

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

York St John University

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

We are a small University with a thriving Art department. Our students are a close-knit community of experimental and critically engaged practitioners across Fine Art, Illustration and Photography. We are looking for artists to join us who will thrive in an environment of mutual learning and model ways of being artist practitioners.

Contact for enquiries: n.walker@yorksja.ac.uk

Placements will be running from **12 October 2026 to 2 July 2027.**

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	14th September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	25th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	1st & 2nd October
Formal offers issued by	5th October
Offer acceptance deadline	9th October
General induction session	15th 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: traditional print making, mold making, casting, kiln and wheel, Mac suites, film and video, photography, B&W darkrooms, painting, riso printing

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- Library (reference and lending rights)
- Fine art visiting speaker programme
- Social facilities, i.e., canteen and bar

Workspace arrangements for AA2A residents: access to facilities without allocated space

Wheelchair access: all our workshop facilities are wheelchair accessible

Access dates and holidays: In addition to bank holidays the university will be closed for winter and spring breaks. Details are on the Uni website <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/academic-dates/>

Access time: Unless by special arrangement, access will normally be during hours that the technical spaces are open to students, which is normally between 8.00am – 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. The department also has a dedicated gallery space, where it may be possible to show work.

Please note, that we are a small University with bespoke workshops. We have courses in Fine Art, Illustration, Photography, Animation, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Product Design and Games Design. The workshop and supporting facilities used by these courses are listed below...

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

Lecture programme - guest speaker programme (selected Thursday lunchtimes 1-2pm)

Printmaking - etching, screen process, digital imaging, relief print, photo process

(due to size of the print facility there is high demand from students for this space so access may be need to be concentrated in evenings)

Mould making - plaster, gelflex rubber melter,

Kiln and wheel - for experienced ceramics practitioners only

Digital technologies - Mac and PC computers and scanners, Computer-aided design and modelling, animation, time based media, sound, colour and black & white laser printers, large scale inkjet printers,

Photography - photography studios and b/w darkroom and experimental darkroom, analogue and digital cameras and printing

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
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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).