



## THE SALEM ART ASSOCIATION STUDIO 2026 ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Salem Art Association (SAA) is offering a 2026 Artist-in-Residence (AIR) Program in the SAA Studio. The SAA Studio, along with the attached Annex space, is ideal for art workshops, exhibitions, classes, and other programming, which evolves with the needs of the community.

The mission of the Studio and Annex is to provide an experimental space for making, showing, and learning about art. Individuals and collaborations with artists at all stages in their careers are welcomed. BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Veteran, and other underrepresented communities are strongly urged to apply.

The SAA Artist-in-Residence program offers:

- An experimental space for artists to develop their work and collaborate.
- An opportunity for the community to engage with working artists. The Studio is generally viewable by the public during SAA open hours. A sliding wall can either open or enclose the space for public viewing/access.
- General professional development support for artists.
- An exhibition in SAA's Focus Gallery for one month.

No stipend or financial support is currently available. Artists are responsible for providing their own housing, materials, meals, and transportation. SAA strives to maintain a balance between supporting emerging and established artists. A Studio key is provided to the artist, allowing the space to be utilized outside of Bush Barn Art Center open hours, as SAA recognizes the need for flexibility in the creative process and to accommodate various schedules and time commitments. SAA prefers a non-toxic environment in the Studio and surrounding building/park space, and is committed to the physical and bodily health and safety of our artists, staff, and visitors.

### 2026 RESIDENCIES

All artists, of any medium, may apply for the **March (in Studio)/April (exhibition)** and the **September (in Studio)/October (exhibition)** openings.



### 2026 Residency Dates

#### IN STUDIO:

March  
September

### 2026 Focus Gallery Exhibition Dates

#### IN FOCUS GALLERY:

April  
October

### Application Due Date

December 15, 2025  
December 15, 2025

## **(ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES) 1 – 2 WEEK RESIDENCIES**

In addition to the scheduled AIR slots, we seek to have artists actively using the Annex Studio throughout the year whenever possible. We welcome proposals for other ideas or time frames that interests you! Email SAA at [kathleen@salemart.org](mailto:kathleen@salemart.org). Residencies of 1 to 3 weeks are available, depending on calendar availability.

## **FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

The SAA Studio is located in the Annex at the Salem Art Association/Bush Barn Art Center, which is in the picturesque Bush's Pasture Park just outside downtown Salem. Completely renovated in 2016, the Studio can accommodate printmaking and artists working in a variety of media. Separated from the Studio by two large, sliding doors (which can be left open to encourage public interaction while working) is a large main gallery for exhibitions and workshops. The Studio is approximately 348 square feet, and the main space is approximately 741 square feet.

Artists will receive a key with which they can access the studio. The Studio has its own entrance, featuring a sliding door, a window overlooking the park, a skylight, and track lighting. There are storage cabinets along one wall. A printmaking press is available in the studio space. The press is a Dick Blick Master Etch. The bed is 23 inches wide. Several eight (8) foot long tables and chairs are available. The studio contains a ventilation booth with a hood, a washout sink, and a double sink. Wifi is also available in the space. There are some limitations to what can be accomplished in the facility. For example, there is currently no darkroom, no glass or ceramic facility, and consideration must be given to sound in close proximity to others.

## **AIR ARTIST AGREEMENT**

- Offer a community engagement component (such as brown bag lunch, slide show, lecture, workshop for youth, etc.).
- Work 15-20 or more hours per week in the Studio. *If you have a full-time job or other time commitments, don't worry! You will have a Studio key and access code, and can use the space at your convenience!*
- Read the Art Safety Manual and adhere to the use of materials as discussed. Employ safe studio practices if there is the use of solvents and/or chemicals, and follow specific safety protocols which will be reviewed with the artist.
- Sign an agreement with SAA regarding professional goals, personal conduct, and that you will follow safe studio practices and procedures. Any inappropriate behavior will unilaterally terminate the agreement.
- Leave the space and equipment undamaged. Walls clean (if necessary repainted), floor clean, etc.
- **Completed artwork, which will be exhibited in the Focus Gallery.** If you are applying for an AIR outside of this option, this does not apply.

## **APPLICATION MATERIALS**

*(Please contact Kathleen Dinges Rice for assistance as needed. We are happy to discuss! Any combination that shares your ideas is great and encouraged. You don't need to provide all of what is listed below.*

- Residency month. (Please apply for each month separately.)
- Artist Biography

- Proposal of intent stating project and artistic goals, art medium, community engagement component, your artistic/creative practice, and why this would be a good fit for you at this time.
- Answer: How will this AIR support the making of new work for you?
- Two references
- Work samples, including website or social media links/handles
- CV, if applicable
- Provide a list of any tools, chemicals, or potentially hazardous materials you may use and how those materials will be safely stored and disposed of. A solvent garbage can will be provided. Ventilation is provided by windows and doors and a ventilation booth with hood.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

The AIR Committee consists of staff at SAA and previous AIR participants and considers the following, amongst other, criteria:

- How SAA can support area artists and how meaningful this AIR could be for said artist.
- Artistic quality of artwork and merit of proposal ideas.
- The amount of risk the artist will be taking in their own art practice, or the experimental nature of the proposed work will be considered.
- Ability to engage with the community in a dynamic way.

### SUBMISSIONS

Please send digital submission to Kathleen Dinges Rice, Artists Resources and Outreach Director, at [Kathleen@SalemArt.org](mailto:Kathleen@SalemArt.org). Mailed submission should be sent to:

Salem Art Association, Attn: Kathleen Dinges Rice  
600 Mission Street SE  
Salem, OR 97302

### QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact Kathleen with any questions or inquiries via phone at 503-581-2228 x312 or via email at [Kathleen@SalemArt.org](mailto:Kathleen@SalemArt.org).

