

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Open Call to Artists

Application submission between
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Date	Version	Author	Changes
20.07.2023	1.0	HLRS/In4Art	Initial questions + questions from first Webinar
29.08.2023	1.1	In4Art/HLRS	Questions from second webinar added

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What is AIR?

S+T+ARTS AIR is a project that harnesses the power of art, science, and technology to address the pressing challenges facing our society. It encapsulates the shared essence and concerns of all Europeans and everything on our planet – the air we breathe. Air symbolizes environmental quality, a common space for interaction, and a medium for expression that transcends borders and social divisions. It signifies sustainability, influencing the quality of life, relationships, and the utilization of our ecosystem. Furthermore, air represents beauty, a unique and ephemeral element that shapes our environments and interactions.

In today's technology-driven world, where citizen participation and human connection often take a backseat, the European Commission recognizes the vital role of cultural and creative industries in enhancing Europe's competitiveness and driving innovation. By integrating art, science, and technology, we can unlock the transformative potential of the cultural sector, stimulating critical thinking and offering fresh perspectives on the future of our society in the face of technological advancements and environmental impacts.

Our consortium consists of eight partners from five EU countries, working in technology, research, industry, and culture with the ultimate goal to establish four S+T+ARTS Centers and Hubs in Germany, Spain, Italy, and Slovenia, serving as catalysts for artistic experiments in residencies. We will facilitate knowledge transfer sessions, workshops, and the production of the AIR festival, providing a platform for artists and stakeholders to showcase their innovative solutions and ideas. These centers will promote the concept of art-driven innovation in the domain of air and facilitate artistic experiments through residencies. They will foster citizen participation, critical thinking, prevention capacity, and resilience by facilitating collaborative reflections on the theme of air. Additionally, they will create a new space for impactful

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research and innovation through horizontal collaborations among the arts, science, and technology.

Where can I find more information about the project?

Project website: <https://www.starts.eu/air>

Open Call website: <https://starts.eu/opportunities/open-call-for-s-t-arts-air/>

Guide for Applicants: <http://starts.eu/wp-content/uploads/AIR-Guide-for-Applicants.pdf>

Application form: <https://form.jotform.com/231713006105036>

Contact Email: starts-air@lists.projects.hlr.de

If somebody is working under a contract at the moment but could become freelance if accepted for the residency, would it be possible to apply? How do you think will it be possible to combine regular job and residency?

For the AIR S+T+ARTS residency we expect from artists a minimum availability of 2 days a week during the residency period to work on the project and at least 3 working periods of physical collaboration at the hub, each with a duration between 3 to 5 days.

Is it possible to apply with a EU student residency visa?

To apply for the AIR S+T+ARTS residency you must be a citizen or permanent resident in any of the eligible countries listed in the [GfA](#) (see p. 17) . As long as there is a valid residency permit until the end of the residency this is possible. Do note, that the AIR S+T+ARTS residency expects a limited availability, which does not comply with a full-time study obligation. Full time students are not eligible to apply.

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What stage of development in an artist's career are you interested in? If you're in the first few years of development of a career (have had some performances, small installations, a residency or two, but nothing with a significant budget) is applying worth?

The AIR S+T+ARTS residency expects from artists the ability to think critically, push boundaries, experiment and communicate complex ideas through artistic means. In the application, a portfolio section with questions is added, where at least 2 previous relevant projects should be showcased to give an impression on your artistic skills and link to artist-scientist collaboration.

Is the call only open for artists, or also for scientists or scientist + artist pairs?

The AIR S+T+ARTS residency has to be proposed by one Artist (natural person) or Artistic company or association (legal person).

How much of the concept of AIR should be reflected in the first stages of application?

The AIR S+T+ARTS residency has a two-staged application. In the first stage, you are requested to reply and react with a motivation on one of the directions (see [GfA](#) p. 7-9). During the matchmaking period, you will have the time to propose a plan.

How long is the residency? Does this include the presentation and production of the residency?

The Artists selected for the AIR S+T+ARTS residency will enter a 10-months residency period, which will be divided into three stages. The second stage is mostly focused on production and third on presentation.

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What happens if I do not submit my application within the deadline?

We do not accept applications after the deadline. We strongly encourage you not to wait until the last minute to submit your proposal. Failure of meeting the submission deadline for any reason, including extenuating circumstances, will result in the rejection of the proposal.

What are the payment conditions?

For the sake of simplicity and transparency, the Financial Support will be paid against specific Deliverables/Milestones/KPIs defined in the 'Individual Mentoring Plan' (IMP) elaborated at the beginning of the programme. The IMP will become an Annex to your Sub-Grant Agreement.

Do I need to travel for the project?

Yes, travelling is part of the residency. We expect at least 3 working periods of physical collaboration at the Hubs, each with a duration between 3 to 5 days, as well as participation in the joint workshop at the RCR Architect Vila, in La Vall de Bianya (Girona), Spain, between April 8th – 10th, 2024.

Can we use ready-made artworks to participate?

No, in this Open Call we ask for new, collaborative projects that will be created in collaboration with the team of AIR. Of course, you can use ready artworks as examples and reference. You can add the reference in the portfolio section of the application form. If it fits with the direction/challenge, you can propose to further develop upon existing work by proposing experiments, which have not yet been done and that could lead to something new through the collaboration with the AIR Team. Describe clearly how you see the collaboration and what your motivation is.

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Is it possible to apply to the Call in a group of freelancers? Can an entity affiliated to a higher education apply?

Only individual artists or artist-led organizations (studios or registered collectives) are eligible to apply to this Open Call. You could subcontract others, but do take into account that this will only be for a small portion, since most of the work must be done by the main applicant. The artist / artist-led organization should be able to showcase a portfolio of autonomous work.

Are the selection criteria focusing on fundamental research or market priorities?

For the first stage of the Open Call, the selection criteria are focused on artistic excellence, fit with the direction/challenge and the motivation. You can read more about on p. 11 in the GfA.

Do you have to physically be present for the matchmaking meeting/process or is it online?

The matchmaking meeting will be online.

If you are to receive a residency in another country do you get help for accommodation etc. for the duration of the residency?

A successful applicant will get a grant of up to €40.000. This will include the artist fee, all travel/accommodation costs, production costs, potential subcontracting costs and communication costs. This will be part of the second stage of the application, where an experiment proposal, a planning and budget will be asked about.

Can you apply while having a full-time job on the side?

No, we expect a minimum availability of 2 days a week during the residency period to work on the project. Hence, it is not possible to combine this with a full-time job.

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