

EUREKA SPRINGS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

2026 Mentored Woodworking Residency with Doug Stowe

Details and Expectations

The Eureka Springs School of the Arts is looking for practicing woodworkers and craftspeople seeking focused time to refine their abilities, create new work, and expand their knowledge in a Mentored Residency under Master Woodcrafter, Doug Stowe. This will be a participant driven mentorship where you can ask for guidance on woodworking topics of your choice and gain the skills to forge your own individual path as a craftsperson.

Doug Stowe is the author of 15 books, including *The Wisdom of Our Hands: Crafting a Life*. This residency will benefit woodworkers interested in pursuing a journey or career in the craft of woodworking.

This is an opportunity for selected residents to be inspired by the Ozark Mountains' incredible natural beauty and unique culture. ESSA is within 5 miles of the renowned artist community of Eureka Springs, Arkansas. The ESSA campus offers world class facilities and comfortable private lodging for our residents, tucked peacefully away from the distractions of the outside world.

Experience in woodworking is required, and seats will be awarded based on a review of all completed applications.

Dates: June 7 to June 20, 2026, with a required orientation on **June 8th** and a closing reception on **June 20th**.

Residency Details

- Residency will span approximately two weeks, with weekends free for residents to rest and explore the area. Participants are expected to attend all weekday studio hours during the residency.
- Applications are due **February 15, 2026**. Notifications will be made by **March 17, 2026**.
- Up to 6 participants will be selected.
- Residency fee is \$1,400. Residencies include studio access, mentorship, ESSA staff support, opportunity for a closing reception, and lodging on the ESSA campus. (Lodging details are included below.) The ESSA Residency Program covers the majority of costs of the residency. Selected residents are responsible for the residency fee and their own transportation and food costs.
- ESSA will provide on-campus lodging with a private room and bath, kitchenette with microwave, refrigerator/freezer, coffee maker, and wi-fi. The resident will also have shared access to the Commons House, which includes a full kitchen, gathering area, and deck.
- A limited number of full or partial scholarships will be offered. *Applicants should indicate their desire to be considered for scholarship opportunities on the application form.*

- Residents will have access to the ESSA Windgate Wood Studio (bench room, machine room, and lathe room) and access to all tools and equipment in the wood studio. Access to the wood studio will be during pre-set hours, and the buddy system will be required.
 - Studio spaces will be open from 8 am to 5 pm, M-F. Your mentor, assistant mentor, and/or studio coordinator will be available during open hours. At no time may anyone work in the studio independently. For safety purposes, a minimum of two people must be in the studio for any work to commence.
 - ESSA is happy to provide a listing of available equipment upon request.
- Residents will be required to attend a safety and equipment orientation training with the ESSA Studio Coordinator at the beginning of the residency before their work in the studio begins.
- Materials in terms of wood and hardware are not included and will be at the participant's cost. ESSA can assist participants in sourcing materials and/or can assist with arranging material deliveries to the campus before the residency. ESSA may have available a limited supply of materials for purchase on campus. ESSA will supply basic consumables such as glue, sandpaper in various grits, etc.
- ESSA will host a closing reception on the campus on Saturday, **June 20th, 2026**, for the mentorship group to exhibit their work and celebrate their accomplishments with the community. Residents will have an opportunity to offer a small selection of their work for sale at the closing reception, if they wish to do so. This may be either prior work or work they created during the residency. ESSA will run the sale and retain 10% of the sale price for all items sold.
- Residents are asked to be a part of the ESSA campus during their stay by engaging with staff, instructors, students, and other visitors to campus.