

Aomori Contemporary Art Centre, Aomori Public University

Artist-in-Residence Program 2020 Application Guidelines

[1] Program Overview

OPEN CALL : CALL for OPEN

Since its opening in 2001, the Aomori Contemporary Art Centre (ACAC) has continued to focus its activities on an Artist-in-Residence (AIR) program while interweaving ample opportunities for exchange, which include exhibitions, workshops, and talks between artists, students, and the local community. The ACAC has a unique exhibition gallery space, and until now, it has been mandatory for resident artists to participate in an exhibition during period of approximately three months. This has been the defining feature of the ACAC AIR program—a continuous process of production, presentation, and visitor response.

Building upon this history, this year, we plan to expand the scope of the ACAC AIR program. And we're beginning by removing mandatory participation in the exhibition. Artists can, of course, also hold exhibitions, but those who don't will instead be asked to hold other events like workshops, performances, and talks. We are also redesigning the program schedule to be more flexible. Artists can now stay for as little as two weeks or as long as three months. Short stays may lend themselves more to intense production, which may culminate in workshops or performances, while more extended stays allow artists to try repeated experiments over an extended period of time and conduct in-depth research into their work ahead of the exhibition. In this program, what you do here is up to you.

What we provide here at the ACAC is an environment that cannot be found anywhere else. Located at the northern end of Honshu, the main island of Japan, the culture here is different from that of the big city. We are surrounded by an inspiring natural setting in the foothills of the Hakkoda Mountains. And at the heart of the center is our one-of-a-kind 543m² arc-shaped gallery space. Are you interested in exploring this unique environment, making full use of our facilities, and drawing out new strengths you didn't know you had? Using the ACAC as a hub, we hope that artists, curators, and researchers from a diverse range of fields will come together to give shape to a creative space that fosters communication between artists, students, and the local community.

[2] Number of Participants

6–10 participants (Including two participants recommended by artist-in-residence host institutions outside of Japan)

[3] Program Schedule

Residence Period: The period of stay at the ACAC must be chosen from the following terms between June 17 (Wed) and September 22 (Tue), 2020. You must select at least one and up to seven terms.

1. June 17(Wed)—June 30 (Tue)
2. July 1 (Wed)—July 14 (Tue)
3. July 15 (Wed)—July 28 (Tue)

4. July 29 (Wed)—August 11 (Tue)
5. August 12 (Wed)—August 25 (Tue)
6. August 26 (Wed)—September 8 (Tue)
7. September 9 —September 22 (Tue)

Application Period:

December 16 (Mon), 2019—January 31 (Fri), 2020, 17:00 JST (GMT +9:00)

Selection Schedule:

January 31 (Fri) ----- Application Deadline
Early February ----- First Screening
February 10 (Mon) ---- Notification sent to successful candidates of the first screening
March 10 (Tue) ----- Deadline for submission of documents for the second screening
Mid March ----- Second Screening
Late April ----- Invitations Sent

[4] How to Apply

First Screening: Online Application

Please submit the online application by the following deadline.

<https://forms.gle/zdrtwunFhfHVZhw9>

Application Deadline: January 31 (Fri), 2020 17:00 JST

Second Screening: Document Screening

Successful candidates of the first screening will be notified on February 10 (Mon), and documents for the second screening must be submitted by post no later than March 10 (Tue).

[5] Screening and Notification

Based on submitted materials, artists will be selected by the ACAC curatorial team and external judge and art critic Dr. HIRAKURA Kei.

The applicants will be informed of the final decision by email at the end of April, 2020.

[6] External Judge

HIRAKURA Kei (b. 1977, Japan) is an art theorist and art critic. His works explore the materially embodied process of thought in art making. Hirakura obtained his Ph.D in Interdisciplinary Information Studies from the University of Tokyo in 2009. He teaches art theory at Yokohama National University as an associate professor. He has authored several books on modern and contemporary art, film, and performance, including *How Figures Think: Studies of Art Making*, University of Tokyo Press, 2019; and *Godard's Method(s)*, Inscript, 2010.

[7] Application Requirements

- a) Individuals or groups engaged in artistic pursuits, including curators, researchers, artists, or otherwise. (Hereafter referred to as “the artist” regardless of background or genre.)
- b) The artist should be independent, and capable of working and living on his or her own.
- c) The artist is responsible for all set up and break down of exhibitions and events.
- d) The artist should be understand the purpose of his or her visit to ACAC, and must be able

- to stay during the period for which they are invited.
- e) The artist should be able to lead a community life with the other artists on the program.
 - f) Artists who choose not to exhibit will instead participate in exchange programs, including artist talks, lectures, performances, workshops, and school visits.
 - g) The artist should be able to explain his or her artwork, and to give lectures or workshops in English or Japanese as part of the exchange program.
 - h) The artist should be in good health.
 - i) The artist should be able to speak and understand basic English daily conversation.

[8] When Holding an Exhibition

Venue: Aomori Contemporary Art Centre (ACAC) and vicinity

Following consultation with ACAC curators, exhibitions may be organized as group exhibitions.

* The nature of the work required for the exhibition, and the location of the exhibition, will be decided after due consultation between the ACAC and the artists.

[9] Obligations of the Organizer and the Artist

The Organizer and the Artist have the following obligations to each other throughout the duration of the program and enter into a contract on the basis of this. **In principle, it is a precondition that all successful applicants come alone to Aomori.** Artist can apply as a group or unit. In this case, the organizer considers 1 artist’s group or unit as 1 artist, and provides expenses only for 1 artist's expense.

If successful applicants wish to be accompanied by family members or an assistant, it is necessary to consult with ACAC beforehand. Should ACAC approve the Artist’s request, the accompanying individuals may stay at the ACAC facilities. In this case, the artist is financially responsible for paying both the travel fare and the accommodation fee (JPY2,040 per night) for the accompanying individual.

Each amount of money noted in this guideline includes tax.

Subject	Nature of Obligation
Travel to Aomori	
Travel expenses	<p>THE ORGANIZER will pay the following travel expenses according to the Aomori Public University’s regulations:</p> <p><overseas resident> A one-time round trip economy class air ticket from the international airport which is nearest to the Artist’s home to Aomori airport (or flight fare + railway fare to Aomori).</p> <p><domestic resident> A railway fare to Aomori (one time round trip) from the train station nearest to the Artist's residence.</p> <p>*The ORGANIZER provides travel expenses after the ARTIST arrival.</p> <p>*From overseas the amount payable is up to 150,000JPY, for domestic travel it is up to 70,000JPY.</p> <p>* The residence means the place for tax payment.</p> <p>*The ORGANIZER does not provide the travel expense coming back to Japan for Japanese artist.</p>

	* The expense for the transportation of goods or materials must be paid by the Artist.
Visa	THE ARTIST should make arrangements for a visa with which they may enter Japan, if it is necessary. (All costs to be borne by the artist.) Please contact us about obtaining a visa after receiving your invitation.
Gallery Usage & Events	
Activities	During the residency, THE ARTIST agrees to certain activities, including organizing an exhibition or exchange program, in addition to conducting activities such as research and production in the pursuit of artistic expression.
Activity Expenses	THE ORGANIZER will provide 40,000JPY per term in production expenses, in which is included fees for material, employment, research, transportation, display and putting away of exhibition etc (provided that THE ORGANIZER accepts their necessity).
Exhibition-related Event Expenses	If an ARTIST holding an exhibition also organizes a separate exchange program, THE ORGANIZER will provide 50,000 yen for exhibition-related event expenses.
Studio	THE ORGANIZER will provide the artists with a studio in the Creative Hall and with display space in the Exhibition Hall in ACAC. (during the program period only) THE ARTIST must share the studio with other artists.
Care of Studio	THE ORGANIZER will sweep the studio regularly, but THE ARTIST should keep his or her own studio clean. When THE ARTIST leaves ACAC, THE ARTIST should return the studio to its original condition.
Resident Production at the ACAC	
Exhibition	Exhibition --The location of each exhibition and the final contents of the work proposal must be decided after due consultation between ACAC (curators) and THE ARTIST . -- In principle, THE ARTIST should exhibit his or her work by him or herself and care and maintain his or her own work by him or herself during the exhibition. -- THE ORGANIZER should prepare any materials necessary for presentation (panels, explanatory captions, etc) of the artwork for the audience. Decisions on any such materials shall be made after due consultation between THE ARTIST and ACAC . --In order to use the gallery without partitions, for group exhibitions, it is necessary to discuss and coordinate the installation of temporary walls and the use of headphones when a work incorporates light or sound.

Handling of the Works after the Exhibition	The works must be temporary. THE ARTIST should be able to dismantle his or her works by him or herself after the exhibition. Should the artist wish to take that work produced during the residency back home, THE ARTIST must pack his or her work alone and pay any expenses involved in packing and shipping.
Exchange Program	If THE ARTIST does not hold an exhibition, they must be sure to hold one of the following exchange programs. --Lecture --Performance --Workshop --School visit THE ORGANIZER will provide and pay the cost for any materials used in such exchange programs after due consultation between THE ARTIST and ACAC .
About Living in ACAC	
Living Expenses	THE ORGANIZER will provide living costs according to the Aomori public university's regulations for THE ARTIST . (upper limit is 70 days' worth) The full amount of living expenses is 303,160JPY. For one term: 59,400JPY However, living allowance is not paid for in the following cases: -- When THE ARTIST goes outside Aomori for personal travel. -- In cases of late arrival to and/or early departure from ACAC.
Accommodation	THE ORGANIZER will provide the artist with residential facilities in ACAC during the program period (a private single room / 19.44 m ²). THE ARTIST must share bathroom and kitchen facilities. The facilities are self-catering. THE ARTIST must keep his or her private room, and the bathroom and kitchen facilities clean. When THE ARTIST leaves ACAC, THE ARTIST must return the residential facilities to their original condition.
Internet	THE ARTIST can use wireless internet in our facilities.
Insurance	THE ARTIST is covered by injury insurance and sickness insurance for the duration of the residency. Any past illness, chronic diseases and dental treatment are not covered. THE ARTIST is free to enter private health insurance policies. <u>Works presented at exhibitions and exchange programs are not covered by insurance.</u>
Other	
Cooperation with Record of Activities,	THE ORGANIZER will take pictures of works produced and will film the production process in order to have a record of all activities undertaken during the period of residency. THE

and About Copyright	ARTIST should cooperate with the recording of these archives. THE ARTIST retains copyright of his or her work. However, THE ORGANIZER reserves the right to record (photo, film, etc.) these works, and the copyright of these archival recordings is owned by ACAC. ACAC also retains the right to use any such records for publicity purposes. Any parties who have received the proper permission from THE ORGANIZER may use these records at no cost.
About the Program Catalogue	THE ORGANIZER will produce a Program Catalogue and present 20 copies of the catalogue to THE ARTIST .
Cooperation with Public Relations	THE ARTIST should cooperate with public relations as much as possible. However, it is possible to refuse when there is fear of an invasion of the artist's privacy and/or interference with the artist's work. In such cases, please consult with THE ORGANIZER .
Assistance for Activities	Aside from the ACAC staff members, ACAC has an independent volunteer organization which supports the resident artists in the fields of creative assistance, translation and general living needs. The nature of the support available will be decided after discussions with participating artists, volunteers and the organizer during the orientation period.
About tax	Please be aware that for those participating from countries without tax treaties with Japan and countries with tax treaties but for which taxes are not exempt, an income tax of approximately 20% (20.42% in 2019) will be withheld from the stipend provided. This includes both production and living stipends. (Please contact your local embassy, consulate, or other appropriate organization for more details.) In addition, if you reside in a country that has tax treaties with Japan, documents certifying your residence will be required.

[10] Address & Inquiry

atten: AIR 2020

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