

Tips for Writing Peel Open Studios Artist Statement

What is an Artist Statement?

Your Artist Statement is the communication between you and your audiences, describing your creative process of construction and results. It may include your symbolism and/or mediums. Your statement must be written in third person and should include whatever is important to you and the presentation of your artwork.

Your Artist Statement supplements the visual information in your artwork. It may also help curators and other arts professionals talk about and promote your artwork; provide background information for writers of articles, reviews, and catalogues; or function as the basis for cover letters and grant proposals.

When to submit your Artist Statement

In the Peel Open Studio 2025, your Artist Statement must be submitted while registering the event online.

How long can your Artist Statement be?

There are two kinds of Peel Open Studios Artist Statement, each with its own word limits. These limits are strictly enforced, and you will be asked to make edits if your statement is too long!

Short Artist Statement – to be featured on the Peel Open Studios event guide brochure, max. 50 words

Optional detailed Artist Statement – to be featured on the Peel Open Studios website, max. 200 words



Tips and tricks

- Give yourself plenty of time to work on your Artist Statement.
- Be clear and concise – use clean sentences and simple words.
- You can use contractions (such as *don't* rather than *do not*) to help with the word count.
- Focus on topics not apparent from viewing your images, such as symbols and metaphors, themes and issues underlying your work, mediums, mode, etc.
- Proofread your statement for spelling, grammar or confusing content.
- Try reading it aloud or recording it to see how it sounds. Ask a friend to read it too – do they still have questions about the artwork that aren't answered in your statement?

What NOT to include

- Your Artist Statement is about your artistic work, and should not be a biography about you or personal information not related to your art.
- You don't need theoretical jargon or an intellectualised writing style. Your artwork is the impressive part, the Artist Statement is just supporting that.
- Avoid passive sentences and sounding unsure – try “my artwork expresses” rather than “I am attempting to express”