

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Newcastle University

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

Newcastle University Fine Art department is a community of staff and students who are artists, curators and art historians. Collectively, our research and practice contribute to a vibrant creative culture and discourse both within the University and in the wider art ecology.

Are you a contemporary artist working with an exciting practice, with the drive and enthusiasm for working in a busy Fine Art department and your expertise and practice with students at one of the UK's best art schools? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Our Fine Art BA is a four-year studio-based programme that encourages creativity, autonomy, and experimentation. Studio staff teach and conduct world-leading research across the visual arts (Fine Art Research at Newcastle). We're committed to supporting the full range of traditional, contemporary and emerging studio-based practices in Fine Art; whether a student is working with painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing, performance, film and video, digital media, or installation, we provide a unique level and quality of support. Students are encouraged to decide to develop their own productive relationship between studio practice and historical, curatorial and contextual studies. Professional practice modules, LifeWorkArt, are woven into the undergraduate programme, enabling students to engage directly with the creative eco-system of the region.

The department is home to around 240 undergraduate, 25 postgraduate (MA/MFA) students and 25 PhD students. Fine Art is part of the [School of Arts and Cultures](#)

Contact for enquiries: nick.fox@newcastle.ac.uk

Placements will be running from 23 October 2026 to 1 August 2027.

We welcome applications from creatives of all backgrounds and are particularly interested in candidates whose primary creative practice involves working with **sound, letterpress, stone carving, clay, performance, textile, B&W photography, 3-D modelling, material practice** and **painting** and who are committed to the idea of sharing their expertise with students.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	16th September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	25th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	TBC
Formal offers issued by	12th October
Offer acceptance deadline	15th October
General induction session	23rd 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 'extra' facilities/areas:

- Library,
- SU shop
- Fine Art Materials shop.

Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents: You will have access to facilities on negotiated days without allocated space. Provision for secure storage of work/materials will be available.

Wheelchair access: All workshops are wheelchair accessible except mould making.

Access dates and holidays: Access is term time and in holiday by negotiation

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/term-dates/>

Access time: Monday to Friday 9.30 am – 5pm. Access to workshop facilities are at specific days and times determined by the workshop technician. Printmaking Workshop access is on Fridays

Other key information:

As an AA2A artist, you will:

- Share your expertise through our forums or practical workshop delivered to students as appropriate and at various agreed points (Oct – May TBC)
<https://blogs.ncl.ac.uk/fineartcommunityboard/workshops/>
- Contribute to employability sessions during our Life Work Art skills Week on Wed 3,4,5 November 2026 <https://blogs.ncl.ac.uk/fineartcommunityboard/lifeworkart/>
- Get managed access to high-quality resources (printmaking, metal, ceramics, casting) at specific times and days across the residency period (Oct – May , access days TBC)
- Have the opportunity for a shared AA2A exhibition in a department space (date TBC).
- Have the opportunity for a shared studio space at the end of residency for 6 weeks (mid June – 1st Aug)

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.

Library - on site specialist art and design library with lending and reference facilities

Visiting lecture programme – every Wednesdays 12am

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

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

Ceramics - wheels, pugmills, large gas kilns, extruders

Metalworking – Welding , laser cutting, bending. Some small-scale metalwork casting facilities may be available by arrangement

Mould making - plaster, ceramic

Digital technologies – 3D digital printing . 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 - editing and mixing, audio dubbing and computer overlay, digital video, frame advance animation, Green screen studio

Photography – Bookable photography space, black and white darkroom, analogue and digital cameras and some printing with cost.

Other equipment / facilities - e.g., paper making, bookbinding, spray booths

Stone carving – chisels, outdoor area to practice this in the "cage" area

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).