

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Nottingham Trent University

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

The School of Art & Design at NTU offers industry standard facilities and equipment, with a special focus on new and digital creative tech, including film, sound and virtual production. The school ethos is to critically enable hybrid approaches to creative practice across disciplines, providing a balance between digital, analogue and material experimentation. The school of art and design also contains a substantial lace archive with 75,000 pieces of machine made textiles and sample books from 18th to 21st Century.

Contact for enquiries: Emily.Strange@ntu.ac.uk

Placements will be running from 23 October 2026 to 28 June 2027.

We welcome applications from creatives of all backgrounds and are particularly interested in candidates with experience in new technologies, virtual environments, world building, social practice, curatorial practices, interdisciplinary practices, expanded painting practices, film. We ask that all applicants are skilled in their specialisms and able to work without significant tech support (although some can be provided for negotiated projects). The majority of teaching contributions will be scheduled between Tuesday 12th January and Tuesday 23rd February 2027.

We also ask that artists are able to commit to a public/community facing exhibition at NTU towards the end of the residency period showcasing and testing work in progress. This is scheduled to be open to the public on: **Friday 23rd April and Saturday 24th April 2027** incl.

Install starts on **Thursday 22nd April** (artists need to be onsite please).

Take down on **Monday 26th** (artists need to be onsite please).

All participants will need to show evidence of good public liability insurance and will be asked to complete any necessary legal checks to comply with university regulations for working onsite.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	16th September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	25th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	2nd October
Formal offers issued by	9th October
Offer acceptance deadline	14th October
General induction session	23rd October (on campus)

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: Woodworking, printmaking and screen printing, bookmaking, ceramics, casting and plaster, biomaterials, digital fabric printing, risograph printing, photography (studios and black-and-white darkroom facilities), video production and editing, sound recording, virtual production, in-camera VFX, projection mapping, future technologies, digital fabrication (3D printing and laser cutting), and bookable project spaces for developing and testing work.

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- All workshop and supporting areas available to Design and Digital Art students
- Library (reference and lending rights)
- Fine art lecture programme
- Social facilities, i.e., on campus refectory, coffee shops and bars
- Sports centre

Access dates and holidays: In addition to bank holidays the university will be closed for Winter and Spring seasonal holidays. See university website for exact dates.

Access time: Unless by special arrangement, access will normally be during hours that the department is open to students, which is normally between 9.00am - 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

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.

Workshops and making facilities

- Woodworking workshop (Waverley and Bonington campuses)
- Casting workshop
- Plaster workshop
- Ceramics workshop
- Printmaking and screen-printing workshops
- Bookmaking workshop
- Digital fabric printers
- Bio-materials Lab
- Risograph printing

Digital fabrication and technology

- SLA and FDM 3D printers
- Laser cutter
- Future Technologies Suite
- Virtual Production Studio
- In-Camera VFX Studio
- Projection Mapping Studio

Photography

- Four photographic studios with backgrounds and lighting
- Black-and-white darkroom facilities

Film, video and sound

- Video editing facilities
- Sound studio

Project and exhibition spaces

- Open plan workshop spaces
- Bookable project spaces for developing and testing work

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).