Property Acquisition, Funding, Development & Management

Toronto Artscape's operations focus on the acquisition, conversion or development of buildings for usable workspace for subsequent leasing or sub-leasing of the completed studio, performance, rehearsal, and exhibition spaces at affordable rates to artists and non-profit arts organizations.

In addition, Toronto Artscape provides consultation services to arts organizations looking to develop their own sites, and interim project management to unincorporated artists' groups.

Liaison & Information Services

Toronto Artscape acts as a liaison and spokes agency on work, live/work and housing space issues with all levels of government. This is done in consultation with all sectors of the arts community.

Artscape also participates on City planning, urban development and housing committees and acts as the representative for the City of Toronto to other cities and countries with relation to arts space/facilities issues.

Consulting Services

Artscape provides consulting services to the arts community, the private sector, and all levels of government on all aspects of artists' space development and property management.

Resource Library

Artscape maintains a comprehensive collection of reference and technical data pertaining to artists' space, collected from counterpart organizations world-wide. Our library is publicly accessible during regular office hours.

Short Term Space

60 Atlantic Avenue has a large space which is available on a monthly or weekly basis for exhibitions or productions.

TORONTO ARTSCAPE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Toronto Artscape Inc. gratefully acknowledges the support of:
the City of Toronto,
the Toronto Arts Council
the Provincial Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation
the Provincial Ministry of Housing
ARTSCAPE HISTORY

Toronto Artscape was founded in the summer of 1983 as a result of research conducted through the Toronto Arts Council. This research revealed an urgent need for affordable, well-designed work and live-work space for artists and arts organizations.

Artscape was incorporated in 1986, and in August of 1991 it was recognized as the City of Toronto's agency for all issues pertaining to cultural facilities, work and live/work space, and artists' housing. The company also acts as a representative of the City to other municipalities with relation to arts facilities issues.

In March of 1991, Artscape opened its first work space project at 96 Spadina Avenue. Later that same year renovations for our second site at 60 Atlantic Avenue began, and artists were able to take occupancy in April, 1992. Additional renovations at 96 Spadina completed in September of 1992, brought the number of arts spaces managed by Artscape to a total of 84 studios and one co-operatively run art gallery. Tenants include three contemporary music groups, three theatre and dance companies and an eclectic mix of individual visual artists, photographers and film makers.

Mandate

To provide affordable working space for artists and the advancement of education, culture, art and other purposes beneficial to the community.

To promote cultural activities beneficial to the community.

To research and/or make available all manner of data, professional expertise, and/or special consulting services to facilitate the creation of affordable work, live/work, and presentational facilities for Toronto artists of all disciplines.

To solicit, and in any way acquire and hold, in so far as the law allows a charitable corporation to do so, any kind of real or personal property and to enter into and carry out any agreement and perform any condition in connection therewith.

60 Atlantic Avenue

Location: The Atlantic Site is located in Toronto's old west-central industrial area, near the intersection of King & Dufferin.

Gross Sq. Footage: 33,000 sq. ft.
Number of Studios: 48
Funded By: City of Toronto
Ministry of Culture & Communications
Toronto Economic Development Corp.

Unit Rental Cost: $5.36-$8.90 per sq. ft. (gross)
Maximum Lease: 5 years, renewable for 5 years
Number of Tenants: 60

96 Spadina Avenue

Location: Toronto Artscape's 96 Spadina project is on 2 1/2 floors of the Darling Building, near the intersection of Queen & Spadina.

Gross Sq. Footage: 25,000 sq. ft.
Number of Studios: 31
Studio Sizes: 150 sq. ft. - 1100 sq. ft.
Funded By: Toronto Arts Council
City of Toronto

Unit Rental Cost: $7.78-$9.30 per sq. ft. (gross)
Maximum Lease: 5 years, renewable for 5 years
Number of Tenants: 40

Other Projects

179 Richmond Street West

In (month) of 1993, Artscape concluded a 10 year leasing agreement, and oversaw the renovation of a 10,000 sq. ft. building in downtown Toronto. With studio, office and performance space, 179 Richmond provides a new focus to Toronto's contemporary music community and a new home for the Music Gallery.

910 Queen Street West

Artscape has recently purchased 910 Queen Street West to house its first artists' live/work project - 22 units allocated by the Ontario Ministry of Housing. Renovation will begin in late 1994 with occupancy by the summer of 1995.

Who is eligible for an Artscape studio?

As a non-profit agency which receives public funding to develop its projects, Artscape must ensure that our studios are made available to non-commercial artists and non-profit arts organizations only. In order to identify qualified applicants, individual resumes or articles of incorporation are collected and presented to a tenant selection committee for review and verification.

If you are interested in applying for an Artscape studio, send us a copy of your artist resume or incorporation papers, along with a covering letter outlining the following information:

1) your medium or discipline
2) your space requirements
3) your monthly rental budget
4) any special requirements