Call for Students - 2020 Summer Residency Program
DESIS Lab and Shumka Centre for Creative Entrepreneurship

SATELLITE x DESIS

Satellite is a five month residency for Emily Carr project teams to develop major self-directed social innovation projects through the DESIS Lab and Shumka Centre.

Residents will have access to studio space, mentorship, peer support and funding toward the goal of developing projects within a real-world context, including developing products or services; initiating events, programs, initiatives or community partnerships; or starting studios, collectives, agencies or non-profits. Satellite will run from May - October 2020, beginning remotely until campus reopens.

Participants are expected to devote 20+ hours/week to project development through the summer, with 4 hours per week devoted to process documentation and peer/mentor meetings. In the fall, teams will prepare to present and disseminate projects through the DESIS network.

Participants will receive full time access to work space, mentorship and peer support, structured feedback and guidance, and funding of $2000 to support eligible project costs.

Projects best suited for the Satellite x DESIS program:
- Create new relationships, or expand/enhance existing ones
- Support community or seeks to create social equity
- Expand relationships with the natural world/nature
- Celebrate the small, slow and local
- Reassemble existing assets rather than making new artefacts or media
- Are shareable, with learning that is open to others
- Do not create new hierarchies or systems which funnel wealth away from communities
- Support designer agency, practicality, navigating a way forward
- Establish designers' participation in or creation of community
- Help establish conditions for designers to financially support themselves through project lens, give financial sustainability to the project itself

Negotiate "how" alongside "what"

Eligibility
Applications are welcomed from individuals or small teams made up of 2-3 people, including recent grads and current undergraduate and graduate students. Participants must be actively engaged in developing applied projects or collaborations (as opposed to doing contract work) and must be able to commit adequate time and attention to fully benefit from this opportunity.

Please note that access to this program is competitive and limited to 5 projects in this cohort. Applications will be evaluated for depth of proposal, suitable match with the program intent (see FAQs below), feasibility, fit with spatial and programmatic requirements, and commitment to the proposed project.

How to Apply
Please submit a single PDF or link to shumka@ecuad.ca including:
● A cover letter stating your interest in the program and DESIS
● A proposal outlining your project, including potential collaborators, materials/equipment/other resources that you are looking to develop or that you anticipate requiring, and a brief timeline for a five month residency
● A simple budget showing how funds would be used to support project development such as material expenses, fees or other costs
● A portfolio of work samples and/or link to a portfolio site
● Names and contact information of 2 references

For More Information: Contact Laura Kozak, Research Associate: kozak@ecuad.ca

Deadline: April 12, 2020

About DESIS
The Emily Carr DESIS Lab supports research that advances design for social innovation towards sustainability. DESIS envisions a future that supports resilience, equity and diversity across human and ecological systems through social innovation, design and environmental justice.

Emily Carr's lab joined the DESIS network, made up of 46 labs worldwide, in 2012 and is currently the only DESIS lab in Canada. The lab supports a range of projects and activities, including mentoring DESIS students, contributing to curriculum at Emily Carr, supporting academic and extra-curricular activity, and contributing to discourse and advocacy for sustainability and social matters.

desis.ecuad.ca

About the Shumka Centre
The Shumka Centre for Creative Entrepreneurship fosters the movement of artists and designers into systems and situations where their work can have the most impact. The Shumka Centre addresses the lack of support artists and designers face in actualizing projects by creating dynamic programming and tactical platforms.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a DESIS project?

DESIS projects focus on BOTH relationships and sustainability.

Relationships: DESIS projects focus on relationships by ...
a. Creating new interpersonal relationships.
b. Expanding or enhancing existing interpersonal relationships.
c. Supporting and creating community.
d. Seeking to create social equity
e. Expanding relationships with the natural world/nature

Sustainability 1: The natural world/nature is considered in all of our relationships

Sustainability 2: DESIS projects build sustainability by helping people understand that…
a. Relationships are more satisfying than things/consumerism
b. Sharing and building things together increases our capacity to live sustainably.
c. We can learn sustainable lifestyles from each other
d. It is imperative that all of us live differently in order to consume less.
e. Consumption is about more than buying things. For instance, traveling and watching ready-made media are also acts of consumption.

There are many different approaches to a DESIS project, but they always include:
relationships + natural world + sustainability

ALSO…
A DESIS project is often small and local.
A DESIS project preferences reassembling existing assets, rather than making new artifacts or media.
There can be digital technology in a DESIS project, but it is usually not the focus. And as noted in the points above, it is not usually about the creation of <u>new</u> technology/software. Rather, the creative recombination of existing technologies is preferred.
DESIS projects are shareable… the learning from each project is open to others.
DESIS projects do not create new hierarchies. They do not support the funneling of wealth.

How will projects be selected?
Applications will be evaluated for depth of proposal, suitable match with the program intent (see above) feasibility, fit with spatial and programmatic requirements, and commitment to the proposed project.

What funding and other resources are there to support projects?
Each project will be matched with an external advisor or mentor to help advance ideas and project development. At different points throughout the residency, groups will also receive peer feedback, workshops from organizations such as Groundswell and the BC Co-op Association and other supports. Funds to support up to $2000 of project costs are also available - eligible uses include material expenses, equipment or contract fees, and other costs.

When and where will meetings take place?

Meetings and project work will take place remotely for as long as neccessary, and then in Emily Carr's DESIS Lab. Once the school reopens, groups will have access to this space throughout the summer. Access to other parts of the school is TBD. This work will take place in three phases:

May + June - Project Formation*
Weekly Peer Meetings with Faculty Lead and facilitated sessions in DESIS
Project team - weekly meetings with an external advisor (in DESIS, offsite or remote)

July + August - Research and Project Development*
Weekly peer meetings and check-ins with advisor
Research and project development

September and October - Production and Dissemination
Projects prepared for sharing at fall DESIS Assembly
Mentors/Advisors return to give feedback

*Phases will be face-to-face or remote, depending upon current conditions.

I am planning on travelling for part of the summer. Can I still apply?

Yes! Project timelines can be built around your summer plans, with July and August being a more self-directed phase of work. Real-time participation is most essential in May, June and September. Please include travel plans in your application.

Who can be part of a project team?

Project teams may include current students and recent grads from the undergraduate and graduate programs. We encourage applications from groups that have worked together before. Individuals are also welcome to apply.

What will happen to projects at the end of the residency?

Projects will be shared through the DESIS network, at fall assemblies and other gatherings. We host a fall event that brings together all contributors to the residency to share projects.

The residency will also support the orientation of projects towards longer term goals, which may include development as initiatives, companies or non-profits; further funding applications; contexts in community for continued work or other long-term plans.