



Artist-in-Residence FAQs

What should be included in the bio and statement?

The bio is meant to give background information about the artist's life, experience and pertinent or interesting insight into their art process. The Artist's statement specifically describes their work, why they do what they do, what their medium is, if there is a theme, if there is any certain goal, meaning or significance surrounding the work they do.

[Check out this article for helpful tips!](#)

Should the proposal be a certain length?

The proposal is the most important part - we will be looking for people who have an interest in teaching customers of all ages, who already have ideas for projects that will help the community, and have thought through those details as much as possible.

Does a portion of our proposal need to be focused on workshops in addition to studio time?

Generally, what we're looking for in a proposal is two-fold: we want to know that you're passionate about sharing your craft with the community, talking to customers (studio office hours, events, etc), teaching classes and workshops, but also that you might have a bigger picture idea in mind of something you want to be working on (in Studio) while you're here. This could be something that helps the library with our [Mission](#) or Strategic Plan, or a bigger project that you want to accomplish on a personal level that can be shared with the community with the library's support.



Questions to ask yourself as you plan:

- What will I do? How will I do it?
- Why is this an important project to myself and other people? Why is it important to Richland Library and the local community?
- How can you use your talents and experience to help Richland Library customers learn, create and share?

Is there a set number of workshops for the artist in residence/a minimum? What is expected?

Generally artists provide a minimum of one workshop or program for the library every month, and find ways to engage customers of all age ranges while they are here. But that number may vary, depending on the medium of the artist and the projects/ideas they want to accomplish.

What age ranges would we expect to work with in regards to leading programming and workshops for customers?

The way we "promote" our events on the website, we split it down into these particular age ranges:

Young children (0-5 years), Babies (0-18 months), Toddlers (19 months-2 years), Preschoolers (3-5), School age children (6-12), Teens (12-18), Adults (18+)

Do you need to be a Richland County resident to be eligible for the Artist-in-Residence at Richland Library?

You do not need to live in Richland county to be an AiR. HOWEVER, we like for artists to live close enough to the studio at Richland Library Main in Columbia to be present and working in Studio as often as possible.



Is the stipend used toward supplies for workshops and programming, or is it separate from programming supplies provided by the library?

The stipend (\$1000/month) is solely for the Artist. We allot approximately \$200 per month for programming supplies or needs associated with workshops, events, etc. This can be used towards paying outside artists for panels, guest speakers, etc.

How and when are the residents paid?

The AiR pay schedule is based on their starting date. Artists will be paid via direct deposit after each completed month of the residency.

How flexible are the hours?

Each residency looks different, based on the needs and schedule of the artist. Richland Library understands that artists may have additional part-time or full-time commitments, and it is our goal to help – not hinder – opportunities for our local artists. The Arts Coordinator and Arts and Exhibitions Manager work with each artist to determine availability and are flexible when artists need time off for appointments or emergencies.

What is the Resident's Studio like? What types of activities can be done in the Studio?

The AiR Studio is located on the 2nd floor of the main library and is approximately 15x15 square feet with windows on the southern side and vinyl flooring. Past residents have painted, made jewelry, played music, given singing lessons, made puppets and sculptures, worked with clay, danced, created elaborate costumes, and more. It is a very flexible space and can be adapted – with tables or other furniture – as needed.



One drawback to this space is that there is very little ventilation. Smelly sprays, mineral spirits or toxic fumes will need to be applied in our more vent-friendly spaces.

Residents do have full access to our other Studios and can be used for projects, programs or workshops. These include:

- [Wood Shop and Maker Area](#)
- [Fiber Arts Studio](#)
- [Media Arts Studio and Lab](#)
- [Fabrication Studio](#)

For additional Information or questions, contact Ashley Warthen, Arts and Exhibitions Manager at 803.929.3430 or awarthen@richlandlibrary.com.