

Call for Ireland artist to participate in the annual International Atlantic Art Exchange

This call is for Visual Artists living and/or working in the North West of Ireland (IRE) interested in traveling to St. John's Newfoundland, Canada (NL) for an Artist Residency.

Annually Artlink (Donegal, IRE) partners with an organization in NL to participate in a residency exchange; an artist or art collaborative from NL are hosted by Artlink, and an artist or art collaborative from IRE are hosted in NL for a period of 4 weeks.

Laurentic Forum Residency Call Application and Guidelines

Location: O'Brien Farm, St. John's Newfoundland

Duration: 4 weeks

Dates: June to September 2024

Artlink is inviting a Visual Artist living and working in the North West region of Ireland to take part in a paid international artist residency this Summer (2024) at O'Brien Farm. We are seeking professional visual artists working in any discipline.

About O'Brien Farm

The O'Brien Farm is a 31-acre working farm located in the heart of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Established in 1818, the farm was operated by the O'Brien family as a dairy, vegetable farm, and managed forest for close to 200 years. When the last member of the family passed away, the O'Brien Farm Foundation was established in 2011 with a mission to maintain the historic property as a working farm, promote Newfoundland and Labrador's historic and cultural connections to Ireland, and provide hands-on agricultural learning opportunities.

Since officially opening in June 2023, O'Brien Farm has seen thousands of visitors through our popular school field trips, cultural programs, event rentals, and open museum spaces. As part of our mission to continue using the space as a working farm, we are also home to an award-winning agricultural incubation program, which provides new farmers with the land, infrastructure, and support necessary to start their businesses. In the years ahead, we look forward to continuing to use O'Brien Farm as a nexus for learning about local agriculture, and Newfoundland and Labrador's historic and cultural connections to Ireland.

Fees

Artists will be paid a residency fee of €5000 for undertaking the residency. The residency fee covers all flights, transport, materials, living expenses and artist's fee. Accommodation will be provided by O'Brien Farm.

The selected artists will have hosted accommodations and are responsible for arranging their own travel arrangements and managing their budget as appropriate. Accommodations will be provided by O'Brien Farm, but may be located up to 15 minutes by car, or one hour via public transit, away from the site. Staff may be able to provide transportation to and from the farm, however the artist should be prepared to use public transit or find alternative transportation if necessary.

Resources provided

As O'Brien Farm is primarily a working farm, the artist should be prepared to work in an unconventional environment that is not typically used as a professional arts space. The artist's main working space will be a small shed with access to running water, electricity, heat, and internet, as well as our walking trails and 31 acres of outdoor space.

During regular business hours, staff can provide access to our historic cottage and Interpretation Centre as needed. In addition, O'Brien Farm staff will be happy to support the artist through technical assistance, providing links to the local community, organizing times for the artist to hold open studio hours, and other public engagement activities.

Please note that the artist may not have access to the site for a handful of days over the course of the residency as the farm will be closed for private events. These dates will be communicated with the artist in advance of their arrival.

Expectations of resident artist

Resident artists are expected to actively create within the studio space for at least 20 hours a week and be willing to hold open studio hours with the public for a minimum of one day a week. During the residency artists are expected to develop new work or new ideas and engage with local artists. Public engagement could be through presenting artist talks, workshops, demonstrations or other events, and may be standalone or part of a larger O'Brien Farm event (ex. A workshop at a festival, demonstration during open museum hours, etc.) depending on the artist's interests.

Application and Selection

The artist residencies are open to professional Visual Artists working in any discipline including but not limited to: sculpture, photography, painting, installation, and video. This opportunity is

best suited to an artist that will have previous travel and residency experience, be confident working in and with limited facilities, can work independently and be excited to make connections within the local community. We are specifically looking to work with artists who are enthused to work with our specific and unique environmental elements, including but not limited to the landscape, community, heritage or culture. Collaborations are welcome, please provide statements for each individual within the collaboration.

To apply

- Complete the application form (below) and save as a single .pdf file
- send to info@artlink.ie before 10 am on Monday 23rd April 2024

Artlink Exchange

**All submissions must be sent as one file in pdf format (NO zip files or additional attachments, links to google docs etc), and must not exceed 25 MB. Please do not send additional documents.

Selection will be made by Artlink Creative Team (Ireland), Crux (NL) and O'Brien Farm
We hope to announce the selected artists by end of April 2024

Criteria for Assessment of Applications:

Artists that are able to convey in their proposal the following criteria will be prioritized:

- the artist is living and working in the northwest of Ireland.
- evidence of a commitment to an art practice with a developed and professional approach to their work
- the ambition and experimentation inherent in the application and proposal
- proposal authentically centres the site and surrounding areas
- clear benefits to the artist(s) practice
- engagement with and benefits to local arts community

This project is supported by the Arts Council Ireland Visual Arts, Arts Grant Award and Donegal County Council, and is made possible through partnerships with the Laurentic Forum (International) Crux (NL) and O'Brien Farm (NL)

