

DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program

Information on the Application Process and the Fellowship Program

- 1 Who are we looking for?**
- 2 Selection**
- 3 How to apply**
- 4 Sending physical application material**
- 5 About the program**

1

Who are we looking for?

The grant was established to offer awardees time and space to focus on their creative practice without any production obligations. The program fellows are invited to actively engage with Berlin's and Germany's vibrant cultural scenes, as well as with different communities within the city.

Each year, around twenty outstanding practitioners from diverse cultural backgrounds are invited to Berlin. The Artists-in-Berlin Program is committed to including and presenting a wide array of voices and perspectives, and to advancing gender equality.

Throughout its history, the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program has been a key player when it comes to fostering the internationalization of contemporary arts in Germany. Nevertheless, there is still much work to be done in terms of acknowledging the value and relevance of contemporary practices beyond Eurocentric frameworks. At this given moment in history, we consider it our responsibility to demonstrate a clear commitment to creating equality of access, visibility, and resources through our institutional practice without measuring artistic positions against a Western arts & culture system and its market.

The program is an award for outstanding practitioners. It is conceived for established artists who have already developed their own voice and standing. There is no age limitation (upwards). We support gender equality and diversity of origins. While an academic background is not required for selection, the Artists-in-Berlin Program is interested in work that intellectually examines and takes a critical approach toward historical and current issues and discourses. We therefore prefer artists who go beyond pure aesthetics and address the relevant topics of our times.

Film

Each year, **three** filmmakers are awarded a **six-month residency** in Berlin for their contributions to the art of film. We are looking for emerging directors as well as established auteurs who expand our understanding of cinema and the world. Candidates should have premiered at least two feature films at international festivals. We are curious about exploring contemporary cinema beyond genre boundaries. One of our aims is to support filmmakers from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. The invitation to Berlin is intended to give filmmakers the opportunity to explore their ideas without deadlines or production pressure.

Music & Sound

We welcome any form of adventurous, exceptional, and innovative sound-work that expands and challenges our understanding of contemporary music. Traditional music (which is not adapted for contemporary practice), as well as commercial music, film, opera & theatre music, are excluded. The program is intended for composers and composer-performers, but not interpreters. There are **four fellowships** in the field of music & sound per year.

Literature

We offer **six fellowships** in the field of literature and writing. All literary forms are welcome: poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and essays, as well as drama. That said, we also encourage writers who work between or beyond these traditional categories and who expand the understanding of contemporary literature, its practices, and modes of manifestation. Applicants must already have an outstanding body of work to their credit. Although not a strict requirement, the applicant should ideally already have some work that has been translated into other languages and thus public exposure beyond the applicant's native-language community.

Visual Arts

In the field of visual arts **five artists** are nominated and selected by an expert jury; for this reason, applications may not be submitted in this field.

Collectives

While we are working on a long-term solution for inviting collectives and thus responding to current art practices more adequately, we currently do not have any specific possibilities to offer other than a duo being awarded two separate fellowships. The jury would have to select each member individually. Collectives with more than two members are not eligible unfortunately.

2

Selection

Who can not apply / receive the Fellowship?

→ German nationals may not apply.

→ Artists whose main residence is the Federal Republic of Germany may not apply regardless of their nationality, except in those cases in which the first registration has taken place within 15 months before the application deadline (Please include a copy of the registration, cut-off date: September 1 of the previous year)

→ German nationals (incl. dual nationals) living abroad may only apply if they can credibly prove that their main place of residence lies within the country from which they are applying—as a guideline a minimum stay of six years is required.

Jury

In each discipline, an independent jury of international professionals will review the applications and allocate the awards. The DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program has no say in this process. We are committed to diversifying the array of voices contributing to Germany's cultural production. To achieve this goal, we carefully select the curators, scholars, critics, and artists who will decide each year's cohort of fellows.

Candidates in the field of visual arts are nominated and selected by an expert jury; for this reason, applications may not be submitted in this field.

3 How to apply

- Step 1** **Complete the Personal Data Form (pdf)**
Step 2 **Complete this Application Form (pdf)**

(Please follow the specific guidelines of your discipline for submitting work samples **before** sending your application email to residency.berlin@daad.de)

We accept only the following attachments:

- application_DISCIPLINE_SURNAME_NAME.pdf (required)
- personaldata_DISCIPLINE_SURNAME_NAME.pdf (required)
- press_DISCIPLINE_SURNAME_NAME.pdf (optional, 4 pages max.)
- ref_DISCIPLINE_SURNAME_NAME.pdf (optional, 4 pages max.)

Any other material / links sent in the email will not be considered. Please make sure the email does not exceed 10 MB in total size and the file names comply with the specifications above.

The application process must be completed by December 1, 11.59 pm, CET.

This includes:

- 1 Submitted Personal Information Form
- 2 Submitted Application Form & submitted work samples
- 3 Optional: submitted press & letters of reference

Late submissions will not be considered for the selection process.

Guidelines for submitting work samples

→ If you apply for film

We accept Vimeo or YouTube links only. Please submit no more than three work samples, preferably three most recent works, with subtitles. Please include a synopsis of every film submitted. No trailers.

Maximum viewing time per applicant is fifteen minutes. Therefore please submit three extracts of five minutes in separate separate links and include a link to at least one complete film, if possible. Please ensure that all submitted material remains available online until August of the following year. Broken links will result in the application being excluded.

→ If you apply for music & sound

Please submit recordings, videos, or audio-visual material digitally via download links in the application form.

Please submit no more than four work samples, including corresponding materials for each work sample—i.e. the score, a description of the work, photos, videos. Specific sections to be listened to should be marked accordingly. Please indicate your name and the title of the work on all material, both in digital form (filename, metadata) and directly on the media, if applicable.

Please only submit physical material such as printed scores, analogue media (vinyl, tape), or storage media (USB stick) via postal mail if absolutely necessary. Please follow the instructions on how to send work samples by mail on the next page. We do not accept CDs or DVDs. We prefer digital media to be submitted via links.

Please ensure that all submitted material remains available online until August of the following year. Broken links will result in the application being excluded.

→ If you apply for literature

We accept PDFs of published books (no online-only publications) as a download link in the application form. Please do not submit manuscripts and no more than four books. Original, printed publications can only be sent from within the EU due to changes in customs regulations. Please follow the instructions on how to send work samples by mail on the next page.

4

Sending physical application material

From within the EU by post:

If a digital submission is not possible, please send physical work samples together with page 1 of the application form postmarked by Dec 1 to:

Berliner Künstlerprogramm des DAAD
Markgrafenstraße 37
10117 Berlin
Deutschland

Please do not enclose any other documents. If you submit work samples via postal mail, please note that the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program cannot cover customs-related costs nor assume any responsibility for submitted materials. After the application process original materials (books, scores) will be returned only at the written request of the applicant. Copies, manuscripts, copied DVDs and tapes etc. will not be returned.

Late and / or incomplete applications due to rejections by customs will not be considered for the selection process.

Information for applicants from non-EU countries:

Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to submit application material in the mail duty-free. Please only submit material digitally. Please note that DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program cannot cover customs-related costs nor assume any responsibility for materials submitted by mail.

5

About the program

Each year around twenty internationally renowned and highly qualified visual artists, writers, filmmakers, composers, and sound artists of all ages, who have developed their own distinguished artistic voice and body of work, are invited to Berlin. For visual arts, literature, and music divisions, the residency lasts twelve months, for film six months.

Revolving international juries convene each spring in Berlin. The juries review the submitted applications and materials, which should be as current as possible: publications, films, sound media, scores, and texts. Selections are announced during the summer months. Invitations are extended for the subsequent year.

Residencies are scheduled to begin between January 1 and May 31 of the subsequent calendar year, or later in exceptional cases. The exact date of arrival should be arranged as soon as possible with the DAAD Artists in-Berlin Program office. Invited artists are welcome to bring along their families. Berlin has several international schools.

Every year the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program receives hundreds of applications. Many highly qualified applications cannot be considered because of the limited number of fellowship awards. An unsuccessful application in no way implies a negative evaluation of the applicant's artistic work. It is possible to reapply.

Benefits

DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program fellowship awards comprise the following benefits:

- 1 Monthly grant installments for living expenses and rent
- 2 Provision of a furnished apartment*
- 3 Travel and baggage expenses (regular airline, economy class), also for spouse and children who will be staying in Berlin for the entire duration of the invitation
- 4 If required: health, accident, and long-term care insurance (contributions will be deducted from the monthly grant)
- 5 German language lessons (optional)

*please bear in mind that not all apartments have the same level of accessibility (i.e. elevator access / amenities)

DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program

berliner-kuenstlerprogramm.de