



museum of arts and design

## Artist Studios Program Application Guidelines

*All applications to the Artist Studios Program are to be submitted electronically. No written applications or original artwork will be accepted. Please follow this link to apply:*

<http://www.madmuseum.org/content/artist-studios-application>

### Step One: Get to Know the Museum of Arts and Design

#### Mission

The mission of the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD) is to collect, display, and interpret objects that document contemporary and historic innovation in craft, art, and design. In its exhibitions and educational programs, the Museum celebrates the creative process through which materials are crafted into works that enhance contemporary life.

#### About the Museum

MAD champions contemporary makers across creative fields, presenting artists, designers, and artisans who apply the highest level of ingenuity and skill to their work. Since the Museum's founding in 1956 by philanthropist and visionary Aileen Osborn Webb, MAD has celebrated all facets of making and the creative processes by which materials are transformed, from traditional techniques to cutting-edge technologies. Today, the Museum's curatorial program builds upon a rich history of exhibitions that emphasize a cross-disciplinary approach to art and design, and reveals the workmanship behind the objects and environments that shape our everyday lives. MAD provides an international platform for practitioners who are influencing the direction of cultural production and driving 21st-century innovation, fostering a participatory setting for visitors to have direct encounters with skilled making and compelling works of art and design.

### Step Two: Get to Know the Program More In-Depth

#### About the Artist Studios Program: Residencies and Fellowships

The Artist Studios Program hosts artists and designers daily as they produce their work in a live studio environment. Visitors to MAD meet working artists who openly welcome questions and dialogue, and discuss their processes, materials, and concepts with diverse members of the public. This program serves as an innovative model of interactivity and engagement that

benefits local artists and Museum visitors through observation, making, and discussion of creative processes. As New York City's only museum artist residency that is open to the public at all times, the Artist Studios Program is both a residency and a public program.

The residency component of the program runs approximately four months, with three sessions annually: February–May, June–September, and October–January. Each artist is assigned one day each week to work in the studio, along with a selection of Thursday and Friday evenings. Residents receive a daily honorarium of \$125. Residents have access to a variety of tools and materials, as well as to the museum galleries, and are given professional development opportunities throughout the year.

Artists who meet certain criteria (outlined in Step Three) may be eligible for The New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowship, which also runs approximately four months following the session format above. Van Lier Fellows work 40 hours per week and receive a stipend of \$10,000. Additionally, fellows benefit from extra professional development opportunities including regular meetings with Museum staff and outside professionals, access to workshops, and regular meetings with a mentor in their creative field. Funds for the Van Lier Fellowship are provided by The New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowship Program in order to support talented, culturally diverse, economically challenged young people who are seriously dedicated to careers in the arts.

**To better understand the Artist Studios Program, we highly recommend that potential applicants visit the Museum and speak directly to a current resident or fellow before applying.**

#### About the Artist Studios Program: Associated Programs and Events

Residents and fellows have access to a variety of programs, events, and professional development opportunities. All residents and fellows participate in a culminating talk and closing reception at the end of their residency/fellowship period. Residents and fellows can also elect to lead a workshop as part of MADmakes, a series of drop-in “meet and make” events. Additionally, in conjunction with exhibitions, featured artists may be invited into the Artist Studios to work alongside residents and fellows.

Professional development opportunities include artist-to-artist critiques, visits with curatorial and other Museum staff, and selected workshops on career enhancement. Residents and fellows are also invited to exhibition openings, performances, and cinema screenings.

Furthermore, residents and fellows benefit from MAD's robust Artist Studios Alumni network. The Museum hosts alumni several times a year, inviting them to meet and engage with the current residents and fellows. Residents and fellows also often elect to undertake visits to alumni's studios outside the Museum.

## Step Three: Understand What We Are Looking For

### Determining Eligibility

The Artist Studios Program focuses on emerging to midcareer artists. We encourage artists and designers of various backgrounds, experiences, and interests to apply. All applicants must be United States citizens or have permission to work in the United States.

If you are interested in applying for the Van Lier Fellowship, there are additional criteria to be met. Applicants **MUST** (no exceptions)

- be 30 years or younger at the start of their fellowship;
- identify racially and/or culturally with a historically underrepresented community;
- demonstrate the need for financial assistance to advance their artistic careers; and
- be residents of New York City.

### Selection Criteria

Applicants should have a mature body of work that:

- Examines critical issues pertinent to the field of contemporary craft
- Reveals a mastery of techniques, methods, processes, and materials
- Demonstrates developed concepts and narratives

Proposals must:

- Address a clear direction/question for pursuit (be specific)
- Take into account the museum visitor experience and acknowledge how interaction with the public will affect the applicant's work (why engaging with the public will be beneficial)

Also, applicants should be aware of the limitations of the Artist Studios space before applying:

- No hazardous materials are allowed (turpentine, resins, liquid silicone, etc.)
- No open flame or lamp work allowed
- Use of electric tools is limited to a dremel, buffing tools, and drill press (The use of electric saws or blades is not allowed)

## Step Four: Familiarize Yourself with the Selection Process

Selection begins with two rounds of review conducted by the Artist Studios Selection Committee. This committee is made up of 8–12 Museum staff members and outside professionals in the fields of art, craft, and design. In the first round, all applications are reviewed by three committee members (selected at random). Applications that most strongly align with the criteria outlined above move forward into the second round. In the second round, applications are reviewed in a roundtable format with all committee members present. After the second round, 30–40 applicants are selected for an interview. Interviews are conducted with members of Museum staff.

## Step Five: Know Important Dates and Deadlines!

**Because of the high volume of applications, no phone calls, please.**

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED:

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 – SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2017

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED FOR TWO SESSIONS:

OCTOBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018 and FEBRUARY 2018 – MAY 2018

APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IF THEY HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR AN INTERVIEW:

EARLY JUNE

INTERVIEWS WILL BE CONDUCTED:

MID-JUNE – EARLY AUGUST

FINAL SELECTION MADE:

MID-AUGUST

## Step Six: Review Frequently Asked Questions

**Can I apply for both the residency and the fellowship?**

Yes, but you will only be selected for one program. We interview first for the fellowship, then the residency. You will be considered in that order. Please note: If you are accepted into one program, you will not be eligible for the other.

**Can alumni of the residency apply for the fellowship?**

No. Alumni are not eligible for either program at this time.

**Is there an application fee?**

No.

**What is the studio space like? How much space does each artist have?**

The studios are located on the 6th floor. They are roughly 150–200 square feet. Each studio has a large worktable, a sink, and storage. Daily residents share one studio; fellows have a dedicated studio. Residents and fellows share equipment and often need to enter each other's space to borrow supplies, access the kiln, etc. Storage is limited for large work, so work that can be done in sections is preferred. Storage shelves are roughly 3 x 4 feet.

**What tools and equipment will I have access to in the studio? Can I bring my own tools and equipment?**

Each studio has a large worktable, sink, and storage. Residents and fellows share a kiln, an enamel kiln, a spray booth, a flex shaft Dremel, a drill press, a band saw, and a variety of smaller tools. We highly encourage artists to bring their own specialized tools.

**Do you have an Internet connection?**

Yes.

**Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?**

Artists must be citizens or legal residents of the US with a valid SSN or EIN. The Museum does not provide visas. Applicants must have their legal paperwork in order by the time they apply, no exceptions.

**If I am part of a duo or collaborative group, can we apply?**

Yes, but collaboratives receive the same daily stipend of \$125 (individuals are not paid separately). All members of the collaborative must be present for an interview.

**How will my artwork be presented?**

Residents and fellows have one to three examples of their work displayed on the 6th floor at all times. This work is locked in a vitrine. Artists are allowed to change out the work, but work must always be on display. To accompany work, a small label will identify the artists and information about their project at MAD (outlined in each applicant's proposal).

We also have a dedicated web page for our Artist Studios Program. Residents provide a head shot and up to six images of their work, along with a short bio and description of their work. Residents are featured in Museum e-blasts and on social media regularly.

**Does the Museum pay for travel costs or provide housing stipends?**

No.

## Step Seven: Prepare Your Application Materials Thoughtfully

### The Artist Studios Residency Application Contains the Following Fields:

First Name:

Last Name:

Nickname or Preferred Name/Artist Moniker:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Current CV/Resume

Application Details:

How did you hear about the Artist Studios Program? (Limit 50 words)

What attracted you to this program and why do you want to participate? (Limit 50 words)

How do you self-identify racially and/or culturally? (Limit 50 words) OPTIONAL

Artist Statement (Limit 250 words)

Proposal (Limit 250 words)

Your proposal should consider the following:

- Describe what project(s) you will be working on, including processes, techniques, and materials.
- Describe how you anticipate working within the Museum's "open studios" format and how the interaction with visitors will inform your work and process.
- Include your overall goals and objectives for the program.

What session(s) are you applying for?

Submit five images:

- Each image should be no larger than 5 MB and be in JPEG or PNG format.
- Images should help illustrate your proposal and overall artistic statement.

Two professional references (name and contact information only; You do not need to upload a letter of reference!)

### The New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowship Application Contains the Following Fields:

First Name:

Last Name:

Nickname or Preferred Name/Artist Moniker:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Current CV/Resume

**Application Details:**

How did you hear about the Artist Studios Van Lier Fellowship? (Limit 50 words)

How will participating in this program help advance your career artistically? (Limit 150 words)

Describe how the financial support of this fellowship will help advance your art practice. (Limit 150 words)

How do you self-identify racially and/or culturally? **REQUIRED**

How much income did you earn from your art in the last two years? (Gross income; do not deduct expenses)

How much income did you receive from all other sources? (Salary/wage, award, gift, interest, etc.)

Indicate the members of your household:

Applicant only

Applicant and Spouse or Partner

Number of children living with you (under 18)

Number of parents or dependent relatives (not children under 18) living with you

If you have financial responsibility for relatives not living with you, what is the annual cost?

If your spouse or partner works, what is his/her occupation?

Annual income for spouse or partner:

How do you file taxes? (Check one):

Single

Married filling jointly

Married filling separately

Head of household

Not required to file

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