

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Call for Proposals - Artist in Residence Program Slots in 02027

Applications due: February 28, 2026, 11:59PM NST



OVERVIEW:

UHA is accepting applications for our 2026 Artist-in-Residence program! This residency will provide studio space, living quarters, and additional support for professional artists to have the opportunity to experiment with their practice, develop their focus, and test new ideas in the unique historic district of Port Union.

UHA will work with selected artists to create residencies that support both the artist and the community's development. While it is not expected that the applicant has an existing relationship with Port Union, the committee will consider both the relevancy and the feasibility of their work and practice in the context of Port Union, as well as the potential for meaningful and relevant public engagement when making their selections. For more information about the current community, the land, and its history, see <https://unionhousearts.ca/artists-in-residence/>

During the 2026-2027 season, we are focusing on practices that relate to the theme of WATER. The theme, WATER, was selected to support and relate to continued conversations surrounding the impacts of climate change; community connections to the ocean; and relationships to water as both a source of life and hardship. Our organization's proximity to the ocean and nearby rivers directly influences the ways in which we operate as an organization, particularly our engagement with the historic and contemporary cultures of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland), Nunatsiavut, NunatuKavut, and Nitassinan (Labrador).

WATER is the giver and taker of life; a fact that has echoed for centuries through our island's generations, cultures, and landscapes. Oceans and rivers are the very beings that connect us with one another—bodies that carry, hold, and protect us. The waters that surround us have fed, nurtured, cared for, and carved out the landscapes we all call home. Yet, water is also in motion and can quickly, and suddenly, change its grip; often taking back the life it so graciously gave. Practices that will be prioritized include, though aren't limited to: work that is responsive to: climate crisis, coastal economies, sustainable futures, habitat preservation, folklore, intergenerational knowledge, out-migration and immigration, and regenerative tourism.

Union House Arts is dedicated to decolonizing while creating opportunities for diverse programming. We will privilege residencies for artists who identify as Indigenous, Black, 2SLGBTQIA, as well as New-Canadians and those with diverse backgrounds. Additionally, while this residency is open to those across and outside of Turtle Island, we will be reserving a number of residency slots for artists who reside in Newfoundland and Labrador. If you are a member of any of these communities and wish to bring that information forward, please self-identify in your LOI.

Please submit completed applications to <https://forms.gle/ANTsD5uaSJwJ9DQ6A>
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EVALUATION

The UHA Programming Committee and Board evaluate Artist in Residence applications yearly following the Open Call. Open Calls are released annually in early winter and notification of results are released in late spring.

The UHA Programming Committee is made up of staff, board members and external volunteers. We also generally have at least one student volunteer to help evaluate applications. Applications are assessed by committee members who take notes and score them from 1-5 based on Relevance to Theme, Relevance to the Contexts of Newfoundland and Labrador, Feasibility, and Artistic Merit. Feedback on unsuccessful applications will be provided upon request.

Please check our [residency application landing page](#) for more information about applying to the UHA AiR.

CHECK LIST

Letter of Intent (LOI)

The Letter of Intent (LOI) should be up to a maximum of 2-pages or 750 words. It should be a document that describes why you wish to attend the AiR program. Your LOI should describe how a residency at UHA will support and impact your practice. In your letter of intent please include:

1. The first and last name(s) that you use. For artists applying as a group please list names one by one in alphabetical order. (Does not have to be your government name)
2. Contact information:
 - a. Email
 - b. Phone number
 - c. Residence address (include mailing address if it differs)
3. Website and/or social media
4. Description of who you are, why you want to attend the AiR at UHA, how the residency will develop your practice

For artists applying as a group please provide a single LOI that outlines the above as well as how your practice benefits from working together. Please follow all other instructions as listed.

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Applicant Supports

Make sure you're prepared to fill out your Applicant Support List (available in fillable Google Form). The support list includes:

5. First and Last Names: List in Alphabetical Order if applying as a group (fillable)
6. Arts Experience: Beginner, Emerging, Established, Varied (checkbox)
7. Availability; ie: preferred dates for residency (checkbox)
8. Family residency identification (checkbox)
 - a. Family residencies are for artist parents or artists with young family members. Partners and pets are not considered to be a part of the Family residency as they require different needs. Partners of artists are able to visit; this can be organized after selections are made.
9. If Applying for a Family Residency, please outline any needs your family will have during your residency (1-2 sentences)
10. Pet Friendly Residency identification
 - a. Will you be bringing a pet with you during your residency? If so please review our [Pet Policy HERE](#). Please indicate if you are travelling with a pet in your LOI. A detailed policy will be provided prior to your residency start.
11. If applying for a Pet Friendly Residency, please outline any needs you and your pet have. (1-2 sentences)
12. Are you comfortable sharing a residency space with someone who has a pet? (checkbox)
13. All required equipment needed during your residency. Please look at the [tools and resources list](#), you will check off the appropriate equipment you may need during your residency. (checkbox)
14. Are you able/willing to help maintain and care for our garden for 3-5 hours over the course of your residency? (checkbox)
15. Does your work or artistic practice use AI? If yes, please give a brief explanation of how you use it. (1-2 sentences)

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UHA staff will follow up with selected artists 4 weeks before arrival about booking requested tools/equipment. We cannot guarantee your request will be fulfilled but will make note of any equipment that may be essential for supporting artistic practices.

Support Documentation

Make sure you've included documentation of your work and a 2-page artist CV.

Support Documentation can contain up to 10 images and/or 2 videos (maximum 5 minutes each) that showcase your practice OR a link to a portfolio, website, or body of work that showcases your practice. You will be asked to upload your support documents into a shareable folder such as google docs or another cloud sharing system and submit a viewable link. Please ensure that your link has all sharing permissions active for evaluation.

The shared folder should also contain your LOI, CV, as well as any relevant support documentation and/or links to websites/viewing material.

NOTES

A detailed access rider will be provided prior to residency start dates should you be selected.

Please note at this time, we are not able to offer compensation for travel or material expenses. If you are selected for the Artist-in-Residence program, we will be happy to write letters of support for any funding sources you may be applying for.

Each artist will be paid an honorarium for attending the AiR and will be paid CARFAC rate fees for artist workshops, community presentations, or talks.

The deadline for applications is February 28th, 2026 at 11:59pm (NT). Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

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