

# AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

## University of Portsmouth

### AA2A 2026-27

### Key Dates & Information

The Faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries at the University of Portsmouth provides a vibrant, interdisciplinary creative environment where artists can engage with students, academics and technicians across a wide range of creative disciplines. With access to specialist workshops, studios, performance spaces and the UK's first integrated Centre for Creative and Immersive Extended Reality (CCIXR), Artists in Residence become part of a collaborative community that values experimentation, innovation and creative exchange.

**Contact for enquiries:** [Rachel.homewood@port.ac.uk](mailto:Rachel.homewood@port.ac.uk)

**Placements will be running from 26 Oct 2026 to 2 July 2027.**

The faculty offers a wide range of creative courses, providing an excellent opportunity for artists to engage in interdisciplinary practice and collaborate across the disciplines outlined below.

#### **Art and Design**

Fashion, Textiles, Graphic Design, Photography and Illustration (with a particular focus on Illustration practitioners).

#### **Film, Media and Creative Technologies**

Digital Media, Creative Technologies, Immersive Media and Emerging Technologies.

#### **Drama, Performing Arts and Music**

Performance, Theatre, Dance and Music.

#### **Computer Games, Animation and Digital Technologies**

Games Design, Animation, Interactive Media and Digital Innovation.

#### **English, Creative Writing, Media and Journalism**

Creative Writing, Publishing, Journalism and Media Production.

| Application key dates              | Date           |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Application deadline               | 7th September  |
| Shortlisted candidates notified by | 14th September |

|                                |                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Interviews & portfolio reviews | Week commencing 28th September (in person and online) |
| Formal offers issued by        | 9th October                                           |
| Offer acceptance deadline      | 15th October                                          |
| General induction session      | Week commencing 26th Oct                              |

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.

**Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents:** Workspace will be provided within the faculty with consideration to the needs of each artist's practice. This may include open studio environment that encourage student engagement and observation, and access to quieter spaces where artists require privacy to work.

**Wheelchair access:** The faculty has wheelchair access across the building.

**Access dates and holidays:** See uni website - <https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/key-dates#26-27>

**Access time:** Workshops: Monday to Thursday - 9:00 am - 4:00, Friday 9.00 – 3.30

Please note that all facilities will require an induction before the area/equipment can be used by our AA2A artists, and are bookable spaces, so must be booked in advance.

## 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.

<https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/faculty-of-creative-and-cultural-industries>

### Art, Printmaking

Print workshops, Dye station, Screen printing equipment, Screen coating room, long print beds for wet and dry screen printing, Etching press, Intaglio printmakers press, Hot plates, Etching plates,

Mono-printing facilities, Letterpress printing, Albion press, Metal and wooden letter types, Life drawing studio

### **Fashion and Textiles**

Industrial sewing machines, Domestic sewing machines, Overlockers, Buttonholer, Heavy-duty leather sewing machines, Embellisher machine, Fusing press, Single and twin-head digital embroidery machines, Heat presses (A3–A1), Large print tables.

### **Photography and Digital Imaging**

Professional photographic studios, Black and white darkroom, Image editing laboratory, Large-format printing facilities, Photography loan store, iMac workstations

### **3D Design, Making and Fabrication**

Metal workshop, Plastics workshop, Laser cutters, CNC milling machines, 3D printers, Spray booth  
Concrete and plaster casting room

### **Film, Media and Performance**

Green screen studio, Sound recording studios, Video editing suites, Drama studios, Drama theatre, Music practice rooms

### **Creative Technologies and Immersive Media (CCIXR)**

Motion capture studio, Photogrammetry and 3D scanning studio, Volumetric video studio, Virtual production and mixed reality studio, Virtual reality laboratory, Wacom Studio

### **Open Access Digital Facilities**

CCI Open Access Suite, Mac and PC computer labs, Large-format printers, Large and small-format scanners, Vinyl plotter, Dye sublimation printer, Risograph machine

### **Central Facilities**

Eldon Art Shop, University Library, Students Union Shop.

## **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).