ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

"WHAT, WHY, & HOW"



FAN CONFERENCE – GATHERING LIGHT

Professional Development

Nanaimo, BC, September 16-19, 2025

WHAT

FINDING AND CHOOSING THE RIGHT RESIDENCY

- Gather and read the residency guidelines
- Length of Time at Residency
- Travel time must be considered
- Do you need a passport & or a visa to study in a different country?
- Keep a record/spreadsheet for your application
- Private Residency Funded by Art Benefactors or Interest Groups
- Commercial Residency Business Hosts for Artists
- Government Sponsored Municipal, Provincial, Federal
- Self-Directed 100% paid by artist

- If you receive a grant for the residency, you will need to account for the funds allocated
- A balanced budget.
- Expenses/receipts
- Often, a written end-of-residency report will need to be submitted (within their guidelines and times)
- Is the Residency funded? Will you be paid?
 - Will you be expected to pay all costs?
 - Partial costs paid, i.e., accommodation, mileage, etc.
 - Can you expect an honorarium or some other form of remuneration or recognition?

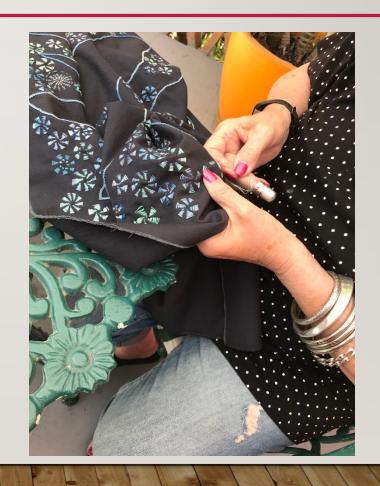
WHEN CHOOSING YOUR RESIDENCY, ASK YOURSELF?

- Do I want peace, do I want quiet?
- Having a quiet place for serious thinking and studio time can open new horizons and possibilities
- New environment
- "Stop and smell the roses" in your new environment
- Meeting other artists
- Educational
- Learning new skills no pressure
- Resume and CV building
- Global exposure
- Inexpensive holiday/work combination

- Topics to consider when writing your application:
- CV & Bio
- Letters of recommendation
- Exhibition history
- Photo gallery
- Commission history, location
- Grants and awards
- Previous residency history
- Do I include a photo or not?

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS OF YOUR RESIDENCY/HOST

- Community involvement, workshop, talk
- Mount an exhibition
- Donate a piece of your art
- Advertise social media
- Public appearance, TV interviews
- Web page, Blogs, Podcasts
- Newsletter
- Catalogue



APPLICATION OUTLINE

- Some Residency applications request detailed proposals, outlining what you will work on while you are in residence
- I find it is more productive and rewarding to arrive with an open mind, especially if other artists are using different mediums and approaches to their work and materials.
- However, I always have a Project and an outline roughly planned for my allotted time at the residency.
- Don't go to a residency hoping to secure a contract for a gallery show
- Residencies are about making art and exploring new ideas
- Kindred spirits are supportive and form a priceless community
- Residency magic comes from living among creative souls.

Learn to take rejection

Don't be afraid to apply more than once

HOW

LEIGHTON HOUSE



- Residencies can extend long past the duration of the actual physical time commitment
- Excellent time to learn about yourself and how you adapt to different studio working conditions
- Not just for making new art
- Time for reconsidering your personal style
- Time to set new goals and objectives
- Some artists find themselves extraordinarily productive, while others struggle to concentrate

RESIDENCY EXAMPLE - BANFF



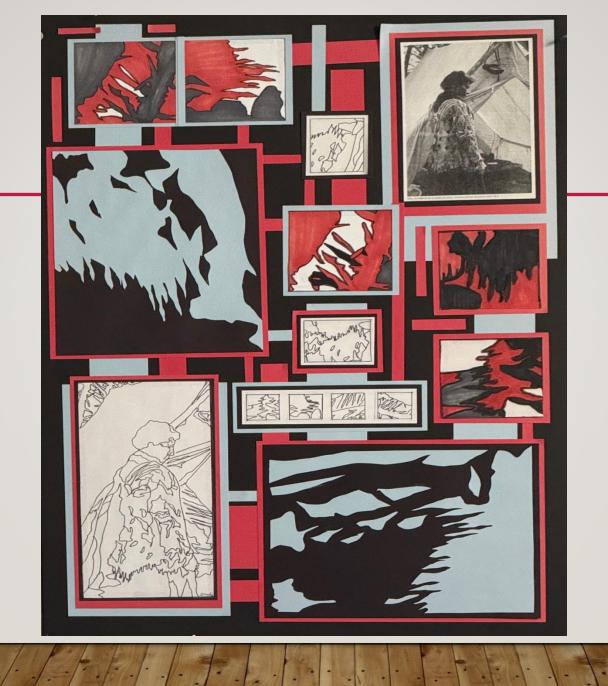
Residency at the Banff Centre 2009

2 weeks + 4 weeks

Group Residency – Articulation

GROUP RESIDENCY

- The fibre art group Articulation was the Artist-in-Residence in the Leighton Artists' Colony at the Banff Centre for March 2009. Articulation is composed of ten fibre artists from across Canada.
- The artists spent 2 weeks as artist-in-residence while we carried out research for our *WOMEN ROCK* project. Seven specialists in different fields shared their time, knowledge, and skills with the group during this research phase of the project. We returned to our respective studios for 11 months and then met up again at the Banff Centre for one month to produce *The Woman Rock* body of work, which was exhibited at the Whyte Museum and Gallery in Banff, AB.



Linda MacKay

RESIDENCY EXAMPLE - JAPAN



Ota Artist-in-Residence 2014

Tokyo, Japan

Three weeks

OTA ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE - TOKYO, JAPAN

OOMORI COMMUNITY CAFÉ BOARD 2014 (EXPECTED ARTIST ACTIVITIES)

- I accompanied Shanti, a fellow artist-in-residence, to her workshop at an elementary school, where two
 groups of 30 students were waiting for a 90-minute class on painting and paper cutting techniques, a type
 of paper collage technique.
- Overnight homestay with a board member, sightseeing, dinner at home with family members,
- Attend a flower arrangement show and meet my exhibition partner, a lady who is considered a master ikebana instructor. I took a 3-hour lesson, and it was fascinating. We will work together to hang the exhibition using her floral arrangements to complement my textile art.
- Teach a 6-hour workshop to 24 adult students.
- Location: ancient Tea House, magnificent building.
- TV live taping while I'm instructing the class, personal interview afterward.
- Local traditional artists/artisans will be involved in her creation and exhibition as her collaborators

TOKYO TEAHOUSE

Interactive Workshop

24 Students (ages 20 – 70)

Contemporary Embroidery

Traditional Tea Ceremony followed

NHK interview to wrap up



RESIDENCY EXAMPLE – LAKE CHAPALA, MEXICO, 2022



- Deborah Kruger refers to her retreat for artists in Chapala as a place of inspiration and serenity for artists who need uninterrupted time to focus
- Self-directed 5-week residency
- Self-directed residency with guided tours to Deborah Kruger Studio, and informal chats and gatherings.



RESIDENCY EXAMPLE – CATENAI CENTRE, VERNON 2022



- Stay, create, and inspire at Caetani Centre!
- Self-directed 1-week residency
- Work alongside other residents
- Visiting artists can tour Sveva Caetani's gallery in situ
- Artists and writers creating, living, and working, sharing space, ideas, and techniques in an independent environment



360 Xochi Quetzal: Ajijic, Mexico 2024

4-week Self-directed residency

"Doing an artist residency at 360 XQ was one of the best decisions of my life and art career. I loved that I didn't have to apply and get accepted because I'm in a transition phase of my work and wanted the opportunity to have space and time to create pieces that weren't perfect, and to have the freedom to explore. Bethany gave me that freedom and support."

— Meghan Stanford, painter, Los Angeles

AJIJIC, MEXICO

Salon Talk

https://studiogart.ca/360-xochi-quetzal

I enjoyed the freedom to explore a new direction with my art practice

I participated in an evening Salon, giving a 15-minute talk and sharing with fellow artists in residence and the public Several painters sold their work during this time in residence Connected with several artists

Toured several studios, ceramic, sculpture, and a Tequila Farm and Distillery

Taught a 1-day workshop



RESIDENCIES - "JUST DO IT"

https://studiogart.ca/

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ART EXCHANGE

"Gathering Light"

