

The Nordic Alliance of Artists' Residencies on Climate Action

RESIDENCIES 2025

Application Guidelines





NAARCA Residencies 2025 Call for Applications

Deadline: Friday 25 April (14:00 Greenland / 16:00 Iceland / 17:00 Scotland & Norway / 18:00 Finland)

Overview

The Nordic Alliance of Artists' Residencies on Climate Action – NAARCA – unites <u>Artica Svalbard</u> (Norway), Cove Park (Scotland), <u>Narsaq International Research Station</u> (Greenland), <u>Saari Residence</u> (Finland), and <u>Skaftfell Art Center</u> (Iceland) to collaborate on research, commissions, institutional change, residency exchange, and public education around climate action.

In 2025, the NAARCA network will facilitate two funded residency exchanges taking place between June 2025 and December 2025. The NAARCA resident(s) will receive a fee, materials/equipment allowance, and a travel stipend.

This programme builds upon the research, commissions, and institutional projects NAARCA has launched since 2021 which focus upon the climate crisis, the biodiversity crisis, climate justice and the four pillars of sustainability – ecological, social, psychological and cultural. This residency supports research, the development of existing and new projects, engagement with local communities, and the production of new work and ideas in relation to the NAARCA partners' unique ecological contexts.

Eligibility

We welcome applications from artists based in Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway or Scotland, working in visual arts, craft, or design and whose practice intersects with themes surrounding sustainability and the climate emergency. For 2025, only applicants in the countries where our institutions are based are eligible, however we aim to expand the geographic eligibility for our 2026 open call.

Eligible applicants are invited to apply for either **one or two** residencies in a host country that is not their own. Hosting a NAARCA resident in 2025 are **Artica Svalbard** (Norway), **Cove Park** (Scotland), **Narsaq International Research Station** (Greenland), and **Skaftfell Arts Center** (Iceland). Each host institution is listed below along with their available dates and details about what they offer. Information about how to apply and the selection process is available on page 10.



Artica Svalbard - Norway

Duration: 6 weeks

Availability: between October - December 2025

About Artica

Artica Svalbard is one of Norway's leading non-profit arts and culture organisations. We facilitate artistic and cultural activities on Svalbard and support the development of Norwegian and international art and culture. We seek to raise awareness of Svalbard, and the Arctic. We aim to create a platform for debate on topics that relate to our region such as culture, geopolitics, climate change, migration and minorities. A key part of Artica Svalbard's mission is to foster a deep connection between our resident artists, writers, and the local community. We believe that creativity thrives through shared experiences and collaboration. Therefore, during their stay, we encourage our residents to host workshops, artist talks, readings, lectures, or other community events. These activities provide unique opportunities for artists, writers, and locals to exchange ideas, skills, and perspectives, enriching the cultural fabric of Svalbard. Through these engagements, we create a vibrant, inclusive environment where creativity can flourish and mutual understanding can grow.

Key Points

- Svalbard is a critical location for studying and discussing climate change. Located in the High Arctic, it is one of the fastest-warming regions on Earth, with temperatures rising up to six times faster than the global average. The archipelago's changing climate is visibly evident in melting glaciers, thawing permafrost, and shifting wildlife behaviours.
- Artica hosts up to three residents working in contemporary art, literature, or scientific and cultural research at any one time.
- The NAARCA resident will receive a total residency fee of £2,000 GBP, plus a materials/equipment allowance of £200, and a travel allowance of £600.

What Artica Provides

- Private and self-catering <u>accommodation</u>, shared workspace, and if required, a studio.
- 24-hour access to the Artica Svalbard <u>Workshop and Facilities</u> including the printing studio, communal kitchen, library, meeting and workspaces.
- Support of the artist's research and practical requirements leading up to and during the residency.







Cove Park - Scotland

Duration: 4 weeks

Availability: 4 - 31 August 2025

About Cove Park

Cove Park is an international artists' residency based on an outstanding 50-acre rural site in Argyll on the west coast of Scotland. We host local, national, and international artists and creative practitioners working in all art forms and at every career stage. Cove Park provides the facilities, support, and care required for the development of new ideas and projects, collaborations, and interdisciplinary practice. Residents stay on site in private accommodation with access to private studios, communal work and meeting spaces, and a library. We host up to 12 residents at any one time, offering every resident the opportunity to meet and work alongside individuals and collaborative groups from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. We organise informal peer-to-peer events to promote discussion, the exchange of ideas and experiences, and the development of new connections. Our <u>FAQ page</u> answers general questions on Cove Park's residencies and access.

Key Points

- As the <u>Argyll Beacon</u>, Cove Park's ecological work is largely connected to Argyll's ancient woodland, rainforests, and threats to our unique biodiversity on the banks of Loch Long.
- Cove Park is a member of the <u>Green Art Lab Alliance</u> and we promote the use of sustainable, biodegradable and non-toxic materials and resources such as the <u>Future Materials Bank</u> and the <u>Circular Arts Network</u>.
- The NAARCA resident will receive a total residency fee of £3,000 GBP, plus a materials/equipment allowance of £300, and a travel allowance of £600.

What Cove Park Provides

- Private, self-catering accommodation and studio space with a 60-litre kiln.
- Workspace and meeting space within the Jacobs Building, a communal building which has a library, a large rehearsal room with a wooden floor, open-plan kitchen, and dining area.
- Unlimited access to Cove Park's 50-acre rural site and the full support of Cove Park's team.







Narsaq International Research Station - Greenland

Duration: 4-6 weeks

Availability: Between 16 June - 17 August 2025; 8 September - end of October.

About NIRS

Narsaq International Research Station (NIRS) is an independent non-profit research platform with a focus on cultural and scientific research in South Greenland and how it can benefit the local population. The Research Station is located in a region of outstanding natural beauty and cultural heritage that is central for understanding some of the most urgent challenges the world is facing today.

The Research Station provides residency for projects with a specific focus on the Narsaq and South Greenland region. Projects must have a socially and environmentally sustainable approach to research and engagement with the local community and the results must be intended for public dissemination. Researchers and cultural practitioners are expected to communicate their research to the local community - e.g through lectures, workshops, film screenings, exhibitions, performances or teaching at schools, museums, community centres or organisations in Narsaq and the region. Contacts will be facilitated by NIRS in collaboration with local organisers.

Key Points

- Narsaq is located in a geographic region where many of the most important decisions currently facing Greenland are at their most visible and urgent. These are long-term decisions about sustainable development, independence, mining, environmental protection, democracy, infrastructure, tourism, cultural heritage, climate change, and Greenland's geopolitical role in the world.
- NIRS is located in a two-storey house in the middle of the town of Narsaq, South Greenland, with views towards Kuannersuit (Kvanefjeld) and the ice fjord.
- The NAARCA resident will receive a total residency fee of £2,000 (4 weeks), plus a materials/equipment allowance of up to £158, and a travel allowance of £1,300.

What NIRS Provides

- Self-catered accommodation in the NIRS house. Each room has two single beds and work space. There is a kitchen with a dining area, living room, and a small bathroom. NIRS has access to shower and sauna facilities at the local sports complex. A new shower will be installed at NIRS by the end of the year.
- Support from NIRS' daily manager to coordinate research and engagement work with the local community.







Skaftfell Art Center - Iceland

Duration: 6 weeks

Availability: 3 November – 15 December 2025

About Skaftfell

Skaftfell Art Center, in Seyðisfjörður, is an independent, non-profit art organization that serves as the regional visual arts center for East Iceland. It was founded in 1998 in the spirit of the Swiss-German artist Dieter Roth (1930-1998), who frequently lived and worked in Seyðisfjörður in the last decade of his life and had a lasting influence on the cultural life of the town. The organization takes its name from the original name of the timber building, constructed in 1907, that now houses the art center, including an exhibition space, an art library, a residency apartment, the Skaftfell office, and the Skaftfell Bistro. Skaftfell fosters and presents contemporary art on an international level through its artist residency program, exhibitions, workshops, artist talks, and collaborations with other arts organizations.

Key Points

- Situated in Iceland's subarctic climate, Skaftfells local community experiences the many facets of the climate crises first hand. The residency's remote setting provides artists the opportunity to work in relative seclusion in a place that is also home to an international community of working artists.
- Skaftfell hosts up to 4 artists, researchers, and cultural practitioners working in all artforms at any one time and are invited to present their work in an open studio, artist talk, or host a workshop.
- The NAARCA resident will receive a total residency fee of £2,000 GBP, plus a materials/equipment allowance of up to £500, and a travel allowance of £700.

What Skaftfell Provides

- Private, self-catered <u>accommodation</u> with shared living/work spaces.
- Access to the fine art printmaking workshop with space and equipment for intaglio (linocut, woodcut, etching), letter-press, and a Risograph printer.
- Support from Skaftfell's team.





How to Apply

Applications can be submitted via the online <u>Application Form</u>. The Application Form must include:

- Name and contact details.
- Choice of host institution(s) and requested dates.
- A statement (no more than 500 words) briefly describing your current work and the reasons for your interest in the NAARCA Residency and your rationale for which host institution(s) you are applying to.
- A biography of up to 200 words.
- Your CV.
- A list of the images and examples of work accompanying your application.

Documentation & Examples of Work

Please upload a selection of images and/or examples of your work. This may include:

- Documentation of artwork: up to 8 images (please do not submit PDF portfolios including more than 8 images)
- Film or video work (provide relevant time codes if over 5 minutes) uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo, with the link provided in the application form.
- Audio work (provide relevant time codes if over 5 minutes) uploaded to Soundcloud, with the link provided in the application form.
- Writing, no more than 1000 words and limited to 4 pages.

We can accept submissions in audio or video formats if this is preferable to a written application. If you have a disability, please let us know if there are any reasonable adjustments to the application process that would be of assistance to you. If you would like to discuss options, or need help making your application, please contact Cove Park's Senior Producer <u>Alex Marrs</u> directly.

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as it is received. This acknowledgement will include a link to NAARCA's anonymous Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion monitoring form for completion and we would be grateful for your time with this. If you do not receive this acknowledgement, please contact <u>Alex Marrs</u>, directly to confirm receipt of your application.

The applications will be shortlisted for interview by representatives of NAARCA, representing different lived experiences and fields of knowledge. NAARCA does not use any Al Tools to assess submissions. All applicants will be notified if their submission has been shortlisted for interview by Wednesday 21 May 2025. Interviews will take place via Zoom during the week of Monday 26 May 2025.

Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion

NAARCA believes that social, psychological, cultural, and environmental sustainability are completely intertwined and need to be considered as a whole.

We are acutely aware of the lack of diverse perspectives and lived experiences within the international discourse around the cultural sector's responsibility to the environmental crisis, and we are determined to address this issue.

We want our residencies, programmes and resources to be open, inclusive and welcoming to all. We continue to assess how we work towards achieving greater equality and representation within all levels of the partner organisations and across all NAARCA programmes.

NAARCA aims to provide a safe and positive environment for everyone, and to actively dismantle discrimination based on age, disability, gender identity, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or parental status, race including skin colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Additionally, we aim to dismantle discrimination based on accent, educational background, gender expression, hair texture and hairstyle, immigration status, language ability, markings and/or tattoos connected to spiritual rituals from precolonial indigenous cultural practices, neurodiversity, physical and mental health, size, and socio-economic status or background.

As language, terms, and expressions inevitably evolve, we are committed to reviewing this statement regularly – and as often as it becomes appropriate – with our local, national and international communities.

Personal Data

Please note, we will store applications electronically for one year. The data contained within your application will not be used for any purpose other than short-listing, running, and evaluating the programme. We will not share your details with any third parties without obtaining permission from you to do so.

For further information please contact:

Alex Marrs
Senior Producer – Awarded Residencies, Cove Park
+44 01436 850500

<u>alex@covepark.org</u>

<u>naarca.art</u>