



Information for New Artists or Groups 2027

Mercury Bay Art Escape began in 2006 and became a registered Charitable Trust in 2010. It has grown into one of New Zealand's leading regional art experiences. This document provides an overview for prospective members. **Please read the 'Guidelines for Members and Groups' before applying, as they contain the full membership expectations and requirements.**

About Art Escape

Open Studios are held annually over the first two weekends in March and gives visitors the opportunity to meet artists in their own studios, learn about their creative process and purchase original artwork.

Art Escape operates on a collaborative basis. Members are encouraged to contribute their time, ideas and expertise throughout the year, particularly in the lead-up to Open Studios.

Membership Benefits

- Open your studio during Open Studios.
- Individual Guide listing.
- Individual artist webpage.
- Promotion through print, radio, website and social media.
- One Showcase Exhibition artwork.
- Half-price Opening Night ticket.
- Artist banner flag and promotional signage.

You can apply, if you:

- Live or own property within the Mercury Bay area (Whangapoua to Pauanui/Hikuaui).
- Create original, high-quality artwork.
- Demonstrates originality, skill and professional presentation.
- Be willing to participate in the collaborative nature of Art Escape.
- Be available during Open Studios.

Preparing Your Studio

- Present a welcoming studio.
- Display a good selection of original work.
- Clearly price all artwork.
- Be ready to discuss your creative process with visitors.
- If you don't have an appropriate studio space, you can join a Group, Hub, or contact artists@mercurybayartescape.com for any assistance.

Group Membership

- Recognised groups of 6–10 members may apply.
- All members must meet the normal selection and location criteria.
- One nominated liaison communicates with MBAE.
- Group receives one Guide listing, one webpage, one Showcase work, one sign/flag.

Membership Fees

- Existing members: \$300
- **New members: \$325 (includes \$25 administration fee)**
- Groups: \$300 plus \$100 per member
- Hubs for emerging artists: \$300 plus \$100 per member
- Payment plans available via accounts@mercurybayartescape.com

Next Steps

If you would like to apply, please

- Read the Guidelines for Members and Groups.
- Contact your Area Representative or admin@mercurybayartescape.com if you have any questions.
- Submit your application by August 31 via [Mercury Bay Art Escape website](#).