

# Call for Proposals

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Co-op

**DEADLINE: 11:59 PM, CST on Sunday, August 26**

2nd Floor Co-op is a one-year creative consortium, think-tank, work-share, and dream machine for select 2nd Floor Rear artist alumni.

2nd Floor Rear, an annual DIY festival of art in alternative spaces, is taking a break from its regular programming in 2018 and 2019. Instead, this platform will be available to past 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear participants as a space for creative symbiosis and convivial exchange.

Through an application process, three 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear alumni will be selected to participate in a year-long cooperative programming residency. The residency will last October 2018 to October 2019, with peak public-facing programming slated for the summer of 2019. Residents will work together to develop original projects and generate content for 2nd Floor Rear's website and social media.

The co-op will channel 2nd Floor Rear's freewheeling curatorial philosophy and the residents' artistic practices into a series of intimate creative gatherings. Throughout the year, residents will take turns providing artistic direction for these occasions for shared experience, each holding space for disciplinary irreverence, the personable-as-political, deliberate non-objectivity, and reciprocal weirdness in accord with the lead artist's vision.

The co-op is ideal for artists whose practices include audience participation, time or event-based work, immersive environments, live performance, experimental pedagogy, and/or curation. Some working knowledge of arts administration, digital marketing, and event operations is also helpful but not required.

### Essential details:

- During the co-op residency period, each resident artist will be allotted a **\$1,000 budget** to realize one project of their choice.
  - All projects must manifest as, or include, a creative gathering—a public-facing event that is also an occasion for social interaction, generative dialog, mutual care, and shared experience.
  - Artists may use funds to pay themselves, hire additional artists or specialized labor for their project, commission new work, purchase special materials—generally cover expenses related to their event.
  - In-kind donations and additional co-op budget will cover some shared general co-op expenses such as administrative costs and event documentation.
  - If co-op residents determine that additional funds are needed to realize their projects,

- they may engage in collaborative fundraising activities with the support of the project Director. (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Co-op is fiscally sponsored by Fractured Atlas)
- The Director will work with residents to procure spaces for events based on the residents' preferences and project needs.
  - Project conception, development, and execution will be the responsibility of the resident, with the support of other co-op residents.
  - Co-op residents will meet at least once a month to discuss their projects' development, receive feedback, and solicit support from one another.
  - Following some initial planning and development, the 2nd Floor Co-op will kick off with a weekend-long retreat in Logan Square, where residents will get better acquainted with each others' work, jump-start plans for the coming year, and do a deep dive into curatorial source material.
  - To keep 2nd Floor Co-op's audience engaged between public events, co-op members will publish a minimum of three pieces of share-able digital content on 2nd Floor's website and social media.
    - Each resident will also be responsible for two month-long 2nd Floor Co-op social media takeovers.
    - Residents can produce original work, delegate digital content production and social media takeovers to a collaborator in their network, or use part of their stipend to commission new work.
  - The co-op will culminate with a period of self-assessment, reflection, and collaborative brainstorming about the future of co-operative DIY production in Chicago.
  - Collaboratives may submit a joint application, but must designate one lead artist to represent the group.
  - Residents must live in, work in, or otherwise frequent the Chicago metropolitan area during the residency period; the co-op will not offer funding to cover travel or housing.

### **To apply:**

Proposals may be emailed to [info@2ndfloorrear.org](mailto:info@2ndfloorrear.org) no later than **11:59 PM CST, Sunday, August 26**

Please include the following:

- a brief (250 words max) artist statement, curatorial statement, or bio
- a résumé/CV
- a hypothetical proposal (500 words max) describing any preliminary ideas for your event. This may include details about the overall concept, a description of the physical space and the activities that might transpire, other artists you might invite to participate, or what the event will be like. (The purpose of the proposal is to shed light on the artist's practice and thought process. Artists are not obligated to commit to their proposed project if accepted.) Please include a statement explaining how the proposed event relates to your art practice.
- a couple sentences about, or a list of, any resources you can share with the group, such as access to event venues, access to studio space and/or materials, specialized skills or knowledge, etc.
- up to five work samples or other supporting media

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*'Fight for the right to party' is not in fact a parody of the radical struggle but a new manifestation of it.*

Hakim Bey, Anarchist

Creative gatherings (possibly, probably, could be):

art parties	field days
drag shows	guerrilla block parties
prayer meetings	chosen family reunions
themed dance parties	sabbats
plain dance parties	Nuit Blanche
big gay dance parties	hackathons
small sad dance parties	speed dates
pentecostal revivals	raves
parades!!	social justice rallies
tactical aesthetics	the Dill Pickle Club
high teas	improvisational loitering
flux fests	junk raft armadas
Cabaret Voltaire	Renaissance fairs
séances	pirate utopias
happenings	sewing circles
moveable feasts	picnics
really, any kind of feast	masquerades
silent meditation retreats	garden parties
noisy excavation staycations	(re-appropriated) red tents
unbirthdays	carnival
Critical Mass	legalized pot lucks
supper clubs	sock hops
think-ins	state fairs
the Situationist dérive	roller discos
Burning Man	collective camping
flash mob naps	campy collectives
slumber parties	anti-corporate team-building exercises
House of Yes	house parties
pool parties	eviction parties
saturnalia	rent parties
punk shows	communist parties
queer pop-ups	APT festivals

Questions? Email us at [info@2ndfloorrear.org](mailto:info@2ndfloorrear.org).