

# artspace

## ARTIST PREFERENCE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q: Do you have to be an artist to live in an Artspace live/work project?

**A:** Anyone who qualifies for affordable housing may apply for residency in an Artspace project, but we give a preference for occupancy to those applicants who participate in and are committed to the arts. Applicants need not derive their income from their art. It is customary for artists to work in another field to support themselves, their dependents, and their art form.

### Q: How does the Artist Selection Committee (ASC) work?

**A:** The ASC will interview a self-identified artist application and will ask 10 standard questions about your commitment to the arts, to the community and your interest in living at an Artspace building. Prospective residents are given an opportunity to answer questions, show their portfolio/examples of their work and ask any questions they may have at that time. In the Artist Selection Committee interview, you must be prepared to demonstrate that you are actively engaged in an art form, are willing and able to contribute to a cooperative/creative environment and show a commitment to engage in the greater community.

### Q: Does the ASC judge my work?

**A:** No. The ASC interviews applicants and reviews their Artistic Questionnaires to determine their level of participation in, and commitment to, the arts; they do not judge the content or quality of an applicant's artistic work.

### Q: How does Artspace determine who is an artist?

**A:** We define the term "artist" broadly to encompass a wide variety of creative pursuits, including traditional art forms like painting, music and dance, and those as diverse as clothing design, weaving and even canoe making. An Artist Selection Committee consisting of arts leaders in the host community interviews all applicants. The committee looks for evidence that applicants are seriously committed to their art and that they will be mindful and positive contributors to the building and community. The application and qualification process does not include judgment of quality of work. An Artist shall be defined as:

- A person who works in or is skilled in any of the fine arts, including but not limited to painting, drawing, sculpture, book art, mixed-media and print-making.
- A person who creates imaginative works of aesthetic value, including but not limited to film, video, digital media works, literature, costume design, photography, architecture and music composition.
- A person who creates functional art, including but not limited to jewelry, rugs, decorative screens and grates, furniture, pottery, toys and quilts.
- A performer, including but not limited to singers, musicians, dancers, actors and performance artists.
- In all culturally significant practices, including a designer, technician, tattoo artist, hairdresser, chef/culinary artist, craftsperson, teacher or administrator who is dedicated to using their expertise within the community to support, promote, present, and/or teach and propagate their art form through events, activities, performances and classes.

### Q: Are all art forms allowed in Artspace residences?

**A:** Artistic processes that are extremely noisy, require incompatible zoning or involve hazardous materials are typically not permitted. All uses must comply with applicable code. For example, welding, woodworking using power tools, amplified band practice or glass blowing would not be allowed.

### America's Leader in Artist-Led Community Transformation

Artspace is the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation, with 35 projects in operation across the country and another dozen in development, representing a unique, \$600 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. Through its Consulting division, Artspace has brought its hard-earned expertise to more than 300 cultural planning efforts from coast-to-coast. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington D.C., Artspace is America's leading developer of arts facilities. To date we have completed nearly 2,000 affordable live/work units for artists and their families as well as more than a million square feet of non-residential space for artists and arts organizations. Additional information: [www.artspace.org](http://www.artspace.org).