

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

1. The Hamilton Artists Inc.'s current stand on the use of generative AI tools.

We value art that is creative and challenging, strive to implement equitable models to dismantle systemic barriers in the art world, and have the responsibility to take actions to ensure sustainable operations.

In contrast to our values:

- using AI to produce a work systematically removes human creativity from the process and results in derivative works that by definition are not challenging [1];
- currently available commercial AI tools are not transparent in their machine-learning algorithms or training datasets, raising concerns about ethics and programmed biases [2], [3]; and
- the high energy cost associated with the use of current AI tools will create a new sustainability barrier if their use becomes widely adopted by our (or any) community [4].

Therefore, the Hamilton Artists Inc. does not support the use of AI at this time.

2. Work created using AI

Work created solely using AI is excluded from the definition of art, which comprises the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination [5], and therefore shall not be displayed at the Hamilton Artists Inc.

Work created partially with the help of AI is highly discouraged; however, it may be permitted and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

3. Submitting proposals using AI

Proposals created with the help of AI tools such as Large Language Models (LLMs) will not be accepted.

As the Hamilton Artists Inc. is committed to equity and inclusion in all aspects of its operations, alternative submission formats including audio, video and hard-copy paper submissions are acceptable. Applicants that require additional help to prepare and submit their proposals can contact our Artistic Director at programming@theinc.ca

4. AI for accessibility in gallery exhibitions

The use of AI to reduce accessibility barriers to experience artwork, for example, to facilitate text-to-speech conversions, will not be implemented at this time by the Hamilton Artists Inc. as free, alternative tools that do not use AI are widely and readily available.

5. Continuous technology change

In accordance with being responsive to change as one of our core values, the Hamilton Artists Inc. is committed to stay informed about the development of AI technology and revise the current AI policy as needed.

[1] Mineo, Liz. *"If it wasn't created by a human artist, is it still art?"* Harvard Gazette, 15 Aug. 2023, news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2023/08/is-art-generated-by-artificial-intelligence-real-art/.

[2] Appel, Gil, Juliana Neelbauer, and David A. Schweidel. *"Generative AI Has an Intellectual Property Problem."* Harvard Business Review, 7 Apr. 2023, hbr.org/2023/04/generative-ai-has-an-intellectual-property-problem.

[3] Heikkilä, Melissa. *"Nobody Knows How AI Works."* MIT Technology Review, 5 Mar. 2024, www.technologyreview.com/2024/03/05/1089449/nobody-knows-how-ai-works/.

[4] Vincent, James. *"How Much Electricity Does AI Consume?"* The Verge, 16 Feb. 2024, www.theverge.com/24066646/ai-electricity-energy-watts-generative-consumption

[5] "Art." Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/art>