## Interview Questions

### BEFORE YOU INTERVIEW YOUR FIRST ARTIST:

You may wish to follow the outline below when conducting your interview. Pls. choose 5-6 questions from the list below as your main points of inquiry. (I also recommend having 1-2 extra questions handy in case you sense discomfort or hesitancy regarding any questions you ask.

**Note**:

* Asking open-ended questions (why, how, i.e. questions that can’t be answered with a Y/N) will allow you to gather more info. and to have material for follow-up questions. For easy remembering, we call these beginnings "tellabouts," as in, "Tell me about … " Many (but not all) of these beginnings introduce a statement rather than a question, inviting the person being interviewed to elaborate his or her answer. Characteristic tellabout prompts include:

"Tell me about … " "Why did … " "Can you explain … " "How does … " "Please describe … " "Tell me about a time when … "

* If any artist declines your request for an interview, just say “Thanks anyway” and wish them a great day.

### DURING THE INTERVIEW:

1. Introductions: Introduce yourself saying that you’re a NorQuest student who’s doing an assignment on an artist at the festival. (*The assignment centres on what inspires people to do art – for what reason do they commit to this?)* Ask if they would mind answering a few questions. If they agree, thank them and begin by asking some basic information questions:
   1. Name / Age / Location
   2. Brief intro to who you are / what you do.
   3. How would you describe your work?
   4. Do you have a background in art?
   5. How did you get started doing this?
2. After the interview is progressing and both parties feel more relaxed, you may wish to choose some of the following questions:
3. What’s your favorite piece of work that you have created? What are you working on at the moment?
4. What are your goals for the future, both work wise and life?
5. What are you doing when you’re not creating? What (other) hobbies do you have?
6. Do you sell your work and if yes, where?
7. Where else can we find you? (Blog, website, twitter, facebook etc)
8. What else should we know about you and your work?
9. Do you have any tips or inspiring words for others?
10. Do you admire any artists / photographers? (Famous or not!)
11. How has your practice or art changed over time
12. What art do you most identify with?
13. What work do you most enjoying doing?
14. What themes do you pursue?
15. What’s your favourite art work?
16. Describe a real-life situation that inspired you?
17. What jobs have you done other than being an artist?
18. Why art?
19. What do you like about your work?
20. What superpower would you have and why?
21. Name something you love, and why.
22. What is your dream project?
23. Name three artists you’d like to be compared to.
24. Favourite or most inspirational place
25. What’s the best piece of advice you’ve been given?
26. What is your favorite…book/movie/art style, etc.

AFTER THE INTERVIEW:

1. Be sure to thank the artist for their time, saying how much you appreciated the opportunity. Wish them a successful festival and take their business card if they have one.