



## CREATIVE ENTERPRISE FAQs

### IF I'M AN INDIVIDUAL ARTIST CAN I STILL APPLY?

**YES!** We're looking for an array of artists, makers, and creative entrepreneurs who are interested in increasing their business knowledge as it pertains to their art practice. This includes, but is not limited to: visual artists, musicians, designers, dancers, filmmakers, leather goods workers, metalsmiths, woodworkers, skincare lines, etc. It also includes small community groups and nonprofits that generate positive, community-centric activities in the region.

Here's a list of some of our past-participants to better illustrate the kinds of businesses that have benefitted from Creative Enterprise.

- [BEE YOU ORGANICS](#)
- [NORTHWEST DANCE COMMONS](#)
- [OLD HAT WORKSHOP](#)
- [rosethrow®](#)
- [RAISING THE BAR](#)
- [CHOMPI CLUB](#)
- [TEDDI JOELLE](#)
- [UNIFEST](#)
- [HAZEL MILLER ART](#)
- [TONYA BALLMAN MUSIC](#)
- [FAT GRATITUDE](#)
- [LILAC CITY LITERARY](#)
- [ART SALVAGE](#)
- [MALTED MUTT](#)
- [KJ POTTERY](#)
- [WHIPSTITCH HANDMADE](#)
- [RGZ PRINTS](#)
- [H IS FOR LOVE](#)
- [WESTWARD LEATHER](#)
- [COLLADAY LEATHER](#)
- [LIFE IS SHIT TOILET SPRAY](#)
- [LIBROBUCH](#)
- [FLOURISH BOTANICALS](#)
- [KATIE AND KIN CERAMICS](#)
- [WILDLAND COOPERATIVE](#)

### DO I HAVE TO HAVE AN EXISTING BUSINESS TO APPLY?

**NO!** As long as you're ready to put in the work to improve your business skills (think finances, accounting, marketing, etc.) it doesn't matter whether you have a fully fleshed out idea, or have been in business for years, this program is for you!

**NOTE:** The jury will be looking for individuals they think are ready for the program, so be as thorough in explaining your idea and/or existing business as possible.

## **I'M STRUGGLING WITH THE FINANCE SECTION OF THE APPLICATION, WHAT SHOULD I DO?**

Please fill this out as best you can, but don't let it stop you from applying! This question helps the jury better understand how far along you are in your business/idea, but the training you'll receive in Creative Enterprise helps you think through your finances.

## **DO I HAVE TO ATTEND ALL THE SESSIONS?**

**YES!** While we know family emergencies do come up, outside of that, it's imperative participants attend all sessions. Not only does the curriculum build upon itself week-after-week, attendance is also a key part of the cohort experience.

Similarly, since we always get way more applications than we have room for, we need the people who get selected to take the program seriously.

## **WHAT IS THE PITCH PARTY?**

Think Shark Tank (but without the millions of dollars). The Pitch Party is a chance for you to share your work/business with the community. These 3-minute "pitches" take place in front of a panel of experts who give you feedback on fine tuning your business plan. The pitch can be to inform, ask for funding, or share something new. It's pretty rare to be able to receive such valuable feedback and is also a great networking opportunity.

## **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PARTICIPATE?**

It costs \$200 to participate. We believe artists of all economic statuses should have access to business training opportunities. As such, we've made this training as affordable as we possibly can due to the program being largely underwritten by the Washington State Microenterprise Association (THANK YOU!).

## **HOW ARE PARTICIPANTS CHOSEN?**

When choosing participants, the Selection Panel - which includes local art and business professionals - will be looking for a wide-range of ideas and a diverse group of projects. The most competitive applications will show:

- Viability of the idea/business
- Strength of product or service demonstrated by provided work samples
- Benefit to the community
- Readiness of the business and the ability to execute
- Destination quality idea/business

## **BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM?**

- Comprehensive actionable business plan
- Ongoing technical support
- Peer-to-peer learning
- One-on-one coaching
- Access to business resources
- Knowledge about capital opportunities
- Exposure of your business to the broader Spokane business community