

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Leeds Beckett University

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

Fine Art at Leeds Beckett University offers a vibrant and inclusive environment where creativity can thrive. With a strong tradition of supporting a diverse creative community, we encourage open exploration across a wide range of artistic ideas, approaches and ambitions. Our ethos promotes a contemporary, non-hierarchical approach to materials, methods, and practices—placing equal value on all forms of making.

We believe that compelling art emerges from bold ideas, combined with a spirit of experimentation, innovation, and transformation. We warmly invite AA2A participants to join us at Leeds Beckett to facilitate their own practice, engage with our creative community, contribute to its dynamic energy and be part of an artistic journey that challenges conventions, sparks inspiration to help shape what Fine Art is and can be.

Contact for enquiries: s.ringe@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Placements will be running from 9 October 2026 to 28 May 2027.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	4th September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	11th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	14th September (in-person or online)
Formal offers issued by	21st September
Offer acceptance deadline	2nd October
General induction session	9th October

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: analogue and digital photography, printmaking including digital print facilities, wood, metal, mould making facilities, Adobe suite software access on in house hardware.

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- Library access which includes their creative PC & Mac digital suites.
- The School of Arts wide Inside/Out lecture series which offers historical, theoretical and critical analysis of art, architecture and design which welcomes internationally recognised practitioners to share their practice will be available to AA2A participants.
- Access to the Fine Art lecture programmes will also be available - the timetables for which will be published in late September.
- There will be opportunities for participating artists to use the LSA gallery and White Column project space during the year.
- It may be possible to gain access to sound recording and film/video editing facilities however this does fall out of the Fine Art course and Art & Design Subject areas governance so cannot be guaranteed.

Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents: We will endeavour to provide some space for the AA2A artists but on a shared / hot-desk basis, with provision for secure storage of materials.

Access dates and holidays:

18 December 2026 – 10 January 2027 (Semester 1 mid-year break)

2 April 2027 – 18 April 2027 (Semester 2 mid-year break)

Undergraduate teaching programme ends

3 May 2026 (Bank holiday) - University buildings closed

Access time:

Leeds Beckett University, Art & Design Subject area

City Campus, Broadcasting Place, Building B

Access to the building during teaching weeks: Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 8:30pm

Workshop areas access is generally: Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Weekend access to studios but not Workshops Saturday & Sunday, 10am – 4pm

Equipment and Facilities

The following equipment and facilities are available to participating artists on the scheme. If you have any specific needs or queries please contact Simon directly: s.ringe@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Cost price materials are available to purchase on site.

Deposits maybe required when loaning equipment

Library

Academic library with access to their in house creative digital PC & Mac suites

Lecture Programme

The School of Arts Inside/Out lecture programme delivered by prominent international speakers will be available to accepted artists, advance bookings available through Eventbrite - times and dates tbc. The programme of Fine Art lectures will also be available the timetable for which will be published in late September.

Workshops

Health and Safety inductions are mandatory to enable access and use of each workshop area. These will be provided by arrangement with the participating artists, in light of their project and invitation onto the scheme, with the relevant workshop areas.

Photography: A range of analogue SLR and digital cameras
Black and white darkrooms
1 large black out photo studio that can convert to 2 smaller studios
Lighting kits

Printmaking: Serigraphy (silkscreen)
Intaglio (etching, drypoint)
Relief printing (Lino and woodblock)
Risograph duplicator (copier)

Digital Printing: Large scale laser and inkjet printing and vinyl cutting facilities

AV equipment: Film, Video, Sound / AV and associated software

3D Construction Workshop:
Wood and metal fabrication areas for cutting, shaping and binding materials;
Mould making facilities - including plaster, vinamold, glass fibre and resin.
Digital fabrication: small scale Rapid Prototyping, laser cutting & 3-axis CNC facilities
Ceramics – small to medium kiln.
Spray booth
Vacuum forming facility
Stretcher (painting/drawing) production facilities

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).