

EUREKA SPRINGS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

2026 2D Residency Details

The Eureka Springs School of the Arts is looking for emerging and established artists who work in two-dimensional mediums (painting, drawing, mixed media) and are seeking focused time to refine their abilities, enrich their creative journey, experiment with new techniques, and create new work. The artist selected for this very special opportunity will receive over \$3,000 in stipends to support their residency.

This project is generously funded by Mid-America Arts Alliance, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the state arts agencies of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas.

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. Our campus offers world class facilities and comfortable private lodging tucked peacefully away from the distractions of the outside world. This is also a chance to enjoy fellowship with other artists, visiting instructors, and members of the creative community on campus and beyond.

The residency will be awarded based on a review of all completed applications. It is anticipated that the selected resident will use their invaluable time at ESSA in creative research, experimentation, and dedicated studio practice.

To be eligible, artists must reside in the six-state region served by the Mid-America Arts Alliance: Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Dates: August 3 to October 3, 2026, with a required orientation on **August 3, 2026**, and a closing reception on **September 26, 2026**.

Residency Details:

- Residency will span 8 weeks.
- **Applications are due by April 22, 2026, by 5 pm (CST)**. Applicants may be required to provide additional information upon request, and during the deliberation process applicants may be asked to participate in a phone or zoom interview. Notifications will be made by May 13, 2026.
- 1 participant will be selected.
- Resident will be provided with a \$2,000 residency stipend and a \$900 travel stipend. Resident will provide their own transportation and be issued the travel stipend upon their arrival at ESSA.
- ESSA's campus is remote and features rugged terrain. It is strongly recommended that residents have their own vehicle during their residency. Participants should be prepared

for uneven terrain, variable weather conditions, and limited immediate access to services commonly found in urban areas. The landscape is an integral part of the residency experience.

- Residency facilities may require walking over uneven ground and navigating stairs. While we strive to support a wide range of artists, the physical nature of the site may present challenges for some individuals. Please inquire with ESSA staff for more detail.
- 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.
- Resident will have 24-hour access to the ESSA's Peine Studio, which will be the resident's private, unshared studio space for the duration of the residency. Access to other studios on campus is not provided.
- Materials are not included and will be at the participant's cost.

The artist(s) selected for this residency will be expected to:

- Offer three education and outreach opportunities for the community to include an outreach presentation to students at North Arkansas College and two single day youth workshops for area K-12 students. Upon completion of all three of these activities, the artist in residence will receive one \$400 teaching stipend.
- Attend an orientation with the ESSA Studio Coordinator at the beginning of the residency before their work in the studio begins and to conduct an exit interview at the end of the residency.
- Be a part of the ESSA campus during their stay by engaging with staff, instructors, students, and other visitors to campus.
- Participate in one additional unpaid outreach event on the ESSA campus, in addition to a closing reception on September 26, 2026. The closing reception is an opportunity for the resident to sell their work and present to the community about their processes and their time at ESSA. ESSA will retain 10% of sales.
- Provide a 15-minute artist talk during the closing reception with images or examples of work to discuss their process and approach, influences, take-aways from the residency, reasons for applying for the residency, etc., with a Q&A session to follow.
- ESSA appreciates the donation of a work of art from our artists in residence at the completion of each residency; donated items are auctioned to raise funds for the artist in residence program.