

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Middlesex University

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

The BA Fine Art programme at Middlesex University offers AA2A artists access to a broad range of professional-level specialist facilities, supporting both traditional and contemporary creative practices. Alongside our strengths in 3D, ceramics, printmaking, photography and digital media, we actively encourage artists and students to expand their practices across disciplines and to explore new creative ventures.

Our digital provision includes motion capture, chromakey, digital fabrication, 3D scanning and printing, laser cutting, and software supporting a wide range of creative practices. Artists also have access to sound recording facilities, black-box drama and dance studios, creating opportunities for sound, performance, movement, moving image, installation and interdisciplinary practice.

Our student cohort is one of the most diverse in the country, with a rich mix of cultural backgrounds, ages, genders and lived experiences. This diversity is central to the identity of the programme and something we are proud to support. Artists in residence become part of this vibrant learning community, contributing to an environment that is ambitious, open, inclusive and critically engaged.

Contact for enquiries: N.Sandiland@mdx.ac.uk or A.Kokoli@mdx.ac.uk

Placements will be running from 1 October 2026 to 28 May 2027.

Middlesex University welcomes applications from creatives of all backgrounds and is particularly interested in candidates with experience in Video, installation, AI, digital interactivity, performance, socially engaged practice, and other forms of experimental or cross-disciplinary enquiry.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	1st September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	4th September

Interviews & portfolio reviews	8th September
Formal offers issued by	18th September
Offer acceptance deadline	22nd September
General induction session	1st 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: Printmaking, photography, analogue darkrooms, ceramics, metal, wood, 3D workshop, CNC machining, vacuum forming, laser cutting, 3D scanning, 3D printing, digital media, motion capture, sound, video, moving image, perform

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- Visiting lecture series
- Library

Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents: Dedicated permanent studio space alongside year 2 and year 3 fine art student space, provision for secure storage of work/materials via pass card. Locker space is also available.

Wheelchair access: all facilities have wheelchair access, (though some specific industrial machinery may not necessarily be at an easily manageable height)

Access dates and holidays: closed for Christmas, easter holidays and bank holidays

Access time: Monday to Friday 8am – 10pm, Saturday, Sunday 9am-7pm

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 – expansive print workshop, relief and fine art print processes.

Photography – large photography studios, analogue black-and-white and colour darkrooms, digital photography.

Ceramics – ceramics studio, kiln facilities.

Wood construction – woodworking machinery, lathes, drills, fabrication equipment.

Metal – small metals workshop, metalworking and fabrication equipment.

3D workshops – CNC machining, vacuum forming, laser cutting, 3D scanning, 3D printing.

Digital technologies – Mac media suites, Adobe Creative Cloud, Blender, ZBrush, Unity, Unreal Engine, DaVinci Resolve, physical computing (Arduino, sensors), digital fabrication.

Film and Video – chromakey (green screen) studio, motion capture studio, video production and editing.

Sound – sound recording facilities.

Performance – black-box drama and dance studios, performance and movement spaces.

Other equipment/facilities – installation facilities, interdisciplinary making spaces.

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).