



The Nordic Alliance of
Artists' Residencies on Climate Action

RESIDENCIES 2026

Application Guidelines



Seydisfjordur, Iceland



NAARCA Residencies 2026

Call for Applications

Deadline: Monday 8 December (14:00 Greenland / 16:00 Iceland / 17:00 Scotland & Norway /18:00 Denmark, Finland, Sweden)

Overview

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

In 2026, the NAARCA network will facilitate two funded residency exchanges taking place between March 2026 and November 2026. 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 Denmark, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Scotland or Sweden, working in visual arts, craft, or design and whose practice intersects with themes surrounding sustainability and the climate emergency.

Eligible applicants are invited to apply for residencies in a host country that is not their own. Hosting a NAARCA resident in 2026 are **Cove Park** (Scotland), **Saari Residence** (Finland), 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 8.



Argyll, Scotland

Cove Park – Scotland

Duration: 4 weeks

Availability: 8 June – 5 July 2026

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 [FAQ_page](#) answers general questions on Cove Park's residencies and access.

Key Points

- As the [Argyll Beacon](#), 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 [Green Art Lab Alliance](#) and we promote the use of sustainable, biodegradable and non-toxic materials and resources such as the [Future Materials Bank](#) and the [Circular Arts Network](#).
- 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.





Mynämäki, Finland

Saari Residence – Finland

Duration: 4 weeks

Availability: 23 March – 20 April 2026

About Saari

The Saari Residence, maintained by Kone Foundation, is a residence located in Mynämäki, Southwest Finland, for artists of all disciplines and nationalities. At the Saari Residence, artists and researchers can focus on their work in a peaceful rural environment and share their thoughts and experiences with colleagues. The residence's long-term activities and thinking are underpinned by an ecological approach, which also covers social and psychological sustainability. Its keywords are slowness, insight and change.

Key Points

- The Saari Residence strives for sustainability, eco-friendliness and accessibility in all its activities. Artists working at the Saari Residence will be offered get-togethers, such as presentation and feedback sessions, as well as workshops, field trips and discussions that deal with the theme of sustainability. The Saari Residence's ecological library offers literature on the local environment, forests, biodiversity, climate change, and environmental and animal philosophy.
- One of the unique things about the Saari Residence is the Saari Well. The Saari Well is a metaphor for the shared residency experience for the artists working at Saari. The Saari Well offers an opportunity for the artists to meet each other, share ideas and generally leave their distinctive impressions on each other's thinking, work, and on the residence itself. There will be nine other artists in residence, each representing a different discipline.
- The NAARCA resident will receive a total residency fee of €3,200 (4 weeks), plus a materials/equipment allowance of up to €300, and a travel allowance of €700. In addition to the residency fee, the NAARCA resident will receive a separate fee €1,000 for sharing their ecological practice with the residency community through dialogue, artistic work, or a workshop. In your application, please propose two group sessions or workshops you would like to offer to the other residents, based on your ecological thinking and artistic practice. You can see examples of the various ecological topics previously explored by the Saari Invited Artists.

What Saari Provides

- Located in a culturally and historically significant countryside setting, the Saari Residence offers an excellent and inspiring working environment supporting artistic development and creativity.
- Individual workspace at the Barn. The old stone barn includes a dance studio, four different-sized studios mainly intended for visual artists, as well as a shared kitchen and an ecological library.
- Free accommodation at the main building of the Saari Manor. The artist is provided with a private bedroom, a bathroom and a shared kitchen and living room.



Seydisfjörður, Iceland

Skaftfell Art Center – Iceland

Duration: 6 weeks

Availability: 3 November – 15 December 2026

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 accommodation 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 **Application Form**. The Application Form must include:

- Name and contact details.
- Choice of host institution 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 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 [Alex Marrs](#) 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 [Alex Marrs](#), 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 AI Tools to assess submissions. **All applicants will be notified if their submission has been shortlisted for interview by Friday 12 December 2025. Interviews will take place via Zoom during the week of Monday 5 January 2026.**

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 pre-colonial 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
alex@covepark.org
naarca.art



Mynämäki, Finland