

Partner with AA2A to Support
Artists and Designers and
Inspire Students

**AA2A connects professional artists with
universities and colleges to facilitate
experiential learning, enriching students
creative practice and academic discourse
through direct engagement.**



Nurturing the Next Generation of Creative Professionals

For nearly 30 years, AA2A has embedded professional artists and designers into academic settings, enriching education and supporting creative sector employability.

1996

First pilot schemes begin

1999

Scheme officially launched under NAFAE

2002

Scheme moves to CHEAD

2010

AA2A becomes independent

2012

1000th resident

2018

AA2A wins Arts Council NPO

2023

New head of AA2A appointed

A Bridge Between Professional Artists and Academic Institutions

- Year-long subsidised artist residencies
- Practical, real-world employability support and development for students
- In-person professional practice talks
- Industry-facing live seminar series
- Over 100 bite-sized videos and a Creative Futures Guide



Nearly 30 Years of Lasting Impact

- 70+ Universities partnered
- 2,000+ artists supported
- 50,000+ students engaged
- 100+ professional practice videos and guides produced



Why Partner With AA2A?

Affordable. Valuable. Inspiring.

Option	Annual Cost	Included
Hiring Visual Artists	£5,000-£6,000*	Limited Sessions
AA2A Residency Scheme	<u>£1,995**</u>	4-6 Artists, Workshops, Student Support

* Estimated annual costs based on equivalent hours

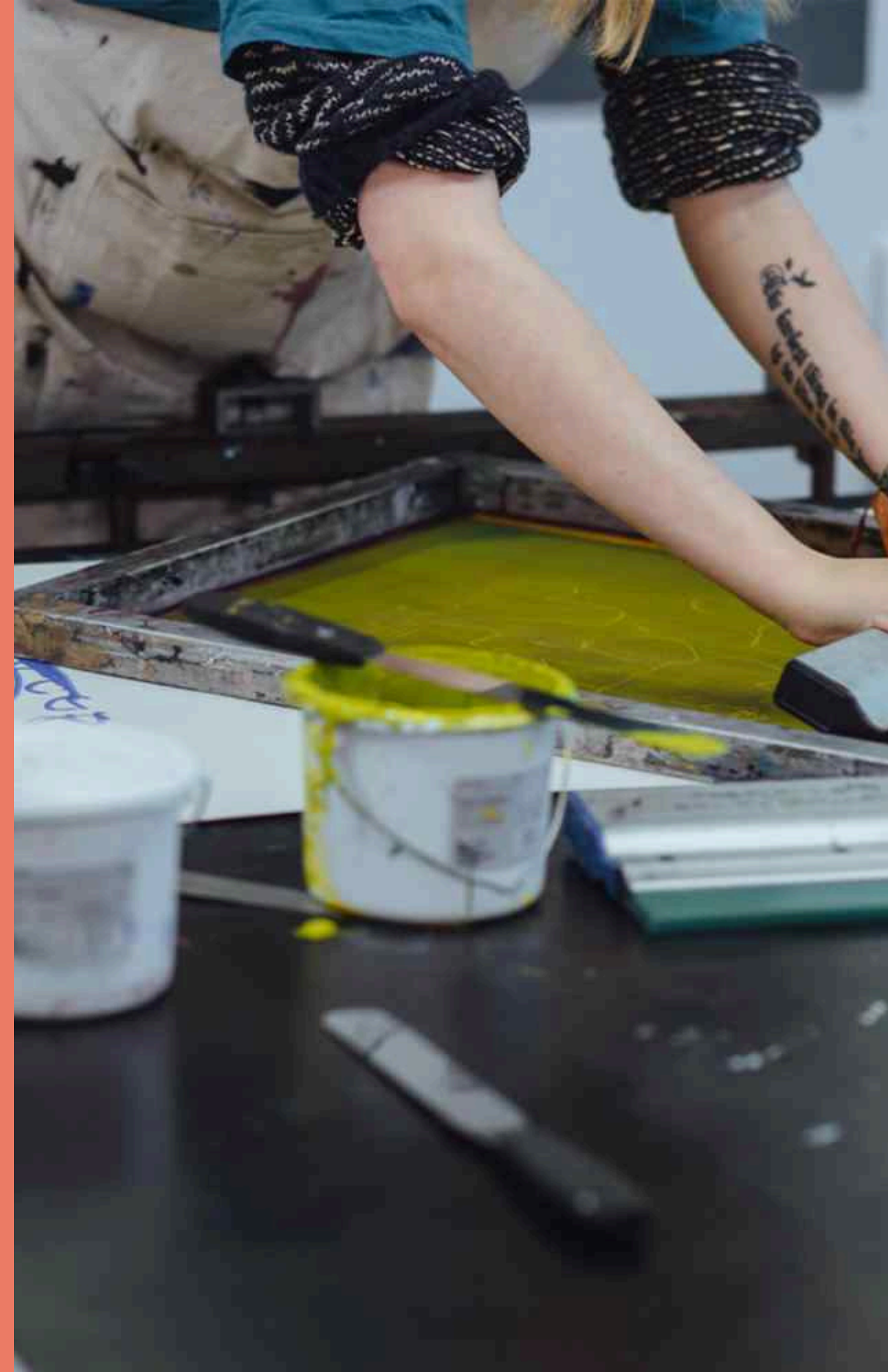
** 2026/27 total cost of AA2A scheme for 4-6 artists, support fund, talks and workshops (approx. **60% subsidised - Arts Council England**)

Artist Residencies

Bring Fresh Creative Voices Into Your Institution.

- 4–6 artists per year
- 100+ hours of on-site time
- Talks, workshops, mentoring
- Up to 4 in-person sessions delivered by each artist

“AA2A allowed me to connect with other artists and share my practice with students planning to work in the creative sector” – Artist Resident, 2023



Creative Futures for Students

Preparing Students for Real Careers in the Creative Industries.

- Creative Futures talks and seminar series
- 100+ online videos and guides
- Student Ambassador programme
- 1:1 mentoring and industry advice

“So helpful to hear from real artists about making a living” – Student, 2024



We Make Hosting Easy Support and Expectations.

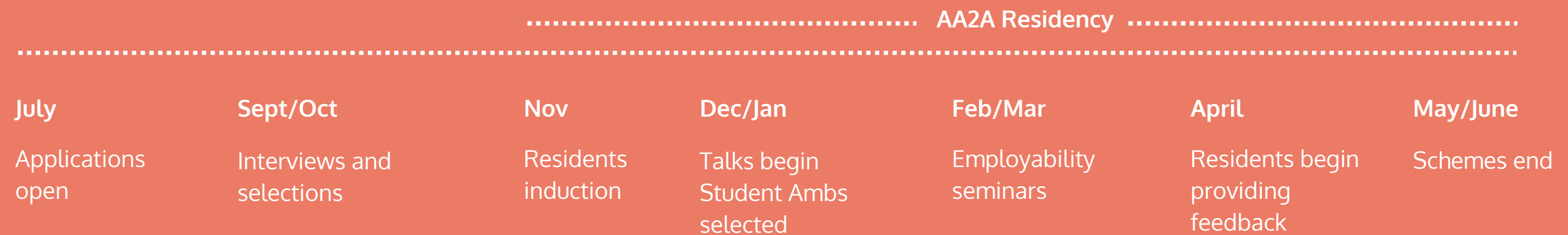
- AA2A team provides support throughout the year
- We promote the opportunity and provide basic reporting
- Artists are selected by your team, supported by us
- An Artist Support Fund is managed by AA2A
- Simple AA2A guides and templates facilitate the scheme

Scheme partners are not required to provide AA2A residents with a studio space



Your Year with AA2A Timeline.

1. Summer: Sign up & prep
2. Autumn: Artist recruitment
3. Winter/Spring: Residency activity, talks, seminars, student ambassador programme
4. Summer: Feedback & review



What Our Hosts Say

“AA2A artists gave fantastic teaching workshops that were the most popular workshops across the year for our students”

“It’s an inspiring experience for staff and students alike”

“By working alongside professional artists, students have had the opportunity to gain valuable insights into the creative process and learn new techniques and skills whilst building on their own practice”



Meet the Team



Daniel Hawley-Lingham
Executive Director



Mags McLeary
National Coordinator



Andy Pearson
Operations Manager

Guided by a Board of Directors and Advisory Board, and delivered in collaboration with sector partners and freelance specialists across the UK.

See full team and profiles: Board of Directors,
Advisory Board, Speakers and Panellists
<https://aa2a.org/aa2a-team/>

Ready to Inspire Your Students?

Let's Talk

Visit <https://aa2a.org/why-host/>
or contact our team to set up a short call

info@aa2a.org

