

BACKYARD CONCERTS



Backyard concerts are back! The Lake Country Arts Council is pleased to sponsor funding for local artists (living in the valley from Vernon to Peachland) to perform in your backyard. The program was so successful in 2021, we're bringing it back for 2022! This grant is available to residents of Lake Country only. It's a great way to support local artists, with your neighbours close to home. The micro-grant will cover up to 70% (to a maximum of \$500) to cover the negotiated cost of hiring a local performer, with grant funds to be released after the event.

Host Your Own Backyard Concert

Sponsored by: Lake Country Arts Council, District of Lake Country and Lake Country Rotary Club

"Music is the language of the spirit. It opens the secret of life bringing peace, abolishing strife." ~ Kahlil Gibran

GRANT APPLICATION Please Email completed application to: grants@lcartscouncil.org

Name: _____

Your address: _____

Neighbourhood you live in: _____

Phone Number: _____

(Please provide the number where we can most easily reach you)

Email address: _____

1) Have you ever hosted a neighborhood concert? Yes No

2) Date and time of concert? _____
(Please ensure the concert is completed by 10pm.)

3) Name of Artist/Group? _____

Do you have a contract with the artist? See sample contract below. Yes No

Sound System / PA sorted out with Artist/Band? Yes No

If No, LCAC has one system big enough for a duo (first come first serve basis) otherwise you can rent them from:

Wentworth Music Kelowna 250-860-2251 or Vernon 250-558-7995

SW Event Technology Kelowna 250-868-3333

4) How many people do you expect to attend the concert (to max of 50)? _____

5) Negotiated artist fee of event _____



Best Practices for hosting a successful Backyard Concert in Lake Country during Summer 2022

Grants are being provided by the Lake Country Arts Council for residents of Lake Country to host Backyard Concerts this summer. The Lake Country Arts Council and the District of Lake Country are collaborating on a number of suggested best practices to assist you hosting a cultural event in your backyard this summer. These events will pay local artists, provide some cultural experiences, while maintaining a positive impact on your neighbours and neighbourhood.

- 1) Limit the audience size to 30-50 people in total. This keeps noise, parking and neighbourhood impact to a minimum. Smaller crowds also allow more opportunity to physically distance. (Note: Most Sidewalk concerts last summer had 30 attendees and those went very well.)
- 2) Choose an appropriate stage location: Covered is best. Shade is very helpful (the Okanagan gets very hot in the summer). The audience will also appreciate some shade if there is some.
- 3) Have guests RSVP to you to register in advance and confirm their attendance vs drop in.
- 4) Tips not tickets. Please feel free to offer your performer tips. Selling tickets changes this event into a commercial venture and is not the intent of this program.
- 5) Invite your neighbours. If you are not inviting them, at a minimum please inform your neighbours about your event so they know to expect traffic and noise.

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- 6) Ensure you keep the volume reasonable. Noise bylaws in Lake Country aren't tied to a specific time or specific decibel level but please ensure that your event is at a reasonable volume and concluded by 10pm to be respectful of the neighborhood.
 - 7) Get a contract* with the artist and have an agreed upon plan for cancellation due to rain or lightning.
*** A copy of the District of Lake Country Live! in Lake Country contract is included to help you create that agreement if you do not want to go with the artists contract that they may create.**
 - 8) Plan on how to continue your event with some shelter in the event of rain; but based on weather patterns and forecasts, hold off cancelling until an hour before the event as rain often passes through and doesn't return.
When the thunder roars, go indoors. Cancel or postpone your event in the case of lightning in the area/forecast.
- Note: You may have to pay the Artist 50% for this short notice cancellation or postponement based on your contract but that is the risk taken when hosting an outdoor event.
- 9) Liability: Anytime you host an event or gathering in your home you are accepting some liability.
 - 10) Encourage attendees to walk or carpool. Make sure all parking is on your property when possible.
 - 11) Limit your event to 2 x 45 min sets*. (For example, last years Sidewalk Concerts were limited to 20 minutes.)
This helps reduce the energy level and stops events from turning into a party. ***Homeowners can of course negotiate any mutually agreeable length of performance time the artist agrees upon that features more sets than what we are recommending.**
 - 12) Pay the artist shortly after they arrive on site and before they start playing.
 - 13) Coordinate breaks for the artist. Provide water and access to a washroom.
 - 14) Other resources: These websites offer some good tips for hosting outdoor concerts:
<https://backyardstage.org/backyard-stage-etiquette>
<https://www.sofaconcerts.org/en/house-concert>

If you have questions or are unsure of various aspects of hosting an event, feel free to reach out to the Lake Country Arts Council or Cultural Development staff at the District of Lake Country.



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Lake Country Arts Council:
info@lcartscouncil.org