

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Cambridge School of Art

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

Cambridge School of Art offers AA2A artists in residence the opportunity to develop their practice within a welcoming, active and stimulating art school environment. AA2A artists can benefit from access to specialist workshops and facilities, interdisciplinary exchange, and engagement with staff and students across the school. There may also be an opportunity to exhibit work developed during the residency following its completion.

Contact for enquiries: joanne.miller@aru.ac.uk, veronique.chance@aru.ac.uk
rosanna.greaves@aru.ac.uk

Placements will be running from 30 September 2026 to 30 April 2027.

We welcome applications from creatives of all backgrounds but do not have the facilities to accommodate painters.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	4th September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	11th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	18th September
Formal offers issued by	21st September
Offer acceptance deadline	22nd September
General induction session	30th September

Dates are subject to change, and delays may occur. If there are significant delays to the scheme's start, the host may extend the end date. Attendance at the induction session is usually mandatory before you can access the host's facilities.

List of facilities: Printmaking, wood construction, ceramics, digital technologies, film & video, photography, textiles

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- Library
- Life drawing

Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents: We provide access to a wide range of workshop facilities, but please note we **cannot** offer AA2A residents any of the following.

- dedicated permanent space,
- shared or hot-desk space
- provision for secure storage of work/materials

Wheelchair access: All areas have wheelchair access

Access dates and holidays: Workshops are only available between 10 am and 4 pm, Monday to Friday during term-time. There may be some holiday access, dependent of technicians' availability.

Access time: 10 am – 4 pm, Monday - Friday

Other key information:

- AA2A residents are expected to give two talks throughout their residency. One in Trimester 1, to introduce themselves and the work they intend to make during their residency, and a second talk in Trimester 2, to give an update on the progress of their project.
- AA2A residents are expected to offer an interactive workshop with students during their residency.

Equipment and Facilities

The following equipment and facilities are available to participants on the scheme. If you have any specific queries regarding the facilities listed, please email the host for more information. As a reminder, the AA2A scheme is intended to support artists in developing and refining their existing skills, rather than acting as a formal training programme or an opportunity to learn a new skill.

Booking arrangements and induction meetings will be necessary for most workshop areas.

Printmaking - lithography, plate and stone, etching, screen process, digital imaging, relief print, photo-process, letterpress

Wood construction - frame and stretcher making, band, radial and circular saws, lathes, sanders and finishers, pillar drills, hand routers

Ceramics - wheels, pugmills, kilns, extruders

Digital technologies - Mac and PC computers and scanners, Computer-aided design and modelling, animation, time-based media, sound, colour and black & white laser printers, laser cutting

Film and Video - camcorders, VHS editing and mixing, audio dubbing and computer overlay, digital video, frame advance animation

Photography – photography studios, black and white darkrooms, analogue and digital cameras and printing

Textiles – Sewing Machines, Tufting Machine, Digital Fabric printing

General Application Information

Eligibility criteria:

- Artists must have at least one year of professional arts practice
- Artists are expected to commit to 100+ hours on-site during the residency period
- Artists can work independently, with minimal technical support from staff
- Artists must be willing to deliver up to 4 sessions to students (workshop, talk, etc.).
- Artists must monitor and respond to AA2A emails promptly throughout the residency period
- Artists must agree to the [terms and conditions](#) of AA2A residencies

Who can't apply:

- Artists in full-time education or on a part-time undergraduate course
- Artists who have participated in AA2A within the last 2 years (i.e. 2024/25 or 2025/26)

Selection criteria:

- Project proposal: A considered project outline describing ambition and goals for the residency, which aligns with the host institution's specific educational objectives, if any, including how it will help your creative development and noting which facilities and equipment will be used
- Proposal for contributing to student development and a commitment to being a positive role model for art students
- Realistic travel plans and an achievable estimate of how much time will be spent at the host with a commitment to attending a minimum of 80 hours
- Clear understanding of residency format - aware of timescales alongside your other obligations and financial situation; must be capable of working independently after equipment and workshop inductions
- Commitment to timely communication with the AA2A team and host staff, plus completion of a two-part AA2A evaluation
- Positive, approachable and collaborative attitude

Full details on eligibility and selection can be found [here](#). You may also find our [FAQ page](#) useful.

Artist Support Fund

AA2A has a fund for artists participating in AA2A schemes to help with the cost of childcare, travel and materials, and costs associated with disability incurred during the residency period. Artists must have accepted a place before they apply for ASF.

Eligibility Criteria	Maximum Amount Available
Artists on benefits associated with low income	Up to £400
Artists with a personal income below £13,000 and a household income below £25,000 (not receiving benefits)	Up to £300
Artists with costs associated with disability	Up to £700

Artists can apply for support with costs associated with disability AND low income/benefits.

As we have a fixed ASF budget, we cannot guarantee we will approve all claims/give everyone the full amount they requested. Click [here](#) for further information.

Public liability insurance

Some hosts recommend, or may require, AA2A residents to have public liability insurance. Through AA2A's partnership with AXIS, residents are eligible for discounted AXIS membership, which includes public liability insurance.

How to apply

To apply for an AA2A residency, please complete the form on [this page](#). You will then receive the link to the main application form. Once submitted, your responses will be sent to AA2A and shared with your chosen host institution(s).

You must apply to a scheme before its stated application deadline. Applications submitted after the deadline may not be considered (unless the deadline has been formally extended).