



## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & SELECTION GUIDELINES**

### ***General Eligibility Criteria (All Residencies)***

Applicants must:

- Be at least 21 years old
- Demonstrate a consistent creative practice with a commitment to artistic and/or cultural integrity
- Demonstrate an interest in place-based, community-responsive, or ecologically aligned work
- Align with the mission and values of the AiR Program, including principles of cultural respect, accessibility, and equity
- Be willing to participate in public engagement (e.g., talks, workshops, performances, or exhibitions) where appropriate
- Commit to respectful, collaborative engagement with land, community, and program partners
- Submit a complete application by the published deadline

We welcome applications from artists of all disciplines and backgrounds, including but not limited to: visual arts, traditional and cultural arts, media, music, literature, design, and performance. Interdisciplinary approaches and non-traditional practices are encouraged. Artists with a demonstrated history of working sensitively and inclusively in community settings will receive priority consideration.

### ***Residency Pathways & Criteria***

#### **VISITING ARTIST RESIDENCY**

Who Can Apply:

- California-based artists (residing outside of Mariposa County)
- Artists working in socially engaged, ecological, and/or place-based practices
- Emerging, mid-career, and established artists welcome

Dates:

- Visiting Artist Residency #1: March 21–April 10, 2026
- Visiting Artist Residency #2: April 12–May 2, 2026

Selection Criteria:

- Artistic merit and originality
- Responsiveness to site, context, and community
- Experience in community-based or ecologically engaged work
- Capacity for cross-sector collaboration (with Tribal leaders, land stewards, civic staff, etc.)
- Willingness to participate in inclusive public engagement activities

Support Includes:

- Private housing and workspace
- All inclusive compensation (Stipend plus materials and travel expenses)
- One meal per day and transportation assistance
- Orientation and connection to project partners
- Documentation and outreach support

Equity Commitment:

We welcome and encourage artists from communities that have historically faced barriers to access, recognition, and support in the arts.

**LOCAL ARTIST RESIDENCY**

Who Can Apply:

- Artists residing in Mariposa County or neighboring foothill communities
- Artists seeking to deepen place-based practice and local engagement

Dates:

- Local Artist Residency #1: May 3–16, 2026
- Local Artist Residency #2: May 17–30, 2026

Selection Criteria:

- Quality of work and commitment to creative growth
- Relevance of practice to the Mariposa landscape or community
- Interest in ecological and cultural themes
- Willingness to engage publicly and collaboratively
- Potential to reflect or amplify local narratives

Support Includes:

- Private workspace
- All inclusive compensation (Stipend plus materials and travel expenses)
- One meal per day and transportation assistance
- Orientation and connection to project partners
- Documentation and outreach support

## **SOUTHERN SIERRA MIWUK NATION CULTURAL RESIDENCY**

*By Invitation / Community Nomination Only*

Who Can Participate:

- Elders, artists, cultural practitioners, and knowledge holders from the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation
- Individuals involved in intergenerational teaching, cultural revitalization, or traditional ecological knowledge

Structure:

Year-round engagement, developed in collaboration with Tribal leadership and aligned with SSMN timelines and protocols

Focus Areas May Include:

- Cultural teaching and intergenerational learning
- Gathering and preparation of plant materials for traditional use
- Artmaking in alignment with Tribal practices and seasonal rhythms
- Community and cultural healing

Selection Guidelines:

Participation is defined through internal Tribal processes and not subject to external evaluation. SSMN will determine readiness and fit based on cultural need, relational trust, and sovereignty. External partners will provide logistical, spatial, and financial support while deferring authority to Tribal leadership.

Equity and Sovereignty Commitment:

This residency affirms the Tribe's leadership and protects sacred knowledge by maintaining a separate and self-determined structure. Cultural sovereignty is a guiding principle throughout the AiR Program and is supported through reparative funding and shared governance.

## ***SELECTION PROCESS (VISITING & LOCAL RESIDENCIES)***

Applications will be reviewed by a rotating, multidisciplinary panel that will include representatives from:

- The Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation
- Sierra Foothill Conservancy
- Mariposa County Planning Department
- Mariposa County Arts Council staff
- Local artists and community members

Review Criteria:

- Artistic excellence and clarity of intent
- Cultural and ecological responsiveness
- Community relevance and engagement potential
- Demonstrated capacity for collaboration and integrity
- Alignment with the program's mission, values, and equity goals

All applicants will receive acknowledgment of submission and notification of selection outcomes. Constructive feedback will be provided upon request.

Additional Notes

- Collaborative teams (duos or collectives) may apply through a single joint application
- Residencies are designed to be ADA-compliant; accommodations and assistance will be provided as needed
- Support staff are available to guide applicants through the process, especially those new to artist residencies or with access needs

## ***CONTACT***

If you have questions, please visit [www.mariposaartscouncil.org/air/](http://www.mariposaartscouncil.org/air/) and if you need further assistance, contact Cara Goger – [goger@mariposaartscouncil.org](mailto:goger@mariposaartscouncil.org)