

Hordaland Kunstsenter: Guidelines for selection of participants in international residency program

Discussed at an extraordinary meeting of the board, held on 4 May 2015 at 18:00 at Hordaland Kunstsenter.

Attendees:

Maia Urstad (Styreleder)
Torunn Havstad Brandanger (Nesteleder)
Vilde Salhus Røed (BKFH)
Norvald Hemre (NKKVN)
Børge Lunde (HFK)
Anthea Buys (Director, Hordaland Kunstsenter)

Apologies:

Petra Rahm (HKS ansatte)
Hallgeir Isdahl (Fritt grunnlagg)

About the residency program:

Since 1987 Hordaland Kunstsenter has coordinated a residency program for non-Norwegian arts professionals to spend a limited period of time living and working in Hordaland. This program is supported by Hordaland Fylkeskommune, and with this support the art centre is able to provide a comfortable, well-equipped apartment for the guest, as well as a studio-work space inside the art centre's premises, with the idea that the resident becomes an integral part of life at the art centre during his or her stay. From 1987 until 2008 the residency program was open primarily to artists from the Nordic and Baltic region. However, in 2008 the program was opened up to artists, curators and art writers of any national origin. Today the International Residency Program is one of the most established and most reputable short-term professional residency programs in the world.

Aims of the residency program:

The primary aim of the residency program is to increase contact between arts professionals in Hordaland and abroad. This is achieved through ensuring a flexible, customisable program for guests, and assisting each resident to build a schedule of research, meetings and visits that suits his or her interests and goals for the residency.

Additional related aims of the residency program are:

- to increase the visibility of the visual arts field in Hordaland internationally

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- to provide a platform for information about the local art scene for visiting professionals
- to provide a good working base for guests and to help each guest create a residency schedule that meets his or her needs.
- To provide safe, comfortable accommodations that enable the guest to focus on professional activities
- Where possible, to establish reciprocal exchanges that create opportunities for Hordaland artists abroad.

Frequency of residencies, institutional administration and financial support:

The number of residencies Hordaland Kunstsenter is able to organise each year is dependent on the funding received for a given year. Out of the residency budget we cover the costs of rental and maintenance of the apartment, the travel of guests, a stipend towards their subsistence in Norway, the administration of the application process (including fees to adjudication committees) and the payment of an assistant to host residents, introduce them to different cultural centres in Hordaland, and to set up meetings for them with local arts professionals.

Format of the residency:

The residency is open to professionals in the visual arts field, including artists, curators, researchers, writers, and educators. There are two main categories of residency hosted by the Kunstsenter. The first is a program administered and hosted entirely by Hordaland Kunstsenter. The second is an exchange program initiated by Hordaland Fylkeskommune and Basse-Normandie, Frances, in which every alternate year Hordaland Kunstsenter hosts a recent graduate from École Supérieure d'arts & médias de Caen/Cherbourg for a period of three months, from January to March. This program is supported separately by Hordaland Fylkeskommune and does not come out of the funding for our ordinary residency program.

According to our ordinary residency program, the following structure applies:

Each residency lasts for a period of one month. Under exceptional circumstances, residencies may be extended to two months.

In keeping with §2 of Hordaland Kunstsenter's statutes, which identifies our mandate of securing artistic freedom of expression, participants in the residency program are not required to produce a work or related outcome during their residency period. They are requested to give some form of public presentation during their stay, whether this takes the form of a public lecture, an open studio day, or a similar event. It is important that residents are given freedom during their stay to ensure that they have sufficient time to become ac-

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acquainted with the art scene in Hordaland and to pursue ideas or interests that are emerge while on the residency.

Selection of participants in the residency program:

Participants will be selected for the program through a combination of open calls, administered by Hordaland Kunstcenter, and discretionary invitations. In the past the open call procedure has proven costly due to the high number of applicants and the fees incurred by the jury. Costs incurred will be covered through the residency budget, and not through Hordaland Kunstcenter's core operational budget.

The open call will be issued by Hordaland Kunstcenter once per year, and four residencies will be awarded through the process. Applications will be initially reviewed by two staff members of Hordaland Kunstcenter, who will produce a shortlist of approximately 50 applications. The shortlisted applications will then be reviewed by a jury comprising the Director of Hordaland Kunstcenter, the staff member responsible for administration of the residency, and two external representative nominated by BKFH and NKVN.

The four applicants selected for the residency, and unsuccessful applicants, will be notified accordingly, and official letters of invitation and contracts will be issued.

1. Guidelines for the selection of candidates through the open call:

Candidates for the residency program should

- be active visual art professionals in the early- to mid-stages of their career.
- have a relevant tertiary qualification in a field related to their practice.
- be at a stage in their career, or in a research-oriented project, at which a residency in Hordaland would be of benefit to their practice.
- intend to conduct research or further a project that is manageable within the constraints of the residency format.
- be considered by the Jury to be able to contribute value to the Hordaland art scene, through sharing knowledge, being accessible to local art professionals, and/or having a research interest that is particularly relevant to this context.
- The board approves the selection of open-call winners based on economic feasibility.

2. Guidelines for the selection of candidates through discretionary invitation:

One to two places (budget-dependent) in the program per year are to be reserved for candidates who are invited at the discretion of the Director of Hordaland Kunstcenter, subject to approval from the board. The discretionary invitation system allows the art centre to open the residency program to candidates for whom it would be inappropriate to apply in an open call scenario. Examples of such candidates could be highly qualified and reputable leaders in the international art community; ~~tenured~~ academics who would require longer

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notice to arrange a visit; and exceptional candidates who are able to bring significant value to the arts community of Hordaland through their expertise. Candidates identified as invitees to the residency program are to be presented to the board before contracts are signed confirming the residency.

Additional comments:

The number of residents it is possible to accommodate in the residency program per year is contingent on funding received. With the current support from Hordaland Fylkeskommune it is possible for us to host a maximum of six residents per year in our normal program.

Changes to the guidelines:

Changes to these guidelines can be made with the documented approval of the board of Hordaland Kunstsenter.

Date: 4 May 2015

Vilde Sællus Boas
Tormund Brandanger