community work, aspirations, experiments, ideas, or a new or ongoing area of focus in your life and practice.

Project Timeline

Please outline the following elements of your project (a bulleted list format is preferred):

- Any steps you have already taken to develop your project (and when these happened). If you haven't started yet, that's perfectly fine.
- Anything you plan on doing before the start of the Sponsorship on August 1st.
- A month-by-month breakdown of your goals during the four month Sponsorship. Be as specific as possible.
- An outline of steps you plan on taking beyond the four months of Sponsorship, if any. Sometimes, projects finish at the end of Sponsorship. Sometimes, artists continue developing the project after their residency. Both scenarios are acceptable

Project Budget

HCL does not provide direct financial support. If your project requires significant financial support (especially if you will be hiring additional artists), please outline the steps you have taken to secure this funding and the funding that you currently have available for the project. If you are currently awaiting a proposal decision for a grant, please outline adjustments to the budget you would make if you do not receive this funding.

Some projects also do not require significant funding. This is perfectly fine. Bigger does not always mean better, so do not make up numbers if your project does not warrant them. We just would like to see that you have considered and are mindful of any financial obstacles that may constrain the development of your project.

Finally, do not rely on workshop or performance fees during your sponsorship for generating revenue for a project. To ensure access, HCL has a cap on ticket prices of \$10. Plus, given the location, performances generally pull in ten to thirty attendees. Finally, there is a 50/50 split on ticket revenues for artists during their residency; these revenues go directly towards supporting the Sponsored Artist Program.

How will Sponsorship by HCL help you achieve your project goals?

What, if any, obstacles are in your way? Specifically, how would Sponsorship from HCL help you realize your goals?

Artist Bio

Tell us who you are and discuss some of what has shaped and motivated you in your practice and work thus far. List your relevant artistic education, training, and experience. This, when combined with your work samples, will help us gauge your ability to actualize and bring your project to fruition. Note that your application may also include a résumé or list of relevant training and experience, so you do not need to duplicate that information here.

Artist Statement

Write about what you most want us to know about your artistic practice and process. Tell us how the work samples you are submitting for their review fit into your art in general. This is your opportunity to reveal what matters most to you about creating your work, as well as how and what you research.

Your application will be evaluated based on the following six criteria.

Logistical fit: Does the project fit within High Concept Labs' capacity as a small arts organization? Does the space at Mana Contemporary, including storage, accommodate your project appropriately alongside other projects taking place at the same time?

Project vision: Does the artist express a clear vision of the project including specific goals for the term of their residency?

Community interests: Does the project engage with or reflect a particular community or group and/or the arts community in Chicago?

Sustainability: Will this project have a life beyond the term of the artist's residency, either on its own or as part of a larger program of exploration and creation?

Budget: Has the artist made a reasonable account of expenses related to this project? Have they listed dependable sources of funding for those expenses?

Conceptually captivating project: Does this application engage new modes of thought or take a fresh look at a particular idea? Is it distinctive in its executional details and anticipated effects?