

PlatteForum

youth. artists. community.
transform lives through art

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“ PlatteForum provides the kind of environment — motivating, inspiring and nurturing — that an artist can bask, create and grow in. ” Li Hardison, PlatteForum Creative Resident, 2008

CREATIVE RESIDENCIES AT PLATTEFORUM: 2009-2010

About PlatteForum

PlatteForum’s artist-in-residence program (Creative Residencies) supports the *creation* and *presentation* of new works of art by artists in all genres. Its urban location in the heart of downtown Denver offers unique opportunities for artists to use the facility and adjacent outdoor spaces in dynamic ways. Throughout the residency period, the artist(s) use the facility as a studio environment where they create their work with open studio hours for the public to watch the work-in-process. Each Creative Resident dedicates time weekly to work with small groups of underserved youth in intensive workshops (Learning Labs) that build upon the ideas and forms of the resident artist.

Residencies culminate in the completion of a body of work presented to the public in exhibitions and performances at an opening reception at PlatteForum. The PlatteForum approach, pairing youth Learning Labs with the Creative Residency program, makes a valuable contribution to the city’s cultural discourse, impacts the lives of the youth participating, while fostering personal growth of the artist.

How it Works

PlatteForum is used as a studio and gallery environment for artist residencies in a variety of mediums and genres. One artist or collaborative team is in residence at a time for a six to eight-week period and has access to the facility 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Each resident proposes a body of work that in part is dedicated to creating art experiences with youth. These workshops (Learning Labs) are created by the artists with support of PlatteForum staff for an average of six to eight hours each week. Formal artist talks are scheduled at PlatteForum as appropriate for each resident. Open studio hours are held for the public to drop in and interact with the artists. At the end of each residency, a public celebration is held — an exhibition, performance or presentation — that includes the work of the artist as well as the students who have participated in the workshops. Each Creative Resident is expected to work at PlatteForum a minimum of 20 hours a week and use the facility as their primary studio.

The Facility

PlatteForum is at the base of the Millennium pedestrian bridge by Union Station, in the heart of Denver’s coolest downtown neighborhood, Riverfront Park. Its location provides easy access to light rail and downtown transportation, Commons Park, the Platte River, the Museum of Contemporary Art-Denver, and some of the city’s finest urban residential and shopping complexes. More than just a great location, PlatteForum is a “platform” for community and culture through youth and arts. The contemporary facility is over 3,000 square feet with dedicated outdoor sculpture area and plaza. An open studio (2,000 square feet) is surrounded by staff offices, kitchen, restrooms, and artist/staff space with shower and futon couch.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Who Can Apply

The Creative Residency program is open to artists in all genres such as visual, performing, design arts, new media, installation, filmmakers, writers, composers, book arts and crafts/folk arts. We welcome applications from established professional artists and emerging artists, as well as graduate students. Artists can apply as individuals or in collaborative teams.

Selection Process

An interdisciplinary selection committee will consider applications for all residencies. Care will be given to select artists representing a variety of genres and experiences. Priority will be given to those proposals that interact with youth in a dynamic way. Other master artists and arts organizations may be invited to participate in the Creative Residencies by the selection committee.

2009 Deadline
May 20, 2009

Residency Period
September 14, 2009 – July 30, 2010

Application Process

Please assemble an application package containing the following: *(if applying as a team, please list each member with contact information for the lead artist)*

Name

Address

Day phone

Evening phone

Email

Web site if applicable

Genre visual arts performing arts design arts costume/set design installation
 filmmaking/digital media arts crafts/folk arts literature other _____

Scheduling Information

The number of weeks you are requesting (6-8 weeks) _____

Residencies begin Mondays and end on Fridays.

Preferred residency dates

First choice: _____

Second choice: _____

Third choice: _____

Stipend

A modest weekly stipend of \$250 will be provided to help defray artist expenses. No travel or housing allowance is provided, but care is given to find hosts for out-of-town guests. Whenever possible, PlatteForum will help Creative Residents apply for additional funding to support their work while in residence.

Background Check

Since this residency involves working with children we ask the following questions.

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? _____ [If yes, on the other side of the paper please explain the nature of the crime and the date of the conviction and disposition.] Conviction of a crime is not an automatic disqualification for residency.

If selected as a Creative Resident you will be asked to undergo a background check. Are you willing to release information for this? ___yes ___no

Project Description *(not to exceed two typed pages)*

1. Tell us about yourself: Include details about you and your work, including a resume, if you feel that is appropriate. Include information about prior experience working with youth and what it is about working with underserved youth that interests you.
2. Tell us about your proposal: What do you want to accomplish during your PlatteForum residency? Describe the personal body of work you hope to accomplish as well as the youth workshop component. The body of work may be in part or all comprised of collaborations with youth. Is there a specific group or number or age of youth you would like to work with? *(Youth come from inner city schools and non-profit organizations and are matched based on the artist's interests.)*
3. Identify your needs: How would you use the facility to support what you are doing? Do you need any special resources requiring special arrangements? Please be specific.
4. Describe what the public presentation at the end of the residency would entail. Would it be a performance, exhibition, or event?

References

Please include two letters of reference from qualified individuals who are familiar with your work. Please let your references know that we might be contacting them.

Work Samples

List briefly what you have included as your work sample. Submit slides, digital portfolio, tear sheets, VHS or DVD's, clearly identified on a separate sheet. Information should include such things as title, date, material, running time (audio/performance work), responsibility (if work is done by multiple people), etc. Please limit the written proposal to two pages plus image identification sheet; images limited to 10; video or audio samples clearly labeled and cued. *Please note: selection committee will contact finalists for phone interviews.*

Work Sample Returned

Please note that every precaution is taken to see that work samples are handled with care. PlatteForum cannot be responsible for their safety. Work samples will be returned only if you provide a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). No dated metered postage please.

SASE provided Do not return sample

Processing Fee

A non-refundable processing fee of \$25 is required with each application. Please make check payable to PlatteForum.

Notification

Artists will be notified by email or phone no later than June 25, 2009.

Checklist

- Two copies of application
- Two letters of reference
- Work samples
- \$25 processing fee
- SASE

Mail or deliver proposal to be received at PlatteForum by 5:00pm, Wednesday, May 20, 2009

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