

WOPHA ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
APPLICATION HANDBOOK
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1. Overview

Since its founding in 2020, the WOPHA Artist-in-Residence program has been a vital platform for supporting emerging and mid-career women and non-binary artists working with photography. This month-long residency provides dedicated time and space for creative development, allowing artists to immerse themselves in research, experimentation, and community engagement while connecting with Miami's dynamic cultural landscape. Designed as an independently driven experience, the residency offers artists the freedom to develop a new or ongoing project, conduct research, and engage with curators, collectors, and fellow artists. Beyond studio work, participants are encouraged to explore Miami's rich cultural offerings and build lasting relationships within the city's creative networks. Two artists are selected annually through an international open call, juried by WOPHA leadership and industry experts. The program is open to both U.S.-based and international artists.

2025 Open Call & Special Partnership

As part of the 2025 Open Call for the WOPHA Artist-in-Residence program, WOPHA will also select one artist from the French Caribbean through a special partnership with La Station Culturelle. This collaboration seeks to recognize and support an artist from the region. All applicants to the WOPHA x La Station Culturelle residency program will be evaluated using the same criteria as other applicants; no separate application is required.

2. Artist Eligibility

To be considered for the WOPHA Artist-in-Residence program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Identify as a woman or non-binary artist and/or photographer.
- Primarily work in photography and visual culture, including but not limited to creating images with or without cameras, automated and computational processes, augmented photography, and collecting, archiving, or circulating images.
- Be at least 25 years old by the application deadline.
- Be able to commit to the full one-month residency in Miami.
- Not be currently enrolled in a degree-granting program.
- Have at least five years of professional artistic practice.
- Be able to dedicate a minimum of 30 hours per week to studio work.
- Be a non-local artist (traveling, out-of-state, or international). ***Stay tuned for future residency opportunities tailored to local artists.
- Have the ability to travel to the U.S. (International applicants must ensure they meet all necessary visa and entry requirements to attend the residency).
- Applicants should have a working knowledge of English, as the residency program is conducted in English. Spanish is a plus and can be helpful for navigating the city.
- Artists who have previously participated in the residency program are not eligible to apply again.

3. Residency Cycle Timeline

February 17, 2025: Application portal opens

March 13, 2025 (6:00 pm EST): Information session

March 31, 2025 (11:59 pm EST): Application deadline

April 1 – 25, 2025: Jury deliberation, interviews, and final selection

April 30, 2025: Notification of selected artists

4. Juror Information

WOPHA invites regional, national, and international photography professionals with diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and expertise to participate in the selection process. The 2025 jury includes:

- Dr. Taous Dahmani, London-based French, British, and Algerian art historian, writer, and curator specializing in photography.
- Marina Amada, independent art curator and former Chief Operating Officer of KYOTOGRAPHIE in Japan.
- Daria Tuminas, independent curator based in The Netherlands and co-founder of Growing Pains – a foundation that publishes photobooks, supporting women and non-binary artists.
- Éline Gourgues, independent curator and co-director of La Station Culturelle in Martinique.
- Adama Delphine Fawundu, 2021 WOPHA Artist in Residence, visual artist, co-founder of MFON: Women Photographers of the African Diaspora, and Assistant Professor at Columbia University.
- WOPHA Leadership, who, alongside the jury, will select two outstanding artists through a competitive international application process.

5. Frequently Asked Questions

Below are answers to common questions about the WOPHA Artist-in-Residence Program and the application process.

General Information

What is the WOPHA Artist-in-Residence Program?

The WOPHA Artist-in-Residence Program is a one-month residency in Miami, FL, designed to support women and non-binary lens-based artists by providing time, space, and resources to develop new or existing work. The residency includes an exhibition of the artist's work in Miami.

Where does the residency take place?

The residency is hosted in El Espacio 23, a contemporary art space in Miami's Allapattah neighborhood, founded by collector and philanthropist Jorge M. Pérez. The

exhibition will take place at Green Space Miami, a leading contemporary art venue in the city.

When will the residency take place?

The residency will be held in **September 2025**. Selected artists must commit to the full month.

Eligibility & Application

Who can apply?

The program is open to any women and non-binary artists primarily working in photography. Applicants must:

- Identify as a woman or non-binary artist and/or photographer.
- Primarily work in photography and visual culture, including but not limited to creating images with or without cameras, automated and computational processes, augmented photography, and collecting, archiving, or circulating images.
- Be at least 25 years old by the application deadline.
- Be able to commit to the full one-month residency in Miami. (September 2025).
- Not be currently enrolled in a degree-granting program.
- Have at least five years of professional artistic practice.
- Be able to dedicate a minimum of 30 hours per week to studio work.
- Be a non-local artist (traveling, out-of-state, or international). ***Stay tuned for future residency opportunities tailored to local artists.
- Have the ability to travel to the U.S. (International applicants must ensure they meet all necessary visa and entry requirements to attend the residency).
- Applicants should have a working knowledge of English, as the residency program is conducted in English. Spanish is a plus and can be helpful for navigating the city.
- Artists who have previously participated in the residency program are not eligible to apply again.

Is this residency open to international artists?

Yes, artists from around the world are encouraged to apply. However, selected artists will be responsible for securing any necessary visas.

Can I apply if I have previously participated in a WOPHA program?

Yes, previous participants in WOPHA programs are eligible, but past WOPHA Artist-in-Residence recipients are not.

Is there an application fee?

Yes, there is a \$50 application fee.

Can I waive the application fee?

At this time, we are unable to offer application fee waivers.

As a small nonprofit with a dedicated team, WOPHA remains committed to sustaining our programs while ensuring a thoughtful selection process. The application fee helps cover essential costs such as the SlideRoom platform, juror honorariums, and program administration—resources that allow us to give every application the attention it deserves.

While we are able to support two selected artists with a \$5,500 contribution each and an exhibition opportunity, applying is a valuable chance to have your work reviewed by our esteemed jurors and team.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support of our mission. We are actively working to expand access and opportunities for future residency editions.

How do I apply?

Applicants must complete an online application via wopha.slideroom.com, including:

- A statement of interest
- A weekly residency plan outlining goals and activities
- A CV/resume (PDF format)
- A portfolio (up to 10 images)
- Contact information for two professional references
- Specific resources, facilities, or equipment required for their studio practice
- Up to two projects, bodies of work, or individual works to be considered for the exhibition component of the residency

Can I submit collaborative work?

The residency is designed for individual artists. Applicants working with community engagement or collaborative practices may include relevant details in their proposals.

Can I propose an existing project?

Yes, applicants may continue an existing project or propose a new body of work.

My work spans multiple disciplines. Am I still eligible to apply?

Yes, WOPHA recognizes and values the interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and antidisciplinary nature of contemporary artistic practices. We encourage artists working across various mediums to apply, provided their proposal focuses on photography-based projects they wish to further develop and/or exhibit during the residency.

What specific resources, facilities, or equipment are available?

Housed within a beautifully renovated 28,000-square-foot warehouse, El Espacio 23 serves as both an exhibition space and an artist residency hub. The facility includes three apartments and a shared workspace, offering comfortable living and working accommodations such as a private kitchen, laundry, bathroom, and a shared studio, balancing personal focus and collaborative possibilities.

WOPHA collaborates with local institutions to provide access to darkrooms, scanning equipment, and printing facilities, depending on the needs of the selected artists.

How many residents are selected?

Each year, WOPHA selects two artists-in-residence through a competitive application process.

Residency Expectations & Support**What does the residency provide?**

Selected artists receive:

- \$2,500 stipend for materials, ground transportation, and meals.
- \$3,000 for exhibition production.
- Round-trip airfare.
- Private living accommodations at El Espacio 23.
- Shared studio space.
- Curatorial and professional support.
- Participation in a group exhibition at Green Space Miami

What are the expectations for selected artists?

Artists must:

- Commit to the full one-month residency.
- Collaborate with a curator to plan an exhibition within a 4-month timeframe (May–August 2025).
- Participate in at least one public program (e.g., artist talk, workshop, or studio visit).
- Engage with Miami’s photography and art community.
- Create a final report on their experience.

What kind of exhibition will I have?

The residency includes a group exhibition at Green Space Miami, showcasing already produced or new work. Artists will collaborate with a curator to determine the exhibition’s final presentation.

Selection & Notification

How are artists selected?

A jury of curators, scholars, and artists will review applications based on:

- Conceptual Strength (25%) – Clarity, originality, and depth of the proposal.
- Strength of Past Work (20%) – Artistic excellence and technical proficiency.
- Unique/Innovative Approach (15%) – New perspectives in contemporary photography.
- Feasibility (15%) – Ability to complete the project within residency resources.
- Impact (15%) – Alignment with WOPHA’s mission and career significance.
- Overall Interest (10%) – Level of excitement and interest in the artist’s work.

Top-scoring applicants will be invited for a final interview with WOPHA leadership before selections are made.

When will I be notified?

Finalists will be contacted for interviews in April 2025, and selected artists will be notified by May 2025.

Will I receive feedback if I am not selected?

Due to the volume of applications, we cannot provide individual feedback.

Additional Questions

Can I defer my residency if selected?

No, selected artists must commit to the September 2025 residency period.

Who should I contact if I have more questions?

For additional inquiries, please email Amanda Bradley, WOPHA Associate Curator of Programming, at abradley@wopha.org