



Frequently Asked Questions: Artists-In-Residence

How often does Kala accept applications for the artists-in-residence program?

Two application deadlines are scheduled annually in July and February. Kala offers a 2-week and a 3.5-week artist residency with housing and a project space for artists coming from outside of the Bay Area. In addition, artists can apply for 1-month, 2-month, or 3-month residencies; no housing is included for this option: [find out how to apply here](#).

How are the artists-in-residence selected?

The selection panel considers skills in the proposed project area that match the resources available at Kala, along with artistic and conceptual strengths, supporting artists in completing projects or bodies of work that benefit from Kala's specialized equipment: [find out more here](#).

I was accepted to the AIR program - what are the next steps?

Once we confirm your residency session and start dates, we will provide the residency contract, invoice, code of conduct, orientation dates, and all the essential Kala information: find out more about the [residency experience here](#).

Can I postpone my residency or change the dates once I am accepted?

Visiting artists-in-residence accepted for 2-week or 3.5-week residencies with Kala housing must attend during their scheduled session. Local artists are able to adjust residency dates if their plans change or postpone their start date up to one year. Applicants who cannot begin within the year of their acceptance will need to reapply for the following open call.

Can I take a class if I am new to a piece of equipment or a technical process? Yes, you can register for [Kala Classes](#), and all active artist-in-residence receive a 20% AIR discount for class enrollment. You don't have to wait to start working in the studio to register for a class!

Are there private studios at Kala?

Yes, visiting artists staying in Kala's artist apartments receive an individual project space (150-200 sq ft) or a large project space that is shared between two artists (400 sq ft)! Kala offers 3 individual project spaces that are perfect for installations, projections, and open studio visits.

What artistic disciplines does Kala's artist residency support?

Kala's offers multidisciplinary facilities and work areas. All artists-in-residence have 24/7 access to a shared 6,000-square-foot print studio, 600 sq. ft sculpture lab, digital lab, and black and white darkroom. Each year, Kala welcomes artists-in-residence and fellows from various

disciplines, including printmaking, photography, book arts, film, video and new media, public art, performance, ceramics, fiber arts, sculpture, and installation!

Is there funding support for attending a residency at Kala?

Kala offers fully funded residencies through the [Fellowship](#) (February deadline), [Veterans Artist Residency](#), [Jen Cole Award](#), and [CCA Hamaguchi Artist Residency](#) (July deadline). All residencies are subsidized and are made possible through generous donations and grants from foundations and individuals; you can review all [residency rates and options here](#).

How often can I renew my residency contract?

Once you are an artist-in-residence at Kala, you are welcome to renew your residency contract as often as you like. At the end of the month, visiting artists check out of the residency program, and local artists have the option to continue working in the studio and renew their contract.

Can I return to Kala after I finish a residency?

If you complete your residency and leave Kala, you're welcome back as a returning AIR without additional application. Please email us at kalaair@kala.org in advance to schedule.

Will you keep track of my schedule when I'm at Kala?

The part-time and full-time studio use agreement is on an honor system basis! We use a shared TeamUp calendar reservation system to help everyone plan their time in the studio. Artists can reserve equipment up to 3 weeks in advance.

How many residents are there at one time at Kala?

Kala has 70 artists-in-residence at any given time, but usually only about 10-15 are working in our studios at the same time. Each month, Kala welcomes an artist cohort with 8-12 new artists-in-residence: 4 visiting artists (national, regional, international) and 4-8 local artists.

70 artists! Does it ever get overcrowded?

Multidisciplinary sculpture lab, printmaking studio, digital lab, darkroom, and individual project spaces offer many workspace options for artists. With over 8,000 square feet of shared studio spaces, we can accommodate large artist-in-residence cohorts!

I am a visiting artist, will I have an individual room in the artist housing?

Yes, Kala's artist residency apartments are located across the street from Kala's facilities. Kala offers two shared artist apartments a block from Kala. Each apartment is a 2-bedroom unit, meaning you will have your own bedroom and be living with 1 roommate and sharing a kitchen, living room, and bathroom. Artist housing is prioritized for artists outside of the Bay Area.

What if I have questions or need support about a technical aspect of my project?

Please ask us as many questions as you need to feel comfortable in the space. Staff lead online and in-person orientations to help artists get situated in the studio. Always feel free to bring up any concerns or suggestions, and we understand that practitioners need guidance, regardless of their level of experience!