

EMPATHY WEEK 2020

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



Issued December 16, 2019 by Humainologie

EMPATHY WEEK 2020 | RFP

Introduction

About Humainologie

Since 2015, Humainologie has created content and programs that promote the recognition of our shared humanity. Our mission is to spread empathy, increase inclusion, and reduce discrimination. Humainologie is a division of the registered charity, Calgary Centre for Global Community, which was established in 2007.

We focus on developing self-awareness, building empathy skills (because empathy can be learned), and sharing the stories and experiences of people who have been marginalized or misrepresented.

We do our work by producing film, theatre, other multimedia content, and curriculum, as well as providing organizational training.

Empathy Week was first introduced by Humainologie in 2017, with Calgary being the first city in the world to host its own *Empathy Week*. In 2019, we held our third *Empathy Week* with 19 community partners directly engaging over 2,000 Calgarians.

Read more about the work of Humainologie at humainologie.com

RFP Overview

Empathy is the ability to step into the shoes of another, and to imagine what they may be feeling and/or thinking. Research has shown that when we experience pain, the same areas of the brain are activated as when we imagine someone else experiencing pain. Empathy helps us create strong relationships and healthy communities.

Humainologie is inviting other organizations and individuals in the community to be part of the cultivation, preparation and presentation of events for *Empathy Week* to be held June 1-7, 2020 in Calgary.

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to include a broad and diverse selection of partners – artists, theatre groups, film producers, non-profit and civil organizations, etc. in order to bring a wide and diverse program of offerings to Calgarians during *Empathy Week 2020*.

Date Issued: December 16, 2019

Closing Date: February 16, 2020

Contact: hello@humainologie.com

All proposals must be submitted by **4.00PM MST, February 16, 2020** to:

hello@humainologie.com. We will confirm receipt of all applications via email.

Proposals arriving after 4.00PM MST on February 16, 2020 will not be accepted.

“Learning to stand in somebody else’s shoes, to see through their eyes, that’s how peace begins. And it’s up to you to make that happen. Empathy is a quality of character that can change the world.”

- Barack Obama



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About Empathy Week

What is Empathy Week?

Empathy Week is a week-long, city-wide festival in Calgary featuring a series of events and exhibitions, all of which discuss or promote empathy, vulnerability, human-to-human connection, and our shared humanity.

What is the purpose of Empathy Week?

By participating in *Empathy Week*, you will be supporting efforts to reduce silos of misunderstanding and barriers between people, to increase connection and understanding, and to create a city where everyone belongs.

What happened at Empathy Week 2019?

Empathy Week 2019 was held June 1-7. Humainologie programming for the festival included:

- The Unity Project at Sieb Lok Park on the riverfront downtown
- HelloStranger! A dialogue event at the Humainologie Gallery + Store
- Ethical Dilemmas: Empathy and Connection in a Divided World: A multi-media seminar in collaboration with McDougall United Church
- Premiere of 'under an umbrella we met: Oliver', part of the Identities Short Film Package in collaboration with Calgary Queer Arts Society

Partner events included, among others:

- Group Art Show, with partners RESET Society of Calgary, Jana Brodtkin-Singh, Asaad Qaddori
- Wishing Wall interactive installation at Arts Commons by Canadian Cultural Mosaic Foundation
- 'Gabrielle' film screening at Glenbow Museum Theatre by Connections Counselling
- Kairos Blanket Exercise by Beltline Reconciliation Committee and Memorial Park Library
- Empathy & Disability Awareness in the Arts by Prospect Human Services
- Ribbon Tree at The Alex Community Food Centre
- Art Show and Sale at Vecova Centre for Disability Services and Research
- Our Justice System display by The Doorway and Living Documents Publishing at Analog and Monogram Coffee

You can find more details about *Empathy Week* and view the *Empathy Week 2019* Program online at humainologie.com/empathyweek

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Benefits of Participating in Empathy Week

What are the benefits of being an Empathy Week program partner?

Research has shown that hate crimes in Canada are on the rise. In Calgary, according to Vital Signs 2019, 1/3 of people under 35 often/always feel lonely, only 2/3 of people are accepting of people from different backgrounds with 28% of people often or sometimes feeling uncomfortable because of their religion, race, ethnicity, skin colour, culture, language, accent, gender or sexual orientation.

In a survey conducted by Humainologie, over 95% of respondents said they believed that empathy can change the world and that they could improve their own empathy skills. "Learning to stand in somebody else's shoes, to see through their eyes, that's how peace begins," says Barack Obama.

The collaborative nature of *Empathy Week* creates new connections whilst enabling individual contributors to maintain autonomy and creative control in relation to the planning and delivery of their *Empathy Week* activities. In some situations, Humainologie will work with individuals or community organizations to assist in the implementation of their events.

In addition, you and/or your organization can expect to obtain community exposure via marketing and promotions of the festival conducted by Humainologie and other *Empathy Week* partners.



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Funding & Legal

Funding

- Humainologie will commit support funding up to \$1,500 per project.
- If an event is ticketed, the partner needs to manage payments and 15% of net proceeds will be made as a charitable donation to the Calgary Centre for Global Community to a maximum amount of half of the funding contributed.
- Successful applicants will be required to submit a brief program report and financial summary to Humainologie within 30 days of the delivery of the program.

Legal

- Successful applicants will be required to enter into a partnership agreement with Calgary Centre for Global Community.
- Humainologie and the Calgary Centre for Global Community have no obligation to accept any proposal and all funding decisions made are final and not able to be appealed under any circumstances. We reserve the right to interview applicants before a final decision is made.
- Applicants fully accept the responsibility for time and resources taken to prepare any RFP submission, notwithstanding any errors, grievances, process complaints or similar by Humainologie and the Calgary Centre for Global Community. By submitting an RFP, the applicant agrees that Humainologie and the Calgary Centre for Global Community will not accept any responsibility in the above circumstance and have complete discretion to process and decide upon applications.
- Humainologie and Calgary Centre for Global Community reserve the right to cancel this Request for Proposal or to reduce available funding or number of grants disbursed for any reason without any liability to any proponent or to waive irregularities at their own discretion.

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Eligibility

Empathy Week Eligibility

Events can be in any form (e.g., multi-media, theatre, dance, spoken word, exhibition, discussion forum, etc.), and must have an interactive, experiential element built in. We encourage submissions that push the boundaries and encourage Calgarians to step outside of their own comfort zones in order to shift their point of view towards the “other”.

Eligible *Empathy Week* Activities are as follows:

- Public events only, anywhere in the city of Calgary
- One-time events or multiple days
- Interactive / experiential events preferred
- Push boundaries – e.g. the activity encourages participants to step outside of their comfort zone in relation to thinking, feeling, or action
- Relate to some or all of the following: Events selected as part of *Empathy Week* will demonstrate a connection to Humainologie’s mission and/or focus areas (as referenced below); and/or will relate to, promote, or raise awareness of some or all of the following: empathy, vulnerability, human-to-human connection, inclusion, discrimination, storytelling, and shared humanity.

Mission: Spread empathy. Increase inclusion. Reduce discrimination.

Focus Areas:

1. developing empathy skills to create more inclusive people and communities;
2. sharing the stories and experiences of marginalized or misrepresented people in order to build understanding, promote inclusivity and reduce discrimination; and
3. creating self-awareness and self-understanding to improve empathy skills, and to address biases, fear, and barriers to connection.



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Submission Guidelines

Proposal Submission Guidelines

In a short summarizing statement, tell us:

- Who you are, including your experience with the type of event you are proposing
- What you plan to do
- Where you plan to do it
- When you would like it scheduled (preferred days of the week; time of day)
- Why you would like to be part of Empathy Week
- Your contact information (contact name, email and phone)

In more detail, demonstrate your thorough understanding of the goals of *Empathy Week* and how this proposed event contributes to them. Specifically:

- What is the primary objective of your event and how does it contribute to the purpose of *Empathy Week*?
- What form will your event take?
- What other individuals, groups or organizations (if any) will be involved in your project and how/what will they contribute?
- How does your event support Humainologie's mission and/or focus areas? How does your event relate to empathy, vulnerability, human-to-human connection, and shared humanity? (The event does not need to connect with all of these themes, but must touch on one or more of them.)
- What audience(s) do you hope to reach? Why them?
- In what way do you hope the perspective of participants will be changed after your event?
- How is your event unique, experiential and/or interactive?
- What are your estimated event costs? (Include a budget with maximum eight line items.)
- Do you anticipate ticketing for the event, or will you offer it free of charge?
- What kind of support (funding or otherwise) do you need from us to make it happen?

Submission of proposals must be completed electronically no later than 4.00PM February 16, 2020. The proposal should detail the submission requirements outlined above.

Humainologie may ask for additional information as required, and reserves the right to either accept a proposal as submitted or negotiate adaptations to the proposed event. For more information, please contact: hello@humainologie.com

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Review Process

Review & Selection

- All submissions will be pre-screened by a Humainologie representative to ensure guidelines are met.
- Those submissions passing the pre-screening will be further reviewed by a small review panel for recommendation.
- A proposal may be excluded from selection if Humainologie has concerns about liability, safety or risk management in relation to the proposed program, if the program is too similar to another program that has been selected or if the proposal submission is missing key information that is required in order to make a determination.
- Notice of success of proposals will be provided to all applicants **on or before April 15, 2020.**





CONNECT WITH US

Instagram: @spreadempathyYYC

Twitter: @Humainologie

Facebook: facebook.com/humainologie
humainologie.com

hello@humainologie.com

Humainologie Gallery + Store | 1514 - 7 St SW

Open Wed - Sun

SUPPORT OUR WORK

- Let others know about our Empathy Week RFP
- Use our curriculum toolkits for grades 9-12, available at humainologie.com/learn/curriculum
- Pitch a story to contribute to our blog at humainologie.com/blog
- Request a speaking engagement or workshop with one of our educators
- Make a donation to the Calgary Centre for Global Community at CanadaHelps.com
- Visit our Gallery + Store in the Beltline