

2023 POST-GRADUATION RESIDENCY OPPORTUNITY

The Torpedo Factory Art Center Post-Graduation Residency is a competitive juried program that provides meaningful support and a three-month term solo studio space in the nation's longest continually operated community of publicly accessible artists' studios in a converted industrial space. This residency is open to recently graduated art students who earned a bachelor's or master's degree in the visual arts from an accredited university. This greater Washington DC region program is unique for addressing the critical post-graduation juncture in an emerging artist's career, offering an opportunity for professional development, and a chance to define independent work process outside of the academic context.

Selected artists receive a studio space as well as public presentation opportunities, including an artist talk and participation in a culminating curated exhibition in the Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space for the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Selected artists are active participants in the Art Center's unique creative community and benefit from engagement with local, national, and international artists.



Pictured: Julia O'Bryan, 2022 Post-Grad resident

New for 2023! Artists may apply as partners to share a studio, or apply solo, depending on preference. If two artists are accepted together, they will share the studio space for the residency term (see residency dates below). This allows an opportunity for artists who might not be able to commit to more hours to participate in the program. More information below:

Residency Terms: Three (3) terms are offered

- April – June 2023,
- July – September 2023,
- October – December 2023

Application Due: Sunday, January 15 by 11:59PM

ELIGIBILITY

- Completion of bachelors or master's degree with a focus on the arts from an accredited University within the past 5 years.
- Due to the open-air nature of the studios, media that produces toxic fumes are not permitted, as well as artwork that requires nonstop continuous loud noise. Artists using media of a toxic or hazardous nature shall follow all applicable laws and regulations. Consult the [Operating Rules and Procedures](#) for more information. A spray booth, of limited size, is available for toxic media.

RESIDENCY BENEFITS INCLUDE

- Exclusive use of furnished 250 sq ft studio in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Electrical outlets are installed in the space and additional lighting is provided.
- \$500 stipend per residency term for supplies and/or other expenses.
- Culminating group exhibit in the prestigious Target Gallery with the 2023 resident cohort.
- Special moderated artist talk at end of the residency term.
- High visibility from visitors to the Art Center, 500,000 annually, and opportunities to engage with community.
- Free public Wi-Fi.
- Access to the studio between the hours of 6 a.m. and 1 a.m.
- Use of utility sinks in hallways.
- Access to a Spray Booth.
- Use of loading dock.
- Daily cleaned bathroom facilities.
- On-site building manager during public hours.
- Mentorship through Torpedo Factory Art Center staff and the network of Art Center studio artists and galleries.
- Artists may sell art from their studio, with no commission, with a City of Alexandria business license. Selling art is not required.
- Coffee, food, entertainment, shopping within walking distance.
- Nearby King Street Metro Station and Alexandria VRE.
- Housing and travel are not included.



Pictured: Mrinal Joshi, 2022 Post-Grad resident

****Please contact the staff if you require special equipment. This residency does not include access to a kiln, printmaking equipment, or a dark room.***

ARTIST REQUIREMENTS

- Selected artists shall commit at least 24 hours a week to working in the studio, open to the public, during building open hours. If two artists share a studio, the minimum required hours is 36 hours, shared. The Art Center's open public hours are 10 am – 6 pm daily, 10am – 8pm or 10pm on the 2nd Friday of every month, and 10am – 5pm on select days to accommodate private event rentals.
- Present a formal public artist talk virtually or in person.
- Participate in our monthly 2nd Friday events or other public programming events as coordinated with Art Center staff.
- Collaborate with staff and other Post-Graduation Residents to plan, design, and execute a culminating group exhibition in Target Gallery to open in December 2023.



Pictured: Kamille Jackson, 2022 Post-Grad Resident

SELECTION PROCESS

Artists will be selected as a part of a two-part process: online selections and an in-person interview.

- **Phase I:** Applications will be ranked via the online application by an external panel of jurors
- **Phase II:** The top 6 finalists will be called in for an in-person interview. Applicants will discuss their commitment and goals of the opportunity.
- **Residency selection:** Top scoring applicants will be offered a residency based on the ranking of their scores. Top scoring application will get first choice of dates.

Up to 3 applicants may be placed on a wait list should a selected application no longer be able to commit to their residency time.

SELECTION CRITERIA

For Phase I of jurying the applications will be ranked a score of 1 – 4 (1 being the lowest and 4 being the highest score) by the jury panel based on the following rubric

QUALITY OF ARTWORK AND ARTIST STATEMENT:

- From the artwork submitted, does this applicant exhibit a strong understanding of contemporary art practices?
- Does the artwork reflect a strong understanding of visual and technical skill by the artist?
- Does this artist display a clear vision and cohesion of artwork in their portfolio?
- Does their work and statement offer a timely perspective through subject matter, theme, or medium?
- Does their statement display a cohesive connection to the artwork?

ARTIST PRACTICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Does the artist articulate their art making practice in a way that represents a mastery of their chosen medium(s)?
- Does the artist describe their practice and process in a way that is accessible to an average visitor?
- Does the applicant demonstrate a clear understanding of their intentions for the residency
- Does the applicant articulate successfully how they will utilize the residency public studio space
- Does the applicant clearly and successfully describe how they will interact and engage with the public through the public studio space?

PROFESSIONALISM AND COMMITMENT

- Based on the over all content of the application, including the Letter of Recommendation and professional artist or exhibition resume/CV, does the applicant display strong professionalism and commitment?

Selection Criteria for Phase II: Interviews with the finalist from Phase I will be conducted with questions expanding on community engagement, artist practice, logistical needs, commitment to a public studio space and adherence to the Operating Rules and Procedures of the Torpedo Factory Art Center

TIMELINE

- **Friday, January 13:** 2022 Post-Grad Resident exhibition talk in Target Gallery at 7pm
- **Sunday, January 15, 2022:** Applications deadline
- **Sunday, January 22, 2022:** Final deadline for Letters of Recommendation to be submitted by a professor
- **Monday, January 23, 2022:** Phase I of the jury process begins
- **Monday, February 6–Friday, February 10:** Applicants notified of Phase I results and coordination of in-person interviews begins as appropriate.
- **Monday, February 13–Friday, February 24:** Phase II interview are coordinated with artist finalists based on dates set by staff.
- **Monday, February 27–Friday, March 3:** 2023 Residency recipients announced, and studio and residency terms coordinated.

JURY PANEL

To be announced by November 15, 2022.

TRANSPARENCY

Torpedo Factory Art Center is committed to a transparent application process. Applicants will receive written feedback from the jurors on the application at the conclusion of the process.



EQUITY

Torpedo Factory Art Center holds the notion of working toward a world where we are all embraced for who we are and are able to thrive to reach our highest potential. Removing barriers to full participation and belonging in life and culture. Equity means promoting just and fair inclusion throughout our city, and creating the conditions in which everyone can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.

Torpedo Factory Art Center values a diverse community of artists that reflects representation from different social, economic, and cultural backgrounds, as well as different artistic media, styles, and forms of expression. Torpedo Factory Art Center values artists of all stages of their career, regardless of their formal arts training.

The Art Center strives to eliminate potential barriers in this application, giving everyone an equitable chance to compete. If you find ways to improve this process, please contact torpedofactory@alexandriava.gov.

For reasonable translation or disability accommodations, contact: 703.746.4570, Virginia Relay 711, or torpedofactory@alexandriava.gov.

The application shall ask for applicants' gender identity, disability status, language, ethnicity and/or race, and age. This information shall not be shared with the Jurors and will hold no bearing on the scores

ABOUT THE TORPEDO FACTORY ART CENTER

Torpedo Factory Art Center is the nation's longest continually operated community of publicly accessible artists' studios in a converted industrial space. A D.C.-regional landmark for nearly 50 years, the Art Center is located in a century-old munitions factory on Alexandria's Potomac Riverfront. Each year, approximately 500,000 people visit. The community of about 150 working artists creates in a wide variety of media—painting, ceramics, photography, jewelry, glass, fiber, printmaking, sculpture, and more—in 74 studios and 8 galleries. Artists sell directly from their studios with no commission. The Art Center has inspired cultural placemaking around the world.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Leslie Mounaime
leslie.mounaime@alexandriava.gov
703-746-4584

Torpedo Factory Art Center reserves the right to alter the application guidelines and online form at any time with notice to applicants.

COVID-19: Given the fluid and uncertain nature of the current pandemic, this call for entry is subject to change due to COVID-19 related situations.

