

The Unconformity Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program

Information sheet and FAQs for the 2023 Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program in Queenstown, West Coast lutruwita/Tasmania.

General Information

Background

The Unconformity is a professional community-based arts organisation located in Queenstown on the West Coast of lutruwita/Tasmania.

Its principal activity is a biennial contemporary arts festival buttressed by a constantly-evolving program of explorations:

the **Festival** is a 100%-commissioned curatorial program that is socially inclusive, site-specific and developed with, by and for, a discerning local community;

the **Explorations** are constantly-evolving projects across cultural tourism, knowledge, community and creative lab streams that are arts-led, based upon the organisation's values and a catalyst for purposeful change in the community.

The Unconformity Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program

In 2023, The Unconformity will provide the opportunity for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artist or cultural practitioner based in lutruwita/Tasmania to conduct a residency in Queenstown, Western lutruwita/Tasmania. The selected applicant could be from any level of professional practice and any art form.

The Unconformity Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program is designed to enable research, engagement with the West Coast landscape and local community and focus on the recipient's practice outside their normal environment with no expectation for a resolved outcome. The residency will take place for a negotiated period of up to 2.5 weeks in 2023. This program is supported through Arts Tasmania by the Minister for the Arts.

The successful recipient will be provided with:

- \$2500 artist fee
- \$500 contribution towards materials
- Self-contained accommodation
- Per diems
- A contribution towards travel expenses (e.g. fuel, hire car, etc.)

Application Requirements

The Unconformity's primary interests are the quality of an applicant's work, commitment to their practice, ability to interact positively with the community and understanding how the residency will be of benefit to the applicant.

Applicants can respond to the key questions in writing or through a video recording of no more than five minutes.

The required information includes:

- General applicant information
- Responses to the key questions:
 - Who are you? (maximum 250 words or approximately 1 minute 15 seconds)
 - What do you do? (maximum 500 words or approximately 2 minutes 30 seconds)
 - Why is this residency meaningful to you? (maximum 250 words or approximately 1 minute 15 seconds)
- Artistic support material
- Further information (250 words) – optional

Video responses will be assessed the same as written responses. The assessors will not consider the quality of the video, only the content. A video shot on a phone or similar is suitable, you do not need a professional filming set-up as long as the recording is audible.

Applications

The online application form is available at: theunconformity.com.au/aboriginal-artist-residence-program/

Applications open at 9am AEDT on Wednesday 18 January 2023 and close at 5pm AEDT on Wednesday 8 February 2023. Late applications will not be considered.

Assessment

Applications will be assessed by a panel of representatives from the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in late **February 2023**.

Support Material

Each applicant, whether individual or collaborating artists, can upload up to five single images and/or written work and up to two links to online or cloud-based audio/video as artistic support material.

- Image files can be .jpeg, .png or .pdf
- Supply single images, not portfolio pages featuring multiple images
- CVs and written support material need to be .pdf
- .doc files are not supported
- The maximum file size is 10MB
- Provide cloud or online links to individual files, not folders
- Do not provide links to general webpages or social media accounts
- Image credits and passwords can be supplied within the online form
- Letters of support are not accepted as artistic support material

Providing support material that falls outside of these guidelines will rule the submission ineligible.

It is recommended that you prepare and review support material before completing the application form.

Accessibility

All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists based in lutruwita/Tasmania are encouraged to apply for the residency and The Unconformity will work with successful applicants to ensure that the residency is accessible for them.

The Unconformity appreciates that the online form may not be suitable for everyone. If you would like support in submitting your application in a way that works best for you and your requirements, please contact Creative Producer Maddie Korn at maddie@theunconformity.com.au.

Eligibility

The Unconformity Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program is only open to artists and cultural practitioners based in lutruwita/Tasmania. If applying as a collaboration, all artists must be based in lutruwita/Tasmania at the time of application.

Artists practising any artform, and at any stage of their career, are eligible to apply.

Given the nature of the residency and our responsibility to the West Coast community, residency artists must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (including at least one booster shot) or have a medical exemption from vaccination.

Contact

If you have any further questions after reading this information and the FAQs provided below, please email Creative Producer Maddie Korn at maddie@theunconformity.com.au.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What type of artists are eligible?

The residency is open to Aboriginal artists and cultural practitioners living in lutruwita/Tasmania and is inclusive of all artforms and stages of professional practice.

2. Can I apply with other people as a collaboration?

Yes. The online application form provides instructions for how to apply. Note that no additional fee or expenses will be provided for collaborative residencies and that all artists must be based in lutruwita/Tasmania at the time of application.

3. How long will each residency go for?

The residency will run for a period of up to 2.5 weeks in 2023, with dates to be agreed upon by the artist and The Unconformity.

4. Can I split my residency time?

It is preferred that the residency is completed all at once however a residency split over two separate periods may be considered, if circumstances allow.

5. Where will I stay?

Artists will stay in fully-furnished and private residential accommodation in Queenstown that is close to the town centre and within walking distance to shops, services and The Unconformity hall.

6. Am I expected to deliver an artistic outcome?

The primary focus for the The Unconformity Aboriginal Artist in Residence Program is to provide developmental opportunities for artists. Therefore, there is no expectation for artists to deliver a resolved outcome.

7. Can I bring my family?

Children, partners and family members are welcome to stay with artists, subject to accommodation availability, however pets will have to stay at home. Depending on the number of additional people, extra costs may apply.

8. Will I be provided with a studio?

Artists are encouraged to use The Unconformity's headquarters, an old church in the centre of town that features an office, kitchen, fast internet connection and a large heated hall with a wooden floor that is suitable for movement.

9. What if I don't drive?

There are public transport options to get to Queenstown for artists who do not drive. If this is not suitable, The Unconformity may be able to provide logistical support to get artists to and from Queenstown.

10. Is the residency appropriate for artists with accessibility requirements?

The Unconformity strives for inclusivity and to address all barriers to accessibility. The organisation will work with artists to ensure that all residency arrangements are suitable for them.

11. What do assessors focus on during assessment?

Applications will be assessed on the quality of the artistic practice, including clear articulation of ideas, themes and conceptual approaches and how the residency will impact the artist, their practice and the West Coast community.

12. I live outside of lutruwita/Tasmania, can I apply?

No. This program is only available to artists based in lutruwita/Tasmania at the time of application.

13. Will my artwork be considered for The Unconformity festival?

There is no automatic inclusion of residency artists or their artwork within The Unconformity festival. Artists are encouraged to submit proposals for future programs at theunconformity.com.au/artistic-enquiries.

14. What support will be provided in Queenstown during the residency?

Whilst support will be provided to artists whilst in Queenstown, they will be expected to be independent, self-sufficient and prepared to readily engage with West Coast residents to achieve outcomes.

15. Do I need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to attend the residency?

Given the nature of the residency and the organisation's responsibility to the West Coast community, all residency artists are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, including at least one booster shot, or have a medical exemption from vaccination. Evidence of vaccination or exemption will be required before travelling to Queenstown.

16. Do I need a high-quality recording set-up to submit a video response?

Video responses will be assessed the same as written responses. The assessors will not consider the quality of the video, only the content. A video shot on a phone or similar is suitable, you do not need a professional filming set-up as long as the recording is audible.